

# EDUCRAT IAS AANKLAN-PRELIMS TEST SERIES 2026

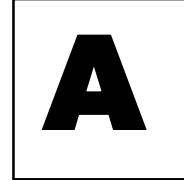


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Test Booklet Series



TEST BOOKLET

GENERAL STUDIES  
Paper I

**G-A-20-2026**

**Time Allowed: Two 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 book.
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 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. This Test Booklet contains **100** 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.
4. You have to mark all your responses **ONLY** on the separate Answer Sheet provided. See directions in the Answer Sheet. **All** items carry equal marks.
5. 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 Admit Card.
6. **Penalty for wrong answers:**  
THERE WILL BE PENALTY FOR WRONG ANSWERS MARKED BY A CANDIDATE IN THE OBJECTIVE TYPE QUESTION PAPERS.
  - (i) There are four alternatives for the answer to every question. For each question for which a wrong answer has been 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
7. 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 away with you the Test Booklet.

**DO NOT OPEN THIS TEST BOOKLET UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO**

**1. Which one of the following best describes the ecological process of 'allelopathy'?**

- (a) The process by which an organism produces biochemicals that influence the germination, growth, survival, and reproduction of other organisms.
- (b) The symbiotic relationship between fungi and plant roots that enhances nutrient uptake for the plant.
- (c) The gradual and predictable change in species composition in a given area over time.
- (d) The adaptation of an organism to survive in an environment with a high concentration of salt.

**2. Match List-I with List-II**

List-I (Threat to Biodiversity)	List-II (Specific Example)
A. Habitat Fragmentation	1. Use of diclofenac in livestock leading to vulture deaths
B. Overexploitation	2. Parthenium hysterophorous displacing native flora
C. Alien Species Invasion	3. A highway bisecting a contiguous elephant corridor
D. Pollution	4. Unsustainable harvesting of Red Sanders

Select the correct answer using the code given below the lists:

**A B C D**

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

**3. Consider the following statements regarding the legal status of Protected Areas in India:**

- 1. The boundaries of a National Park can be altered only by a resolution passed by the Parliament of India.
- 2. The declaration of a Community Reserve is possible on private land without the consent of the individual owner if it is deemed ecologically significant.
- 3. Limited human activities such as the collection of non-timber forest produce and grazing of livestock, which may be permissible in a Wildlife Sanctuary, are

strictly prohibited in a National Park unless specifically permitted under exceptional circumstances.

- 4. A Conservation Reserve can be declared by the Central Government in addition to the State Government.

**How many of the above statements are correct?**

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

**4. The establishment of Tiger Reserves in India is carried out under the provisions of which of the following?**

- (a) The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986
- (b) The Biological Diversity Act, 2002
- (c) The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980
- (d) The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972

**5. Consider the following statements:**

- 1. The term 'Living Modified Organism' (LMO) under the Cartagena Protocol includes non-viable organisms and processed products like DNA extracts.
- 2. The term 'Access and Benefit-Sharing' (ABS) under the Nagoya Protocol is applicable only to genetic resources and not to the traditional knowledge associated with them.
- 3. The term 'People's Biodiversity Register' (PBR) refers to a global database managed by the CBD Secretariat to document traditional knowledge.

**How many of the above statements are correct?**

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

**6. Which of the following activities are permissible within a Biosphere Reserve, but are generally restricted or prohibited in a National Park?**

- 1. Scientific research and monitoring in the core area.
- 2. Settlements of indigenous communities in the buffer zone.

3. Ecotourism and recreational activities in the transition zone.
4. Intensive agricultural practices in the buffer zone.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

7. Consider the following statements.

**Statement I:** The Biological Diversity Act, 2002, provides for the establishment of Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) at the level of local bodies.

**Statement II:** The primary mandate of the BMCs is to prepare People's Biodiversity Registers (PBRs) to document local biodiversity and associated knowledge, which serves as a legal tool to assert community rights and counter biopiracy.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation for Statement I.
- (b) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct but Statement II is not the correct explanation for Statement I.
- (c) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
- (d) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

8. The implementation of the 'Precautionary Principle' is a central feature of which of the following international agreements?

- (a) The Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing
- (b) The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety
- (c) The Kyoto Protocol
- (d) The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands

9. In the context of biotechnology and its applications, the term 'RNA interference' is sometimes seen in the news. What is its most relevant application in the domain of biosafety and agriculture?

