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UPSC Prelims MCQ

**Ecology, Biodiversity & Climate
Change Quiz**

***MCQ SORTED WITH ANSWER
(no explanations)***

In which of the following regions of India are you most likely to come across the 'Great Indian Hornbill' in its nature habitat?

1. Sand deserts of northwest India
2. Higher Himalayas of Jammu and Kashmir
3. Salt marshes of western Gujarat.
4. Western Ghats

Answer.D

Which of the following are the key features of 'National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA)'?

1. River basin is the unit of planning and management.
2. It spearheads the river conservation efforts at the national level.
3. One of the Chief Ministers of the States through which the Ganga flows becomes the Chairman of NGRBA on rotation basis.

Select the correct Answer using the code given below.

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 2 and 3 only
3. 1 and 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

Answer. A

Why does the Government of India promote the use of 'Neem-coated Urea' in agriculture?

1. Release of Neem oil in the soil increases nitrogen fixation by the soil microorganisms.
2. Neem coating slows down the rate of distribution of urea in the soil
3. Nitrous oxide, which is a greenhouse gas, is not at all released into the atmosphere by crop fields.
4. It is a combination of a weedicide and a fertilizer for particular crops.

Answer. D

In the context of the development in Bio informatics, the term 'Transcriptome', sometimes seen in the news , refer to

1. A range of enzymes used in genome editing
2. The full range of mRNA molecules expressed by an organism
3. The description of the mechanism of gene expression
4. A mechanism of genetic mutations taking place in cells

Answer. B

What is/are the unique about the 'Kharai Camel' a breed found in India:

1. It is capable of swimming up three kilometers in seawater

2.Its survives by grazing on mangroves

3.It lives in the wild and cannot be domesticated

Select the correct Answers using the code given below

1.1 only

2.2 only

3.Both 1 and 2

4.Neither 1 nor 2

Answer. A

Recently, our scientists have discovered a new and distinct species of banana plant which attains a height of about 11 meters and has orange – colored form of pulp.

In which part of India has been discovered?

1.Andaman Islands

2.Anaimalai Forests

3.Maikala Hills

4.Tropical rainforest of North east

Answer. A

With reference to an initiative called ‘the economics of ecosystems and biodiversity (TEEB)’ which of the following statements is/are correct?

1.it is an initiative hosted by UNEP IMF and world economic forum

2.it is a global initiative that focuses on drawing attention to the economic benefits of biodiversity

3.it presents an approach that can help decision-makers recognize demonstrate and capture the value of ecosystem and biodiversity

Select the correct and Answer using the code given below

1.1 and 2 only

2.3 only

3.2 and 3 only

4.1,2 and 3

Answer. C

With reference to 'red sanders' sometimes seen in the news consider the following statements:

1.it is 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

1.1 only

2.2 only

3.both 1 and 2

4.neither 1 nor 2

Answer. A

Which of the following statements is/are correct ?

Proper design and effective implementation of UN REDD+ programme can significantly contribute

1. protection of biodiversity
2. resilience of forest ecosystem
3. property reduction

Select the correct Answer using the code given below

- 1.1 and 2 only
- 2.3 only
- 3.2 and 3 only
- 4.1, 2 and 3

Answer.D

A sandy and saline area is the natural habitat of an Indian animal species. The animal has no predators in that area but its existence is threatened due to the destruction of its habitat.

Which one of the following could be that animal ?

- (a) Indian wild buffalo
- (b) Indian wild ass
- (c) Indian wild boar
- (d) Indian gazelle

Answer: B

Biodiversity forms the basis for human existence in the following ways :

1. Soil formation
2. Prevention of soil erosion
3. Recycling of waste

4. Pollination of crops

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

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

Answer: D

Which one of the following is not a site for in-situ method of conservation of flora ?

- (a) Biosphere Reserve
- (b) Botanical Garden
- (c) National Park
- (d) Wildlife Sanctuary

Answer: B

The 2004 Tsunami made people realize that mangroves can serve as a reliable safety hedge against coastal calamities. How do mangroves function as a safety hedge ?

