

AISSEE Social Studies

Sample Paper – 6

Duration: 30 Minutes

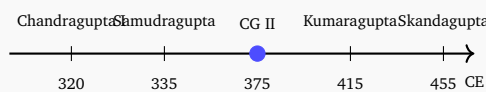
Maximum Marks: 50

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. Which Gupta ruler is considered the greatest Gupta king, often compared to Vikramaditya of legend, and is associated with the “Golden Age” of India?



- (A) Chandragupta II (Vikramaditya)
- (B) Samudragupta
- (C) Chandragupta I
- (D) Skandagupta

Answer: (A)

Solution

Chandragupta II, also known as Vikramaditya, is considered the greatest Gupta ruler (reigned c. 375–415 CE). His reign witnessed the Golden Age of India, marked by advances in art, literature, and science. The scholar Kalidasa flourished at his court.



Q2. Which famous Chinese traveller visited India in the 7th century CE and left detailed accounts of life under Harsha's empire?

- (A) Fa Hien
- (B) Ibn Battuta
- (C) Marco Polo
- (D) Huen Tsang

Answer: (D)

Solution

Huen Tsang (Xuanzang) was a Chinese Buddhist monk who visited India during 629–645 CE. He studied at Nalanda University and wrote a detailed account called *Si-Yu-Ki* (Records of the Western World), which is an invaluable source for the history of King Harsha's reign.

Q3. The Doctrine of Lapse, under which princely states without a natural male heir were annexed by the British, was implemented by:

- (A) Lord Cornwallis
- (B) Lord Wellesley
- (C) Lord Dalhousie
- (D) Lord Curzon

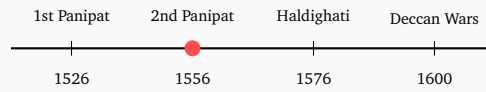
Answer: (C)

Solution

The Doctrine of Lapse was introduced by Lord Dalhousie (Governor-General, 1848–56). Under this policy, any princely state whose ruler died without a natural male heir would be annexed by the British East India Company. States like Satara, Jhansi, Nagpur, and Awadh were annexed using this doctrine.



Q4. The Second Battle of Panipat (1556), in which Akbar's forces defeated Hemu, was fought in which year?



- (A) 1526
- (B) 1761
- (C) 1556
- (D) 1576

Answer: (C)

Solution

The Second Battle of Panipat was fought in 1556 between the forces of the young Mughal emperor Akbar (led by Bairam Khan) and Hemu, the Hindu general of the Sur dynasty. Akbar's victory secured Mughal rule over northern India.

Q5. The Gandhara School of Art, which flourished in the northwest frontier region, was mainly influenced by:

- (A) Hellenistic (Greek) art traditions
- (B) Persian art traditions
- (C) Chinese art traditions
- (D) Egyptian art traditions

Answer: (A)

Solution

The Gandhara School of Art (1st–5th century CE) flourished in present-day Pakistan and Afghanistan. It blended Indian Buddhist themes with Hellenistic (Greek) artistic techniques brought by Greek settlers after Alexander's campaigns. Its most notable feature is the realistic depiction of the Buddha in human form, showing Greek artistic influence in the drapery and facial features.



Q6. Which brave queen of the Garha-Katanga kingdom fought against the Mughal forces of Asaf Khan and died heroically in 1564 rather than surrender?

- (A) Ahilyabai Holkar
- (B) Rani Lakshmibai of Jhansi
- (C) Chand Bibi of Ahmednagar
- (D) Rani Durgawati

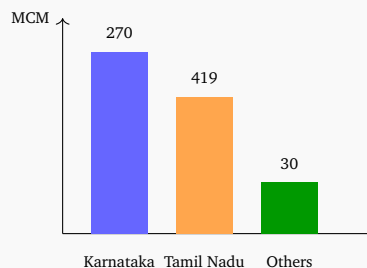
Answer: (D)

Solution

Rani Durgawati was the queen of the Garha-Katanga kingdom (in present-day Madhya Pradesh). She ruled wisely for 16 years and fought valiantly against the Mughal forces commanded by Asaf Khan in 1564. Unwilling to surrender, she killed herself on the battlefield to protect her honour.

Section B: Indian Geography

Q7. The Kaveri (Cauvery) river water dispute is primarily between which two Indian states?



- (A) Kerala and Karnataka
- (B) Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka
- (C) Tamil Nadu and Kerala
- (D) Karnataka and Tamil Nadu

Answer: (D)



Solution

The Kaveri river water dispute is a long-standing conflict between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu over the sharing of waters from the Kaveri river. The Kaveri Water Disputes Tribunal was set up in 1990. The Supreme Court gave a final award in 2018 allocating 177.25 TMC feet to Karnataka and 404.25 TMC feet to Tamil Nadu.

Q8. Loktak Lake, the largest freshwater lake in northeastern India, is located in which state?

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

Answer: (A)

Solution

Loktak Lake is located in Manipur and is the largest freshwater lake in northeastern India. It is famous for its floating islands called *phumdis* (heterogeneous mass of vegetation, soil, and organic matter). The Keibul Lamjao National Park, the world's only floating national park, lies within this lake.

Q9. The Palk Strait separates India from which neighbouring country?