- (a) It is a technique used in gene therapy to correct defective genes in human somatic cells.

(b) It is a natural process in cells that can be harnessed to create plants resistant to specific pests like nematodes.

(c) It is a diagnostic method used to detect the presence of viral DNA in a patient's blood sample.

(d) It is a method of bioremediation where microbes are used to interfere with and break down pollutants.

10. Which of the following statements is correct regarding the institutional framework for pollution control in India?

(a) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) was established under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

(b) The primary function of State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) is to advise the Central Government on matters of air and water pollution.

(c) The CPCB has the authority to issue directions to SPCBs, and in case of any inconsistency, the directions of the CPCB prevail.

(d) The Chairman of the CPCB is appointed by a collegium of all State Environment Ministers.

11. What makes the Fishing Cat a significant species for wetland ecosystems?

(a) It contributes to pollination in mangrove ecosystems.

(b) It is the apex predator in all wetland ecosystems.

(c) It exclusively feeds on aquatic plants.

(d) It acts as an indicator species for wetland health.

12. Where is the Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary located, and what is it known for?

(a) Odisha; a critical habitat for Olive Ridley turtles

(b) Andhra Pradesh; supports a thriving mangrove ecosystem

(c) Kerala; home to extensive freshwater lakes

(d) Tamil Nadu; famous for grassland ecosystems

13. Consider the following statements about incineration:

1. It involves controlled combustion of waste.

2. It generates energy in the form of heat or electricity.

3. It is effective in reducing wet waste.

**How many of the above statements are correct?**

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

**14. Consider the following statements about nitrate contamination mitigation strategies:**

1. Crop rotation and cover cropping reduce nitrate leaching.
2. Reverse osmosis is an effective method for nitrate removal from drinking water.
3. Constructed wetlands increase nitrate levels in water bodies.

**How many of the above statements are correct?**

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

**15. Which of the following are benefits of the Miyawaki Technique?**

1. It supports biodiversity by creating habitats for various species.
2. It enhances groundwater recharge in areas with depleted water tables.
3. It significantly lowers the carbon footprint of the soil preparation process.

**How many of the above statements is/are incorrect?**

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

**16. The natural greenhouse effect on Earth is primarily due to:**

- (a) Carbon dioxide and methane
- (b) Water vapour and small particles of water
- (c) Ozone and nitrous oxide
- (d) Aerosols like dust and ash

**17. Consider the following statements:**

**Statement-I:** Life on Earth has been possible due to the natural greenhouse effect.

**Statement-II:** Without it, the Earth's average global temperature would be about  $-17^{\circ}\text{C}$  instead of  $15^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

**Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?**

- (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- (c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect
- (d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct

**18. Why do ice layers near the poles act as a record of Earth's climate history?**

- (a) They accumulate volcanic ash and marine salts only.
- (b) Each icy layer traps air molecules, GHGs, and aerosols of that time.
- (c) They remain unaffected by global events.
- (d) They absorb and store heat energy of past solar radiation.

**19. Which of the following are categorised as super pollutants?**

1. Methane
2. Black Carbon
3. Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)
4. Tropospheric Ozone

**Select the correct answer using the code below:**

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

**20. Which of the following best describes Carbon Footprint?**

- (a) The total weight of carbon present in fossil fuels consumed by an economy in a year.
- (b) The measure of  $\text{CO}_2$  emissions produced through fossil fuel burning, expressed in tons per year.

- (c) The total carbon stock present in forests and soils of a nation.  
(d) The excess greenhouse gases released due to urbanisation.

**21. With reference to carbon sinks and sequestration, consider the following statements:**

1. Blue carbon refers to carbon captured by mangroves, salt marshes, and seagrasses.
2. Coastal ecosystems, though smaller in area than forests, can sequester carbon more rapidly and for longer durations.
3. When biomass is used as fuel, it continues to act as a carbon sink.

**How many of the above statements are not correct?**

- (a) Only one  
(b) Only two  
(c) All three  
(d) None of the above

**22. Consider the following statements regarding methane (CH<sub>4</sub>):**

1. Methane persists in the atmosphere much longer than carbon dioxide.
2. It is the main constituent of natural gas.

**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

**23. With reference to the Stockholm Conference (1972), consider the following statements:**

1. It led directly to the establishment of the UN Environment Programme (UNEP).
2. It was held in Sweden and adopted a declaration with 26 principles.
3. It resulted in the adoption of the Kyoto Protocol on climate change.