- (a) The mangrove swamps separate the human settlements from the sea by a wide zone in which people neither live nor venture out.
- (b) The mangroves provide both food and medicines which people are in need of after any natural disaster.
- (c) The mangrove trees are tall with dense canopies and

serve as an excellent shelter during a cyclone or tsunami
(d) The mangrove trees do not get uprooted by storms and tides because of their extensive roots.

Answer: D

The “Red Data Books” published by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural resources (IUCN) contain lists of ?

1. Endemic plant and animal species present in the biodiversity hotspots.
2. Threatened plant and animal species.
3. Protected sites for conservation of nature and natural resources in various countries.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Answer: B

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

Answer: C

With reference to India, consider the following Central Acts :

1. Import and Export (Control) Act, 1947
2. Mining and Mineral Development (Regulation) Act, 1957
3. Customs Act, 1962
4. Indian Forest Act, 1927

Which of the above Acts have relevance to/bearing on the biodiversity conservation in the country ?

- (a) 1 and 3 only
- (b) 2,3 and 4 only
- (c) 1,2,3 and 4
- (d) None of the above Acts

Answer: C

How does National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) help in protecting the Indian agriculture?

1. NBA checks the bio-piracy and protects the indigenous and traditional genetic resources.

2. NBA directly monitors and supervises the scientific research on genetic modification of crop plants.

3. Application for Intellectual Property Rights related to genetic/biological resources cannot be made without the approval of NBA.

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

Answer: D

The National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 was enacted in consonance with which of the following provisions of the Constitution of India?

1. Right to healthy environment, construed as a part of Right to life under Article 21.

2. Provision of grants for raising the level of administration in the Scheduled Areas for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes under Article 275(1).

3. Powers and functions of Gram Sabha as mentioned under Article 243 (A).

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Answer: A

If National Water Mission is properly and completely implemented, how will it impact the country?

1. Part of the water needs of urban areas will be met through recycling of wastewater.
2. The water requirements of coastal cities with inadequate alternative sources of water will be met by adopting appropriate technologies that allow for the use of ocean water.
3. All the rivers of Himalayan origin will be linked to the rivers of peninsular India.
4. The expenses incurred by farmers for digging borewells and for installing motors and pump sets to draw groundwater will be completely reimbursed by the Government.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below :

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

Answer: B

Biomass gasification is considered to be one of the sustainable solutions to the power crisis in India.

In this context, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Coconut shells, groundnut shells and rice husk can be used in biomass gasification.
2. The combustible gases generated from biomass

gasification consist of hydrogen and carbon dioxide only.

3. The combustible gases generated from biomass gasification can be used for direct heat generation but not in internal combustion engines.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below :

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

Answer: C

The acidification of oceans is increasing. Why is this phenomenon a cause of concern?

1. The growth and survival of calcareous phytoplankton will be adversely affected.
2. The growth and survival of coral reefs will be adversely affected.
3. The survival of some animals that have phytoplanktonic larvae will be adversely affected.
4. The cloud seeding and formation of clouds will be adversely affected.

Which of the statements given above is /are correct?

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

Answer: D

The increasing amount of carbon dioxide in the air is slowly raising the temperature of the atmosphere, because it absorbs

- (a) the water vapour of the air and retains its heat
- (b) the ultraviolet part of the solar radiation
- (c) all the solar radiations
- (d) the infrared part of the solar radiation

Answer: D

Consider the following protected areas:

1. Bandipur
2. Bhitarkanika
3. Manas
4. Sunderbans

Which of the above are declared Tiger Reserves?

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

Answer: B

In which one among the following categories of protected areas in India are local people not allowed to collect and use the biomass?

- (a) Biosphere Reserves
- (b) National Parks

- (c) Wetlands declared under Ramsar Convention
- (d) Wildlife Sanctuaries

Answer: B

Which one of the following groups of animals belongs to the category of endangered species?

- (a) Great Indian Bustard, Musk Deer, Red Panda and Asiatic Wild Ass
- (b) Kashmir Stag, Cheetal, Blue Bull and Great Indian Bustard
- (c) Snow Leopard, Swamp Deer, Rhesus Monkey and Saras (Crane)
- (d) Lion-tailed Macaque, Blue Bull, Hanuman Langur and Cheetal.

Answer: A

The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment describes the following major categories of ecosystem services provisioning, supporting, regulating, preserving and cultural. Which one of the following is supporting service?

