

AISSEE General Knowledge

Sample Paper – 6

Duration: 30 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 50

Instructions

- This paper has **25 questions** carrying **2 marks** each. Total: **50 marks**.
- All questions are MCQs with four options (A/B/C/D). Choose the single correct answer.
- **No negative marking**. Wrong or blank answers carry zero marks.
- Attempt all questions. Do not leave any answer blank.

Section A: Indian History

Q1. Who built the Grand Trunk Road, one of Asia's oldest and longest roads, stretching from Peshawar to Calcutta?

- (A) Sher Shah Suri
- (B) Akbar
- (C) Ashoka
- (D) British East India Company

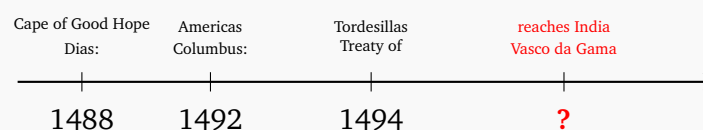
Answer: (A)

Solution

Sher Shah Suri (r. 1540–1545) rebuilt and extended the ancient Uttarapatha into the Grand Trunk Road, stretching approximately 2400 km from Peshawar to Calcutta. He also introduced a uniform silver coin (rupiya) and an efficient postal system, making him one of the most capable administrators of medieval India.



Q2. The timeline marks key Portuguese voyages of exploration. In which year did Vasco da Gama first arrive in India, opening the direct sea route from Europe?



- (A) 1488
- (B) 1492
- (C) 1494
- (D) 1498

Answer: (D)

Solution

Vasco da Gama sailed from Lisbon and arrived at Kozhikode (Calicut) on the Malabar Coast of India in **1498**, establishing the first direct sea route between Europe and Asia. This breakthrough ended the Arab monopoly over the lucrative spice trade and led to the establishment of Portuguese colonies in India.

Q3. The Great Bengal Famine, one of the deadliest in modern history with an estimated 2–3 million deaths, was worsened by wartime policies during British rule. In which year did it occur?

- (A) 1919
- (B) 1935
- (C) 1943
- (D) 1946

Answer: (C)

Solution

The Great Bengal Famine occurred in **1943** during the Second World War. It was aggravated by wartime rice-export policies, wartime inflation, hoarding, and administrative failures under British rule. The catastrophe intensified demands for Indian independence and remains one of the worst man-made disasters in modern history.



Q4. The Gandhi-Irwin Pact, signed on 5 March 1931 between Mahatma Gandhi and Viceroy Lord Irwin, was signed to suspend which movement?

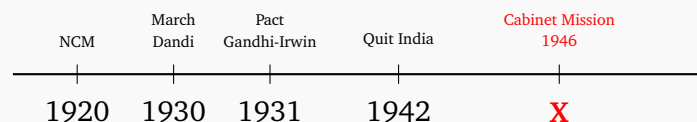
- (A) Non-Cooperation Movement
- (B) Quit India Movement
- (C) Civil Disobedience Movement
- (D) Swadeshi Movement

Answer: (C)

Solution

The Gandhi-Irwin Pact was signed to suspend the **Civil Disobedience Movement** (1930–31), which had begun with the famous Dandi March (Salt Satyagraha) on 12 March 1930. In exchange, the British agreed to release political prisoners and allow coastal Indians to make salt for personal use. Gandhi attended the Second Round Table Conference in London later that year.

Q5. The timeline marks major events in India's independence movement. Position X (1946) represents the Cabinet Mission. What was the Cabinet Mission's primary purpose?



- (A) To plan the transfer of power to Indian hands
- (B) To announce the Partition of India
- (C) To hold new provincial elections under British oversight
- (D) To negotiate Indian support in the Second World War

Answer: (A)

Solution

The **Cabinet Mission of 1946** was sent by the British Government to plan the **transfer of power to Indian hands** and devise a constitutional structure for independent India. It proposed a three-tier federal union. Although its plan was not fully accepted by all parties, it was a crucial step toward Indian independence in August 1947.



Section B: Indian Geography

Q6. The Deccan Traps, covering large parts of western and central India, were formed approximately 66 million years ago by which geological process?