**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

**24. With reference to SDG Goal 2 (Zero Hunger), which of the following is/are correct?**

1. Doubling agricultural productivity of small-scale producers is a target.
2. Preventing trade restrictions in world agricultural markets is a target.
3. Eliminating subsidies for fossil fuels is a target under this goal.

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

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

**25. Which among the following is correct with respect to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)?**

- (a) A legally binding treaty with mandatory emission reduction targets  
(b) A legally non-binding framework for negotiating climate protocols  
(c) A protocol under the Kyoto Agreement  
(d) A mechanism under the Paris Agreement

**26. With reference to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), consider the following statements:**

1. Only the Kyoto Protocol made binding limits on GHG emissions.
2. UNFCCC has successfully reduced global carbon dioxide emissions.

**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

**27. With reference to the Global Methane Pledge, consider the following statements:**

1. It was launched at COP26 by the European Union and the United Kingdom.
2. It is a voluntary initiative to reduce methane emissions by at least 30% from 2020 levels by 2030.
3. India is a signatory to this pledge.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None of the above

**28. With reference to the Loss and Damage Fund, consider the following statements:**

1. The Fund was established to assist poor and developing countries vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.
2. It was operationalised at COP27 in 2022 at Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt.
3. The funding will come exclusively from developed countries.

**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

**29. How many of the following initiatives under UNFCCC COP processes have been signed by India?**

1. Global Cooling Pledge
2. Global Methane Pledge
3. Global Renewables and Energy Efficiency Pledge

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None of the above

**30. Consider the following statements regarding Global River Cities Alliance (GRCA):**

1. It is the first global river conservation and sustainable water management initiative launched by India.
2. It will be led by the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), under the Ministry of Jal Shakti.
3. Currently, more than 15 countries are members of this initiative.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None of the above

**31. Consider the following statements regarding the UN-REDD and REDD+:**

1. Both UN-REDD and REDD+ support developing countries in reducing emissions and forest degradation.
2. REDD is multilateral collaborative programme of FAO, UNDP and UNEP along with some partner countries.

**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

**32. Consider the following statements:**

**Statement-I:** The Climate and Clean Air Coalition was formed to protect the climate through actions to reduce short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs).

**Statement-II:** SLCPs are responsible for more than 65% of current global warming.

**Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?**

- (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- (c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect
- (d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct



**33. With reference to the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), consider the following statements:**

1. Approval of NBA is mandatory for all foreign nationals or organisations seeking access to Indian biological resources.
2. Indian citizens require NBA approval before using biological resources for traditional purposes.
3. NBA approval is mandatory for applying for IPRs based on Indian biological resources.

**Which of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**34. Which of the following is/are exempted from prior approval of the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA):**

1. Local communities accessing resources for subsistence.
2. AYUSH practitioners using traditional knowledge.
3. Indian organisations transferring results of research to foreign institutions.

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**35. With reference to the National Green Tribunal (NGT), consider the following statements:**

1. The Tribunal must dispose of cases within 6 months of filing of appeals.
2. Each bench of the NGT must include at least one expert and one judicial member.
3. The Chairman must be the serving or a retired Chief Justice of India.
4. The Tribunal's orders are binding and it can grant relief in the form of compensation and damages.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two

- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

**36. With reference to Critical Vulnerable Coastal Areas (CVCAs), consider the following statements:**

1. They are notified under the provisions of the the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
2. Examples include the Sundarbans in West Bengal, Gulf of Mannar in Tamil Nadu, and Vembanad in Kerala.
3. Their management involves the participation of local coastal communities including fisherfolk.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None of the above

**37. Consider the following statements regarding Nilgiri Tahr:**

1. It is the state animal of Karnataka.
2. It is endemic to the Nilgiri Hills.
3. Its major threats include habitat loss due to acacia and eucalyptus plantations.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None of the above

**38. Consider the following statements in respect of Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB):**

1. It is a statutory body under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
2. It is mandated to establish a centralized wildlife crime data bank.

**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

**39. With reference to 'MIKE', which of the following statements is/are correct:**

1. It is an international collaboration for the conservation of elephants in Asia, Africa and Australia.
2. It is entirely dependent on donor support.
3. India has the largest number of MIKE sites in Asia.