- (a) Production of food and water
- (b) Control of climate and disease
- (c) Nutrient cycling and crop pollination
- (d) Maintenance of diversity

Answer: D

What is the difference between the antelopes Oryx and Chiru?

- (a) Oryx is adapted to live in hot and arid areas whereas Chiru is adapted to live in steppes and semi-desert areas of cold high mountains
- (b) Oryx is poached for its antlers whereas Chiru is poached for its musk
- (c) Oryx exists in western India only whereas Chiru exists in north-east India only
- (d) None of the statements (a), (b) and (c) given above is correct

Answer: A

The formation of ozone hole in the Antarctic region has been a cause of concern. What could be the reason for the formation of this hole ?

- (a) Presence of prominent tropospheric turbulence; and inflow of chlorofluorocarbons.
- (b) Presence of prominent polar front and stratospheric clouds; and inflow of chlorofluorocarbons.
- (c) Absence of polar front and stratospheric clouds; and inflow of methane and chlorofluorocarbons.
- (d) Increased temperature at polar region due to global warming.

Answer: B

Two important rivers—one with its source in Jharkhand (and known by a different name in Odisha), and another, with its source in Odisha—merge at a place only a short distance from the coast of Bay of Bengal before flowing into the sea. This is an important site of wildlife and biodiversity and a protected area. Which one of the following could be this ?

- (a) Bhitarkanika
- (b) Chandipur-on-sea
- (c) Gopalpur-on-sea
- (d) Simlipal

Answer: A

Three of the following criteria have contributed to the recognition of Western Ghats, Sri Lanka and Indo Burma regions as hotspots of biodiversity :

1. Species richness
2. Vegetation density
3. Endemism
4. Ethno-botanical importance
5. Threat perception
6. Adaption of flora and fauna to warm and humid conditions

Which three of the above are correct criteria in this context?

- (a) 1, 2 and 6
- (b) 2, 4 and 6
- (c) 1, 3 and 5

(d) 3, 4 and 6

Answer: C

The Himalayan range is very rich in species diversity. Which one among the following is the most appropriate reason for this phenomenon ?

- (a) It has a high rainfall that supports luxuriant vegetative growth
- (b) It is a confluence of different bio-geographical zones.
- (c) Exotic and invasive species have not been introduced in this region.
- (d) It has less human interference.

Answer: B

There is a concern over the increase in harmful algal blooms in the seawaters of India. What could be the causative factors for this phenomenon ?

1. Discharge of nutrients from the estuaries.
2. Run-off from the land during the monsoon.
3. Upwelling in the seas.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

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

Answer: D

Consider the following :

1. Photosynthesis
2. Respiration.
3. Decay of organic matter
4. Volcanic action.

Which of the above add carbon dioxide to the carbon cycle on earth ?

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

Answer: C

Which of the following can be threats to the biodiversity of a geographical area?

1. Global warming
2. Fragmentation of habitat
3. Invasion of alien species
4. Promotion of vegetarianism

Select the correct answer using the codes given below :

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

Answer: A

Consider the following agricultural practices :

1. Contour bunding
2. Relay cropping
3. Zero tillage

In the context of global climate change, which of the above helps/help in carbon sequestration/storage in the soil?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 3 only
- (c) 1, 2 and 3
- (d) None of them

Answer: C

What would happen if phytoplankton of an ocean is completely destroyed for some reason?

1. The ocean as a carbon sink would be adversely affected.
2. The food chains in the ocean would be adversely affected.
3. The density of ocean water would drastically decrease.

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

Answer: A

Vultures which used to be very common in Indian countryside some years ago are rarely seen nowadays.

This is attributed to

- (a) the destruction of their nesting sites by new invasive species
- (b) a drug used by cattle owners for treating their diseased cattle
- (c) scarcity of food available to them
- (d) a widespread, persistent and fatal disease among them

Answer: B

Due to improper/ indiscriminate disposal of old and used computers or their parts, which of the following are released into the environment as e-waste?