- (A) Folding of sedimentary rocks
- (B) Glacial deposition
- (C) Wind erosion of limestone
- (D) Massive volcanic lava flows (flood basalt eruptions)

Answer: (D)

Solution

The Deccan Traps were formed by massive **volcanic lava flows (flood basalt eruptions)** approximately 66 million years ago. “Trap” comes from the Swedish word for “stairs,” describing the plateau’s step-like terrain. These eruptions rank among Earth’s largest volcanic events and may have contributed to the mass extinction of the dinosaurs.

Q7. The Western Ghats, running roughly 1600 km parallel to India’s western coast, were declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in which year?

- (A) 2000
- (B) 2005
- (C) 2009
- (D) 2012

Answer: (D)

Solution

The Western Ghats were inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in **2012**. They are recognised as one of the world’s eight “hottest biodiversity hotspots,” stretching across Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu. They are also the source of several major peninsular rivers, including the Godavari, Krishna, and Kaveri.



Q8. The Shillong Plateau, one of Earth's ancient plateaus composed of Precambrian crystalline rocks, is located primarily in which Indian state?

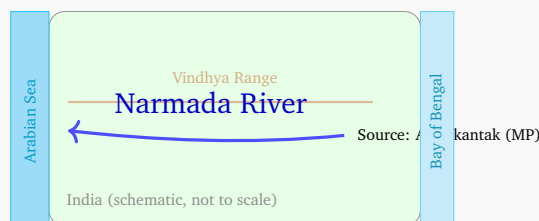
- (A) Meghalaya
- (B) Assam
- (C) Manipur
- (D) Nagaland

Answer: (A)

Solution

The Shillong Plateau is primarily located in **Meghalaya** (meaning “Abode of Clouds”), carved out of Assam in 1972. Shillong, the capital, sits at about 1500 m elevation. The plateau includes Cherrapunji and Mawsynram, globally renowned for receiving the highest annual rainfall in the world.

Q9. The diagram shows the Narmada River flowing across India. Into which body of water does the Narmada finally drain?



- (A) Arabian Sea
- (B) Bay of Bengal
- (C) Indian Ocean
- (D) Gulf of Mannar

Answer: (A)

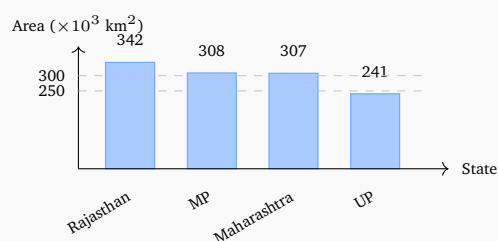
Solution

The Narmada originates at Amarkantak in Madhya Pradesh and, uniquely among major peninsular rivers, flows **westward** to drain into the **Arabian Sea** at the Gulf of Khambhat (Cambay) in Gujarat. Most other peninsular rivers (Godavari, Krishna, Kaveri) flow eastward into the Bay of Bengal. The Narmada forms a natural boundary between



northern and southern India.

Q10. The bar chart shows approximate areas (thousand km²) of four large Indian states. Which state has the *largest* area?



- (A) Madhya Pradesh
- (B) Rajasthan
- (C) Maharashtra
- (D) Uttar Pradesh

Answer: (B)

Solution

Rajasthan is the largest state in India by area at approximately **342,239 km²**, accounting for about 10.4% of India's total geographical area. It is followed by Madhya Pradesh (308,252 km²) and Maharashtra (307,713 km²). Madhya Pradesh was the largest state until Chhattisgarh was carved out of it in November 2000.

Section C: Science Facts

Q11. What is the boiling point of pure water at standard atmospheric pressure (1 atm)?

- (A) 90°C
- (B) 100°C
- (C) 110°C
- (D) 80°C

Answer: (B)



Solution

The boiling point of pure water at standard atmospheric pressure (1 atm = 101.325 kPa) is **100°C** (212°F, or 373.15 K). At higher altitudes where atmospheric pressure is lower, water boils below 100°C, which is why cooking takes longer in mountain regions such as the Himalayas.

Q12. What is the primary function of the lungs in the human body?

- (A) Gas exchange — absorbing oxygen into the blood and releasing carbon dioxide
- (B) Pumping blood throughout the body
- (C) Digesting food and absorbing nutrients
- (D) Filtering waste products from the blood

Answer: (A)

Solution

The primary function of the lungs is **gas exchange**: inhaled air delivers oxygen (O_2) into the bloodstream through tiny air sacs called *alveoli*, while carbon dioxide (CO_2) from the blood passes into the lungs to be exhaled. Pumping blood is done by the heart; filtering blood waste is done by the kidneys.