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

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

**40. Which of the following species is often referred to as the "Landscape Artist" due to its significant role in ecosystem engineering and maintenance?**

- (a) Ants
- (b) Elephants
- (c) Honeybees
- (d) Lions

**41. With reference to the Green Credit Programme by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, consider the following statements:**

1. It is a market-based mechanism that incentivises voluntary environmental actions.
2. It will allow an individual or entity to earn Green Credit and trade it on a dedicated exchange.

**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

**42. With reference to the Great Indian Bustard (GIB), consider the following statements:**

1. Its largest population in India is found in Gujarat.
2. A small population of it also occurs in Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh.

**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

**43. With reference to the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022, consider the following statements:**

1. Only registered producers, recyclers, and refurbishers are allowed to collect and process e-waste.
2. Authorisation under the earlier rules has been replaced with registration through the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) online portal.
3. The new rules exclude solar PV modules and panels from e-waste management.
4. Producers of Electrical and Electronic Equipment (EEE) have been assigned annual recycling targets, starting at 60% in 2023–24.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

**44. Consider the following statements:**

**Statement–I:** In India, the Red Panda is found in the Western Himalayas only.

**Statement–II:** The Red Panda feeds mainly on bamboo and inhabits temperate forests with dense bamboo undergrowth.

**Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?**

- (a) Both Statement–I and Statement–II are correct and Statement–II is the correct explanation for Statement–I
- (b) Both Statement–I and Statement–II are correct, but Statement–II is not the correct explanation for Statement–I
- (c) Statement–I is correct, but Statement–II is incorrect
- (d) Statement–I is incorrect, but Statement–II is correct

**45. How many of the following activities are permitted under relaxed CRZ rules for achieving 'Blue Flag' certification of beaches:**

1. Setting up of portable toilets, change rooms, and shower panels.
2. Establishment of grey water treatment plants and solid waste management plants.
3. Construction of permanent residential complexes within 10 meters of the High Tide Line (HTL).
4. Installation of purified drinking water facilities and other associated infrastructure as per Blue Flag requirements.

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

**46. With reference to the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022, consider the following statements:**

1. The rules provide for the generation and transaction of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Certificates.
2. They mandate that producers of Electrical and Electronic Equipment (EEE) ensure their products do not contain lead or mercury beyond prescribed limits.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**47. Consider the following activities:**

1. Treatment of catchment areas
2. Managing human-wildlife conflicts
3. Assisted natural generation
4. Expansion and upgradation of zoo and wildlife safari

**How many of the above activities are permissible for funding under the Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAF) Act, 2016?**

- (a) Only two
- (b) Only three

- (c) All four
- (d) None of the above

**48. Consider the following statements regarding Central Pollution Control Board:**

**Statement-I:** It oversees the National Air Monitoring Programme (NAMP) and Water Quality Monitoring (WQM).

**Statement-II:** It was established under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and functions under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.

**Which one of the following is correct in respect to the above statements?**

- (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is the correct explanation of Statement-I
- (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II is not the correct explanation of Statement-I
- (c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect
- (d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct

**49. Consider the following statements:**

**Statement I:** Kuno Palpur National Park was selected for intercontinental translocation of cheetahs from Namibia.

**Statement II:** The habitat surrounding the Kuno National Park is similar to savannah ecosystems.

**Statement III:** Kuno National Park is situated in close proximity to the Sal forests of Chhattisgarh.

**Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?**

- (a) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct and both of them explain Statement I
- (b) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct but only one of them explains Statement I
- (c) Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement I
- (d) Neither Statement II nor Statement III is correct

**50. With reference to CITES, which of the following statements are correct?**

1. It ensures that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival.
2. It is legally binding on the Parties, but does not take the place of national laws.
3. Appendix I of CITES include species protected in at least one country, which has asked other CITES Parties for assistance in controlling the trade.
4. TRAFFIC is a multilateral treaty founded as a joint programme of the World Wide Fund for Nature and CITES.

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**51. Consider the following pairs:**

Invasive Alien Species	Primary Ecological Impact
1. Eichhornia crassipes	Choking of wetlands leading to hypoxia
2. Chromolaena odorata	Suppressing regeneration in forest ecosystems
3. Aedes aegypti	Spreading viral diseases like dengue and Zika
4. Acacia nilotica	Outcompeting native grasses in arid regions

**How many pairs given above are correctly matched?**

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

**52. Consider the following statements:**

1. A National Park can be established by a notification from the Central Government only.
2. A Biosphere Reserve may contain one or more National Parks or Wildlife Sanctuaries within its boundaries.