1. Beryllium
2. Cadmium
3. Chromium
4. Heptachlor
5. Mercury
6. Lead
7. Plutonium

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- (a) 1, 3, 4, 6 and 7 only
- (b) 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 only
- (c) 2, 4, 5 and 7 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7

Answer: B

With reference to food chains in ecosystems, consider the following statements:

1. A food chain illustrates the order in which a chain of organisms feed upon each other.
2. Food chains are found within the populations of a species.
3. A food chain illustrates the numbers of each organism which are eaten by others.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 1, 2 and 3
- (d) None

Answer: A

In which of the following States is lion-tailed macaque found in its natural habitat?

1. Tamil Nadu
2. Kerala
3. Karnataka
4. Andhra Pradesh

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

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

Answer: a

Which one of the following terms describes not only the physical space occupied by an organism, but also its functional role in the community of organisms?

- (a) Ecotone
- (b) Ecological niche
- (c) Habitat
- (d) Home range

Answer: B

Consider the following:

1. Star tortoise
2. Monitor lizard
3. Pygmy hog
4. Spider monkey

Which of the above are naturally found in India?

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

Answer: A

Which of the following can be found as pollutants in the drinking water in some parts of India?

1. Arsenic
2. Sorbitol
3. Fluoride

4. Formaldehyde

5. Uranium

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

(a) 1 and 3 only

(b) 2, 4 and 5 only

(c) 1, 3 and 5 only

(d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Answer: A

Consider the following pairs:

1. Nokrek Bio-sphere Reserve : Garo Hills

2. Logtak (Loktak) Lake : Barail Range

3. Namdapha National Park : Dafla Hills

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 1, 2 and 3

(d) None

Answer: A

In the grasslands, trees do not replace the grasses as a part of an ecological succession because of:

(a) insects and fungi

(b) limited sunlight and paucity of nutrients

(c) water limits and fire

(d) None of the above

Answer: c

Which one of the following is the correct sequence of ecosystems in the order of decreasing productivity?

- (a) Oceans, lakes, grasslands, mangroves
- (b) Mangroves, oceans, grasslands, lakes
- (c) Mangroves, grasslands, lakes, oceans
- (d) Oceans, mangroves, lakes, grasslands

Answer: D

Consider the following fauna of India:

1. Gharial
2. Leatherback turtle
3. Swamp deer

Which of the above is/are endangered?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 3 only
- (c) 1, 2 and 3
- (d) None

Answer: C

With reference to the food chains in ecosystems, which of the following kinds of organism is/are known as decomposer organism/organisms?

1. Virus
2. Fungi
3. Bacteria

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

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

Answer: B

Consider the following international agreements :

1. The International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
2. The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
3. The World Heritage Convention

Which of the above has/have a bearing on the biodiversity?

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

Answer: D

Consider the following statements regarding 'Earth Hour' :

1. It is an initiative of UNEP and UNESCO.
2. It is a movement in which the participants switch off the lights

for one hour on a certain day every year.

3. It is a movement to raise the awareness about the climate change and the need to save the planet.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Which one of the following is the correct sequence of a food chain?

- (a) Diatoms-Crustaceans-Herrings
- (b) Crustaceans-Diatoms-Herrings
- (c) Diatoms-Herrings-Crustaceans
- (d) Crustaceans-Herrings-Diatoms

Answer: A

If a wetland of international importance is brought under the 'Montreux Record', what does it imply?

- (a) Changes in ecological character have occurred, are occurring or are likely to occur in the wetland as a result of human interference
- (b) The country in which the wetland is located should enact a law to prohibit any human activity within five

kilometres from the edge of the wetland

(c) The survival of the wetland depends on the cultural practices and traditions of certain communities living in its vicinity and therefore the cultural diversity therein should not be destroyed

(d) It is given the status of 'World Heritage Site'

Answer: A

With reference to Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS),

consider the following statements:

1. It is an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Environment and Forests.
2. It strives to conserve nature through action-based research, education and public awareness.
3. It organizes and conducts nature trails and camps for the general public.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

With reference to 'Global Environment Facility', which of the following statements is/are correct?

- (a) It serves as financial mechanism for 'Convention on Biological Diversity' and 'United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change'
- (b) It undertakes scientific research on environmental issues at global level
- (c) It is an agency under OECD to facilitate the transfer of technology and funds to underdeveloped countries with specific aim to protect their environment
- (d) Both (a) and (b)

Answer: A

Which one of the following is the process involved in photosynthesis?