Q13. When a bar magnet is cut into two equal pieces, what happens to the magnetic poles?

- (A) Each piece becomes a complete magnet with both a North and South pole
- (B) One piece has only the North pole; the other has only the South pole
- (C) Both pieces lose their magnetism completely
- (D) The pieces repel each other and lose their polarity

Answer: (A)

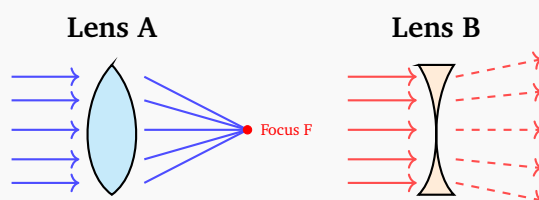
Solution

When a magnet is cut, **each piece becomes a complete magnet** with both a North and South pole. Magnetic poles always exist in pairs (dipoles); isolating a single magnetic



pole (monopole) is impossible. No matter how many times the magnet is divided, every piece retains both poles. This is a fundamental property of magnetism.

Q14. The diagram shows two lenses and how parallel light rays pass through each. **Lens A** brings all parallel rays to a single point (focus F). What type of lens is **Lens A**?



- (A) A diverging (concave) lens
- (B) A plane (flat) mirror
- (C) A converging (convex) lens
- (D) A prism

Answer: (C)

Solution

Lens A is a converging (convex) lens. A convex lens is thicker at the centre and bends parallel incoming light rays towards a single focal point (F). Concave lenses (thinner at the centre, like Lens B) cause rays to *diverge*. Convex lenses are used in magnifying glasses, cameras, and corrective spectacles for long-sightedness (hypermetropia).

Q15. Which pigment, found in the chloroplasts of plant cells, gives leaves their green colour and captures sunlight for photosynthesis?

- (A) Carotene
- (B) Chlorophyll
- (C) Xanthophyll
- (D) Anthocyanin

Answer: (B)



Solution

Chlorophyll is the green pigment in chloroplasts of plant cells. It absorbs red and blue wavelengths of sunlight for photosynthesis while reflecting green light, making leaves appear green. Carotene gives an orange colour (e.g. carrots), xanthophyll gives yellow, and anthocyanin gives red or purple colour to some plants and flowers.

Section D: Indian Civics

Q16. Articles 341 and 342 of the Indian Constitution empower the President to specify the lists of which groups for the purposes of reservations and special constitutional protections?

- (A) Minorities and linguistic groups
- (B) Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes
- (C) Members of Parliament and Legislative Assemblies
- (D) Central Government employees

Answer: (B)

Solution

Articles 341 and 342 empower the President of India, by public notification, to specify which castes, races, or tribes shall be deemed **Scheduled Castes (SC)** under Article 341 and **Scheduled Tribes (ST)** under Article 342. These Presidential lists determine eligibility for constitutional reservations and other protective provisions.

Q17. The Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), established under Articles 315–323 of the Constitution, is primarily known for conducting which examination?

- (A) Board examinations for Class X and XII
- (B) State-level engineering entrance exams
- (C) Civil Services Examination (IAS, IPS, IFS, etc.)
- (D) Joint Entrance Examination (JEE)

Answer: (C)



Solution

The UPSC is a constitutional body that primarily conducts the **Civil Services Examination** to recruit officers for All India Services (IAS, IPS) and Central Services (IFS, IRS, etc.). It also conducts examinations for the armed forces, engineering services, and other Central Government posts. Board examinations (CBSE) and JEE are not conducted by UPSC.

Q18. Under the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) of India must be chaired by a retired:

- (A) Chief Justice of India
- (B) Chief Election Commissioner
- (C) Attorney General of India
- (D) Cabinet Secretary

Answer: (A)

Solution

The **NHRC chairperson must be a retired Chief Justice of India**. Its members include retired judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts. The NHRC investigates complaints of human rights violations by state officials and makes recommendations to the government. It was established in 1993 under the Protection of Human Rights Act.