**Which of the above statements are correct?**

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

**53. With reference to Conservation Reserves and Community Reserves in India, consider the following statements:**

1. Both categories were introduced through the Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act of 2002.
2. A Conservation Reserve can be declared on government land, whereas a Community Reserve can be declared on private or community land.
3. Declaration of a Community Reserve requires the explicit consent of the individual or community owning the land.

**How many of the above statements are correct?**

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

**54. Match List-I with List-II and List-III:**

List-I (Protected Area)	List-II (Primary Land Tenure)	List-III (Key Feature)
A. National Park	1. Private/Community Land	X. Zoned management (Core, Buffer)
B. Biosphere Reserve	2. Government Land	Y. Highest degree of legal protection under WPA, 1972
C. Community Reserve	3. Government Land	Z. Voluntary declaration by landowners

**Select the correct answer code:**

- A B C**  
(a) 2-Y; 3-X; 1-Z

- (b) 3-Y; 2-Z; 1-X
- (c) 1-Z; 3-X; 2-Y
- (d) 2-X; 1-Y; 3-Z

**55. With reference to the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), consider the following statements:**

1. It is a statutory body constituted to strengthen tiger conservation in India.
2. It is chaired by the Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
3. One of its functions is to approve the Tiger Conservation Plan prepared by the State Governments.

**How many of the above statements are correct?**

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

**56. Consider the following statements:**

1. Ambergris is a waxy substance that originates from the digestive system of protected sperm whales.
2. Sperm whales are a protected species under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.
3. Ambergris is a tradable commodity in India with regulations under the provisions of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

**How many of the above statements are incorrect?**

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

**57. Consider the following statements:**

1. Epoch is the broadest category of geological time.
2. The Anthropocene epoch denote the present geological time interval, in which the Earth's ecosystem has gone through radical changes due to human impact.
3. Global warming, ocean acidification, mass-scale soil erosion and the advent of deadly heat waves are numerous phenomena associated with Anthropocene epoch.

**Which of the above statements are correct?**

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

**58. Consider the following statements regarding CITES Agreement:**

1. CITES is an international agreement between governments to ensure that international trade in wild animals and plants does not threaten the survival of the species.
2. Conference of the Parties (CoP), which is the supreme decision-making body of CITES, applies a set of biological and trade criteria to evaluate proposals from parties to decide if a species should be in Appendix I or II.
3. When a country becomes a party to the CITES, it cannot import and export species that are covered under CITES must.

**Which of the above statements are correct?**

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

**59. Consider the following statements regarding Neora Valley National Park:**

1. Neora Valley National Park is located in Nepal.
2. It is known for its rugged and inaccessible terrain.
3. The park is home to the red panda.

**How many of the above statements is/are incorrect?**

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

**60. Consider the following statements regarding Amazon rainforest:**

1. The Amazon rainforest covers an area twice the size of India.
2. Two-thirds of the Amazon rainforest is located in Brazil.

3. El Niño typically brings more rain and lower the temperature of Amazon rainforest.

**Which of the above statements are correct?**

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

**61. Consider the following statements regarding the impacts of the Sand Mining:**

1. It can alter the river bed and change its course.
2. It causes river and estuary deepening, as well as the expansion of river mouths and coastal inlets.
3. It may result in saline water intrusion from the nearby sea.

**How many of the above statements are correct?**

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

**62. Consider the following statements regarding various scales of organization of the environment:**

1. Biosphere or Ecosphere is classified usually at the continental scale which includes climatically and geographically contiguous areas with similar climatic conditions.
2. Biome includes all the biotic and abiotic factors of the environment.

**Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?**

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

**63. Which of the following explains why we should move away from coal-based power generation?**

1. Combusting coal leaves behind partially burnt carbon particles that feed pollution and trigger respiratory disorders.
2. Coal emits nearly twice as much carbon dioxide as natural gas.