- (a) Potential energy is released to form free energy
- (b) Free energy is converted into potential energy and stored
- (c) Food is oxidized to release carbon dioxide and water
- (d) Oxygen is taken, and carbon dioxide and water vapour are given out

Answer: C

Among the following organisms, which one does not belong to the class of other three?

- (a) Crab
- (b) Mite
- (c) Scorpion
- (d) Spider

Answer: A

With reference to technologies for solar power production, consider the following statements :

1. 'Photo voltaics' is a technology that generates electricity by direct conversion of light into electricity, while 'Solar Thermal' is a technology that utilizes the Sun's rays to generate heat which is further used in electricity generation process.
2. Photovoltaics generates Alternating Current (AC), while Solar Thermal generates Direct Current (DC).
3. India has manufacturing base for Solar Thermal technology, but not for Photovoltaics.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1, 2 and 3
- (d) None

Answer: A

Consider the following pairs :

1. Dampa Tiger Reserve : Mizoram

2. Gunti Wildlife Sanctuary : Sikkim

3. Saramati Peak : Nagaland

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

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

Answer: C

With reference to a conservation organization called “Wetlands International”, which of the following statements is/ are correct?

- 1. It is an intergovernmental organization formed by the countries which are signatories to Ramsar Convention.
- 2. It works at the field level to develop and mobilize knowledge, and use the practical experience to advocate for better policies.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: B

Other than poaching, what are the possible reasons for the decline in the population of Ganges River Dolphins?

- 1. Construction of dams and barrages on rivers
- 2. Increase in the population of crocodiles in rivers

3. Getting trapped in fishing nets accidentally
4. Use of synthetic fertilizers and other agricultural chemicals in crop-fields in the vicinity of rivers

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: C

Brominated flame retardants are used in many household products like mattresses and upholstery. Why is there some concern about their use?

1. They are highly resistant to degradation in the environment.
 2. They are able to accumulate in humans and animals.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: C

Consider the following :

1. Bats
2. Bears

3. Rodents

The phenomenon of hibernation can be observed in which of the above kinds of animals?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1, 2 and 3
- (d) Hibernation cannot be observed in any of the above

Answer: C

Which of the following adds/add carbon dioxide to the carbon cycle on the planet Earth?

1. Volcanic action
2. Respiration
3. Photosynthesis
4. Decay of organic matter

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: C

If you walk through countryside, you are likely to see some birds stalking alongside the cattle to seize the insects disturbed by their movement through grasses.

Which of the following is/are such bird/birds?

1. Painted Stork
2. Common Myna
3. Black-necked Crane

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: B

With reference to 'Eco-Sensitive Zones', which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Eco-Sensitive Zones are the areas that are declared under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
2. The purpose of the declaration of Eco-Sensitive Zones is to prohibit all kinds of human activities in those zones except agriculture.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: B

Consider the following statements :

1. Animal Welfare Board of India is established under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
2. National Tiger Conservation Authority is a statutory body.
3. National Ganga River Basin Authority is chaired by the Prime Minister.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Which of the following have coral reefs?

1. Andaman and Nicobar Islands
2. Gulf of Kachchh
3. Gulf of Mannar
4. Sunderbans

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: A

In India, the problem of soil erosion is associated with which of the following?

1. Terrace cultivation
2. Deforestation
3. Tropical climate

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: B

The most important strategy for the conservation of biodiversity together with traditional human life is the establishment of

- (a) biosphere reserves
- (b) botanical gardens
- (c) national parks
- (d) wildlife sanctuaries

Answer: A

The scientific view is that the increase in global temperature should not exceed 2 °C above pre industrial level. If the global temperature increases beyond 3 °C above the pre-industrial level, what can be its possible impact/impacts on the world?

1. Terrestrial biosphere tends toward a net carbon source.
2. Widespread coral mortality will occur.
3. All the global wetlands will permanently disappear.
4. Cultivation of cereals will not be possible anywhere in the world.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: D

Lichens, which are capable of initiating ecological succession even on a bare rock, are actually a symbiotic association of

- (a) algae and bacteria
- (b) algae and fungi
- (c) bacteria and fungi
- (d) fungi and mosses

Answer: B

Which of the following are some important pollutants released by steel industry in India?