Q19. The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India, a constitutional authority under Article 148, is primarily responsible for:

- (A) Approving the annual Union Budget
- (B) Collecting income tax from citizens
- (C) Setting interest rates for banks
- (D) Auditing the accounts of the Union and State governments

Answer: (D)

Solution

The **CAG** is India's supreme audit authority. Its primary function is to **audit all receipts and expenditure of the Union and State governments** to ensure that funds are spent as authorised by Parliament and state legislatures. CAG reports are laid before the re-



spective legislatures and examined by the Public Accounts Committee (PAC).

Section E: Current Events, Famous Personalities, Environment

Q20. The Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), launched on 28 August 2014, is a scheme aimed at:

- (A) Providing free school education to rural children
- (B) Ensuring financial inclusion by opening bank accounts for every household
- (C) Constructing roads connecting villages to towns
- (D) Providing health insurance cover to all farmers

Answer: (B)

Solution

PMJDY was launched to ensure **financial inclusion** — that every household in India has access to banking services including a no-frills savings account, a RuPay debit card, and accident insurance cover. Considered the world's largest financial inclusion initiative, it brought tens of millions of previously unbanked Indians into the formal banking system.

Q21. The Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (Clean India Mission), India's nationwide campaign to eliminate open defecation and improve solid waste management, was launched in which year?

- (A) 2010
- (B) 2012
- (C) 2013
- (D) 2014

Answer: (D)



Solution

The **Swachh Bharat Abhiyan** was launched on **2 October 2014** (Gandhi Jayanti) by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. It aimed to make India open-defecation free (ODF) by 2 October 2019, the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. It is regarded as the world's largest sanitation campaign.

Q22. India's premier space research organisation, ISRO (Indian Space Research Organisation), was officially established in which year?

- (A) 1962
- (B) 1965
- (C) 1969
- (D) 1975

Answer: (C)

Solution

ISRO was established on **15 August 1969**, with Dr. Vikram Sarabhai as its founding chairman (he is considered the father of the Indian space programme). It replaced the earlier INCOSPAR (1962). Headquartered in Bengaluru, ISRO is renowned for missions such as Chandrayaan (Moon), Mangalyaan (Mars), and the upcoming Gaganyaan crewed mission.

Q23. The “Namami Gange Programme,” launched by the Government of India in 2014 as an integrated conservation mission, is primarily aimed at:

- (A) Constructing hydropower dams along the Ganga
- (B) Promoting tourism at Ganga ghats
- (C) Conserving Gangetic dolphins as a national symbol
- (D) Cleaning, rejuvenating, and protecting the Ganga river

Answer: (D)

Solution

The **Namami Gange Programme** is an Integrated Ganga Conservation Mission launched in 2014. Its objectives include **cleaning the Ganga**, reducing pollution by constructing sewage treatment plants, ensuring minimum environmental flows (“aviral



dhara”), and restoring the river’s biodiversity and ecosystem. It is also known as the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG).

Q24. Which animal was declared India’s National Aquatic Animal in 2009 and is found primarily in the Ganga and Brahmaputra river systems?

- (A) Gharial (*Gavialis gangeticus*)
- (B) Irrawaddy Dolphin
- (C) Gangetic River Dolphin (*Platanista gangetica*)
- (D) Olive Ridley Sea Turtle

Answer: (C)

Solution

The **Gangetic River Dolphin** (*Platanista gangetica*), also called *Susu*, was declared India’s National Aquatic Animal in 2009. It is functionally blind and navigates entirely by echolocation. Found in the Ganga, Brahmaputra, and Meghna river systems, it is listed as Endangered due to pollution, habitat degradation, and accidental fishing entanglement.

Q25. Which house of the Indian Parliament is described as a “permanent body” that is never dissolved, with one-third of its members retiring every two years?

- (A) Lok Sabha
- (B) Rajya Sabha
- (C) Vidhan Sabha
- (D) Joint Session of Parliament

Answer: (B)

Solution

The **Rajya Sabha** (Council of States) is a permanent body under Article 83(1) of the Constitution — it can never be dissolved. It has a maximum of 245 members, each serving a 6-year term, but one-third retire every two years on a rotational basis. The Lok Sabha, by contrast, has a maximum term of five years and can be dissolved by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister.



Answer Key

Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans
1	A	2	D	3	C	4	C	5	A
6	D	7	D	8	A	9	A	10	B
11	B	12	A	13	A	14	C	15	B
16	B	17	C	18	A	19	D	20	B
21	D	22	C	23	D	24	C	25	B