3. Opencast mining and underground mining of coal affect the vegetation pattern.

4. There are several occupational hazards associated with coal mining like Pneumoconiosis and asthma.

**Which of the above statements are correct?**

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

**64. Consider the following statements regarding Forest Conservation Act, 1980:**

1. The legislation empowers the Central government to regulate the extraction of forest resources by industries as well as forest-dwelling communities.
2. The Act initially provided protection to areas not formally notified as 'forests' by the Central or State governments.
3. It is the only Act that protects the rights of tribals and forest-dwellers dependent on forests for their livelihood.

**How many of the above statements are incorrect?**

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

**65. Consider the following statements regarding Manatees:**

1. Manatees are large, aquatic mammals that are sometimes called "sea cows".
2. Manatees are typically solitary animals, known to gather in warm waters during colder weather.
3. They are classified as Vulnerable as per IUCN Red List.

**Which of the above statements are correct?**

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

**66. With reference to India's Desert National Park, which of the following statements are correct?**

1. It is spread over two districts.
2. There is no human habitation inside the Park.
3. It is one of the natural habitats of the Great Indian Bustard.

**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) 1, 2 and 3

**67. Consider the following statements:**

1. Lions do not have a particular breeding season.
2. Unlike most other big cats, cheetahs do not roar.
3. Unlike male lions, male leopards do not proclaim their territory by scent marking.

**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

**68. In case of which one of the following biogeochemical cycles, the weathering of rocks is the main source of release of nutrient to enter the cycle?**

- (a) Carbon cycle
- (b) Nitrogen cycle
- (c) Phosphorus cycle
- (d) Sulphur cycle

**69. Which one of the following regions of India has a combination of mangrove forest, evergreen forest and deciduous forest?**

- (a) North Coastal Andhra Pradesh
- (b) South-West Bengal
- (c) Southern Saurashtra
- (d) Andaman and Nicobar Islands

**70. Consider the following statements:**

1. Biodiversity is normally greater in the lower latitudes as compared to the higher latitudes.

2. Along the mountain gradients, biodiversity is normally greater in the lower altitudes as compared to the higher altitudes.

**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

**71. With reference to the Export Promotion Mission recently approved by the Government of India, consider the following statements:**

1. It aims to create a technology-driven framework to support MSMEs and first-time exporters.
2. The sub-scheme NIRYAT PROTSAHAN focuses on non-financial support such as branding, logistics and market intelligence.
3. The mission seeks to diversify export markets and improve access to affordable trade finance.

**Which of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**72. With reference to "Cat Bonds", consider the following statements:**

1. They are financial instruments that transfer disaster risk from countries to global investors.
2. In case of a specified disaster, investors may lose part or all of their principal amount.
3. These bonds usually offer lower interest rates than normal government bonds because they are risk-free.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**73. With reference to air conditioner (AC) temperature guidelines in India, consider the following statements:**

1. The Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) had issued voluntary guidelines for optimum AC temperature settings for commercial establishments.
2. The Government of India has mandated that air conditioners must always operate only at 24°C without allowing users to change the setting.
3. Increasing the AC temperature setting by 1°C can reduce electricity consumption by about 6%.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

**74. With reference to the Vizhinjam International Sea Port, consider the following statements:**

1. It is India's first deep-water container transshipment port.
2. At present, a large share of India's transshipment cargo is handled by foreign ports such as Colombo, Singapore, and Klang.
3. A transshipment port is a port where cargo is directly delivered to its final domestic destination without being transferred between vessels.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**75. Consider the following statements regarding Google's "Project Suncatcher":**

1. It aims to deploy AI data centres in space powered by solar energy.
2. The project proposes to place Tensor Processing Units (TPUs) in orbit connected through free-space optical links.
3. The main objective of the project is to provide global navigation services similar to GPS.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 2 only

- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**76. In the field of Machine Learning, the term "Random Forest" refers to:**

- (a) A technique that improves predictions by combining outputs of multiple decision trees
- (b) A satellite-based system used for monitoring global forest cover
- (c) A database system used to store large ecological datasets
- (d) A computer algorithm used to simulate forest growth patterns

**77. SPARC therapy, recently seen in the news, is primarily associated with:**

- (a) Targeted cancer treatment using proton radiation
- (b) A satellite system used to monitor space radiation levels
- (c) A technique used to increase crop productivity using solar radiation
- (d) A technology used to store renewable energy in underground chambers