1. Oxides of sulphur
2. Oxides of nitrogen

- 3. Carbon monoxide
- 4. Carbon dioxide

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: D

Every year, a month long ecologically important campaign/festival is held during which certain communities/ tribes plant saplings of fruit-bearing trees. Which of the following are such communities/ tribes?

- (a) Bhutia and Lepcha
- (b) Gond and Korku
- (c) Irula and Toda
- (d) Sahariya and Agariya

Answer: B

With reference to two non-conventional energy sources called 'coalbed methane' and 'shale gas', consider the following statements :

1. Coalbed methane is the pure methane gas extracted from coal seams, while shale gas is a mixture of propane and butane only that can be extracted from fine-grained sedimentary rocks.

2. In India, abundant coalbed methane sources exist, but so far no shale gas sources have been found.

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

Answer: C

Which one of the following National Parks has a climate that varies from tropical to subtropical, temperate and arctic?

- (a) Khangchendzonga National Park
- (b) Nandadevi National Park
- (c) Neora Valley National Park
- (d) Namdapha National Park

Answer: D

‘Bio Carbon Fund Initiative for Sustainable Forest Landscapes’ is managed by the

- (a) Asian Development Bank
- (b) International Monetary Fund
- (c) United Nations Environment Programme
- (d) World Bank

Answer: D

With reference to 'Forest Carbon Partnership Facility', which of the following statements is/ are correct?

1. It is a global partnership of governments, businesses, civil society and indigenous peoples.
2. It provides financial aid to universities, individual scientists and institutions involved in scientific forestry research to develop eco –friendly and climate adaptation technologies for sustainable forest management.
3. It assists the countries in their 'REDD + (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation+)' efforts by providing them with financial and technical assistance.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: C

With reference to an organization known as 'Birdlife International', which of the following statements is/ are correct?

1. It is a Global Partnership of Conservation Organizations.
2. The concept of 'biodiversity hotspots' originated from this organization.
3. It identifies the sites known/referred to as 'Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas'.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: C

In India, in which one of the following types of forests is teak a dominant tree species?

- (a) Tropical moist deciduous forest
- (b) Tropical rain forest
- (c) Tropical thorn scrub forest
- (d) Temperate forest with grasslands

Answer: A

Which one of the following is the best description of the term 'ecosystem'?

- (a) A community of organisms interacting with one another.
- (b) That part of the Earth which is inhabited by living organisms.
- (c) A community of organisms together with the environment in which they live
- (d) The flora and fauna of a geographical area

Answer: A

With reference to the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is a Public Limited Government Company.
2. It is a Non – Banking Financial Company.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 or 2

Answer: C

Which of the following National Parks is unique in being a swamp with floating vegetation that supports a rich biodiversity?

- (a) Bhitarkanika National Park
- (b) Keibul Lamjao National Park
- (c) Keoladeo Ghana National Park
- (d) Sultanpur National Park

Answer: B

With reference to the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. IUCN is an organ of the United Nations and CITES is an international agreement between governments.
2. IUCN runs thousands of field projects around the world to better manage natural environments.
3. CITES is legally binding on the States that have joined it, but this Convention does not take the place of national laws.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: B

With reference to 'dugong', a mammal found in India, which of the following statements is/an; correct?

1. It is a herbivorous marine animal.
2. It is found along the entire coast of India.
3. It is given legal protection under Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: C

Which one of the following is the national aquatic animal of India?

- (a) Saltwater crocodile
- (b) Olive ridley turtle
- (c) Gangetic dolphin
- (d) Gharial

Answer: C

Which one of the following is associated with the issue of control and phasing out of the use of ozone depleting substances?

- (a) Bretton Woods Conference
- (b) Montreal Protocol
- (c) Kyoto Protocol
- (d) Nagoya Protocol

Answer: B

What is Rio+20 Conference, of ten mentioned in the news?

- (a) It is the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development
- (b) It is a Ministerial Meeting of the World Trade Organization
- (c) It is a Conference of the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change
- (d) It is a Conference of the Member Countries of the

Convention on Biological Diversity.

Answer: A

Which of the following statements regarding 'Green Climate Fund' is/are correct?

1. It is intended to assist the developing countries in adaptation and mitigation practices to counter climate change.
2. It is founded under the aegis of UNEP, OECD, Asian Development Bank and World Bank.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: a