**78. Match List I with List II regarding major global export control regimes:**

List I (Regime)	List II (Focus Area)
A. MTCR	1. Prevent spread of chemical and biological weapons
B. Australia Group	2. Control proliferation of missile and missile technology
C. Wassenaar Arrangement	3. Transparency in transfer of conventional arms and dual-use technologies
D. Nuclear Suppliers Group	4. Regulation of nuclear exports

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- (a) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4
- (b) A-1, B-2, C-4, D-3
- (c) A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4
- (d) A-3, B-1, C-2, D-4

**79. Parrondo's paradox, sometimes discussed in game theory, refers to:**

- (a) A situation where two losing strategies, when alternated in a specific sequence, can produce a winning outcome
- (b) A paradox where a winning strategy becomes ineffective when used repeatedly
- (c) A theory explaining why markets always move towards equilibrium
- (d) A principle stating that all random processes eventually produce equal outcomes

**80. The "Munduruku", recently seen in news, are:**

- (a) An Indigenous community living in the Amazon region of Brazil
- (b) A regional organisation working for rainforest conservation in South America
- (c) A species of migratory bird found in the Amazon basin
- (d) A traditional irrigation system used in tropical forests

**81. With reference to the Great Hornbill (Buceros bicornis), consider the following statements:**

1. It is listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List.
2. It is protected under Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
3. It is endemic only to the Western Ghats of India.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**82. With reference to disaster-response financing in India, consider the following statements:**

1. The State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) is financed jointly by the Centre and States.
2. The National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) is funded entirely by the Union Government.
3. The Disaster Management Act, 2005 includes heat waves among the officially notified disasters.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**83. Operation MED MAX, recently seen in the news, is associated with:**

- (a) A nationwide operation to curb illegal trade of pharmaceutical drugs
- (b) A health mission aimed at expanding medical insurance coverage
- (c) A military exercise conducted to strengthen maritime security
- (d) A programme launched to increase domestic vaccine production

**84. With reference to security cover categories in India, consider the following statements:**

1. Z+ security is the highest level of security cover provided in India after the SPG cover.
2. The Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) determines security categories at the national level based on inputs from intelligence agencies such as the Intelligence Bureau (IB).
3. SPG protection is currently provided to the Prime Minister and former Prime Ministers for life.
4. Security protocols for the President, Vice-President and Prime Minister are guided by the "Blue Book" issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

**Which of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**85. Match List I with List II regarding India's recent joint defence exercises:**

List I (Exercise)	List II (Partner Country)
A. Yudh Abhyas	1. Sri Lanka
B. Mitra Shakti	2. Mongolia
C. Nomadic Elephant	3. United States
D. Dustlik	4. Uzbekistan

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- (a) A-3, B-1, C-2, D-4
- (b) A-1, B-3, C-2, D-4
- (c) A-3, B-2, C-1, D-4
- (d) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4

**86. With reference to Private Member Bills (PMBs) in the Indian Parliament, consider the following statements:**

1. A Private Member Bill can be introduced by any Member of Parliament who is not a Minister, irrespective of whether the member belongs to the ruling party or the Opposition.
2. Discussion on Private Member Bills is normally taken up on Fridays during parliamentary sessions.
3. No Private Member Bill has been passed by both Houses of Parliament since 1970.
4. A Private Member Bill requires prior recommendation of the President in all cases before it can be introduced.

**Which of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**87. With reference to the evolution of the Indian National Flag, consider the following statements:**

1. The Berlin Flag (1907) associated with the Indian freedom movement was unfurled by Madam Bhikaji Cama.
2. The final design of the national flag adopted in 1947 replaced the charkha with the Ashoka Chakra.
3. The first tricolour flag proposed in 1906 consisted of saffron, white and green stripes similar to the present national flag.

**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

**88. With reference to the National Child Labour Project (NCLP), consider the following statements:**

1. It was launched by the Government of India in 1988 to rehabilitate children engaged in hazardous labour.
2. The scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Women and Child Development through district-level authorities.
3. The scheme provides education, vocational training, and health care through special centres for rescued children.
4. The project has now been converged with the Samagra Shiksha programme.

**Which of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**89. With reference to Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary, consider the following statements:**

1. It is located in the Bargarh district of Odisha near the Hirakud Dam on the Mahanadi River.
2. The sanctuary lies in a region dominated by mixed and dry deciduous forests.
3. It is situated in the Eastern Himalayas and forms part of a temperate forest ecosystem.
4. The area has historical significance as it was associated with Veer Surendra Sai's rebellion against the British.

**Which of the statements given above are correct?**

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

**90. The "Mera Hou Chongba" festival, recently seen in the news, is primarily celebrated in which state of India?**

- (a) Manipur
- (b) Nagaland
- (c) Mizoram
- (d) Tripura

91. The RELOS Agreement, sometimes mentioned in defence cooperation, is signed between India and which of the following countries?

- (a) Russia
- (b) United States
- (c) Japan
- (d) France

92. Match List I with List II regarding investigative techniques:

List I (Technique)	List II (Key Principle / Method)
A. Polygraph Test	1. Measures neural activity and brainwaves in response to familiar stimuli
B. Narco-analysis	2. Uses a drug-induced sedated state to extract information
C. Brain Mapping	3. Measures physiological responses such as blood pressure, pulse and sweating

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- (a) A-1, B-3, C-2
- (b) A-3, B-1, C-2
- (c) A-3, B-2, C-1
- (d) A-2, B-1, C-3

93. With reference to the 'Right to Vote' and 'Freedom of Voting' in India, consider the following statements:

1. The right to vote is a fundamental right guaranteed under the Constitution of India.
2. The freedom of voting is considered part of the fundamental right to freedom of speech and expression.
3. Under the Representation of the People Act, 1951, if the number of candidates equals the number of seats in an election, the candidates may be declared elected without conducting a poll.

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

94. With reference to the "Blue Line" in West Asia, consider the following statements:

1. It was established by the United Nations in 2000 to verify Israel's withdrawal from southern Lebanon.
2. It represents the internationally recognized permanent border between Israel and Lebanon.
3. The United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) monitors the situation along this line.
4. The area between the Blue Line and the Litani River has been proposed as a weapons-free buffer zone under UN Security Council Resolution 1701.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

95. Match List I with List II regarding UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage elements of India:

List I (Heritage Element)	List II (Region/State)
A. Koodiyattam	1. Rajasthan
B. Chhau Dance	2. Kerala
C. Kalbelia	3. West Bengal, Jharkhand & Odisha
D. Sankirtana	4. Manipur

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- (a) A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4
- (b) A-3, B-2, C-1, D-4
- (c) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4
- (d) A-1, B-3, C-2, D-4

96. With reference to PARAKH Rashtriya Sarvekshan (earlier National Achievement Survey), consider the following statements:

1. It is a nationwide large-scale assessment of students' learning levels conducted by the Ministry of Education.
2. It evaluates the performance of individual students and provides them with marks or grades.
3. The assessment is conducted for students of Classes 3, 5, 8 and 10.
4. NCERT designs the assessment framework while CBSE manages the survey operations.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

**97. With reference to Sickle Cell Disease, consider the following statements:**

1. It is a genetic disorder caused by mutations in the  $\beta$ -globin gene.
2. The disease is inherited in an autosomal recessive manner.
3. Individuals with the disease have disc-shaped red blood cells similar to healthy individuals.
4. Sickle Cell Disease is included among the specified disabilities under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

**98. "Eroom's Law", sometimes mentioned in news, refers to:**

- (a) The observation that the number of new drugs discovered per billion dollars spent on research has steadily declined
- (b) The rule that countries must maintain a minimum stock of essential medicines for public health emergencies
- (c) The principle that satellites in low Earth orbit must be replaced every five years
- (d) The theory that global ocean temperatures regulate the intensity of monsoon winds

**99. The region known as "Rojava", sometimes mentioned in international news, is located in:**

- (a) Northern Iraq
- (b) Northeastern Syria
- (c) Eastern Turkey
- (d) Western Iran

**100. Match List I with List II regarding cultural initiatives of the Ministry of Culture:**

List I (Initiative)	List II (Description)
A. Kashi Tamil Sangamam 3.0	1. Cultural village set up during Mahakumbh in Prayagraj
B. Kalagram	2. Initiative to preserve and digitise India's manuscript heritage
C. Gyan Bharatam	3. Celebration of civilizational links between Tamil Nadu and Kashi
D. Project Mausam	4. Research initiative on maritime cultural routes in the Indian Ocean

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- (a) A-3, B-1, C-2, D-4
- (b) A-1, B-3, C-2, D-4
- (c) A-3, B-2, C-1, D-4
- (d) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4