- (A) Sri Lanka
- (B) Maldives
- (C) Myanmar
- (D) Bangladesh

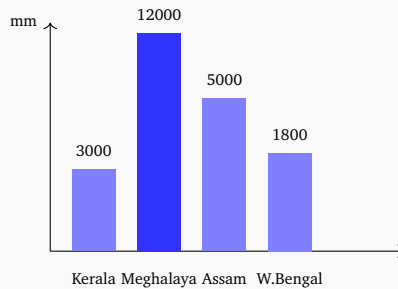
Answer: (A)

Solution

The Palk Strait is a narrow body of water that separates the Tamil Nadu coast of India from the Northern Province of Sri Lanka. It connects the Bay of Bengal in the north to the Gulf of Mannar in the south. The Palk Strait is approximately 53–80 km wide.



Q10. Which Indian state receives the highest annual rainfall in India, home to Mawsynram and Cherrapunji?



- (A) Assam
- (B) Meghalaya
- (C) Kerala
- (D) West Bengal

Answer: (B)

Solution

Meghalaya receives the highest rainfall in India. Mawsynram (in Meghalaya) holds the record for the highest average annual rainfall in the world at about 11,872 mm. Cherrapunji (Sohra), also in Meghalaya, held this record for many decades. The heavy rainfall is caused by the funnelling effect of the terrain on moisture-laden monsoon winds.

Q11. Mount K2, the second highest mountain in the world, is located in:

- (A) China
- (B) Pakistan-administered Kashmir (Gilgit-Baltistan)
- (C) India (Jammu & Kashmir)
- (D) Nepal

Answer: (B)

Solution

Mount K2 (8,611 m), also called the Savage Mountain, is the world's second highest peak. It is located in the Karakoram range in Gilgit-Baltistan, in Pakistan-administered Kashmir. It was first climbed in 1954 by an Italian expedition led by Ardito Desio.



Section C: Civics and Constitution

Q12. What is the maximum permissible strength of the Lok Sabha (House of the People) as provided by the Constitution of India?

- (A) 552
- (B) 545
- (C) 543
- (D) 550

Answer: (A)

Solution

The Constitution of India provides for a maximum strength of 552 members in the Lok Sabha – 530 members representing states, up to 20 members representing Union Territories, and 2 members nominated by the President from the Anglo-Indian community (nomination provision later removed by the 104th Amendment, 2020). The current Lok Sabha has 543 elected seats.

Q13. What is the maximum permissible strength of the Rajya Sabha (Council of States)?

- (A) 250
- (B) 245
- (C) 252
- (D) 238

Answer: (A)

Solution

The Rajya Sabha can have a maximum of 250 members – 238 elected by the state and Union Territory legislative assemblies, and 12 nominated by the President for their expertise in arts, science, literature, and social service. The current Rajya Sabha has 245 members.



Q14. Under which Article of the Indian Constitution can the President impose President's Rule (Emergency) in a state?

- (A) Article 352
- (B) Article 360
- (C) Article 356
- (D) Article 370

Answer: (C)

Solution

Article 356 of the Indian Constitution provides for the imposition of President's Rule in a state if constitutional machinery has failed. On the recommendation of the Governor, the President can assume governance of the state. This provision is also called "State Emergency" or "Constitutional Emergency."

Q15. Which of the following statements best describes a Public Interest Litigation (PIL)?

- (A) It can only be filed by the person directly affected by a violation
- (B) Any citizen can file it in a High Court or Supreme Court in the interest of the public
- (C) It relates only to criminal matters and punishment
- (D) It can only be filed in District Courts

Answer: (B)

Solution

A Public Interest Litigation (PIL) allows any citizen or organisation to approach the High Court or the Supreme Court to seek legal remedy for a public grievance, even if they are not personally affected. PIL was introduced in India in the early 1980s by Justice P.N. Bhagwati and Justice V.R. Krishna Iyer to provide access to justice to marginalised sections of society.



Q16. The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) was established primarily to:

- (A) Provide free medical aid to the poor
- (B) Provide free legal aid and services to weaker sections of society
- (C) Provide free education to children
- (D) Provide housing to the homeless

Answer: (B)

Solution

The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) was constituted under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987. It organises legal aid programmes and provides free legal services to weaker sections of society, including women, children, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and persons with disabilities, to ensure equal access to justice.

Section D: Current Events and Famous Personalities

Q17. India celebrated its 75th Independence Day and “Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav” in which year?

- (A) 2020
- (B) 2021
- (C) 2022
- (D) 2023

Answer: (C)

Solution

India celebrated its 75th Independence Day on 15 August 2022. The government launched “Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav” to commemorate 75 years of independence from British rule. The theme included celebrating India’s achievements, culture, and the freedom struggle.



Q18. Operation Ganga, launched by India in February–March 2022, was carried out to:

- (A) Evacuate Indian students and citizens stranded in Ukraine during the Russia-Ukraine war
- (B) Provide flood relief to affected states along the Ganga river
- (C) Conduct a military exercise with Russian armed forces
- (D) Launch an anti-piracy mission in the Arabian Sea

Answer: (A)

Solution

Operation Ganga was a humanitarian evacuation mission launched by the Government of India in February–March 2022 to rescue Indian nationals, primarily students, stranded in Ukraine following the Russian invasion. Special flights operated to neighbouring countries like Romania, Hungary, Poland, and Slovakia to bring Indians home safely.

Q19. The “Har Ghar Jal” (Jal Jeevan Mission) scheme launched by the Government of India aims to provide:

- (A) Free electricity connections to all rural homes
- (B) Free LPG gas connections to rural households
- (C) High-speed internet connectivity to every village
- (D) Piped drinking water supply to all rural households

Answer: (D)

Solution

The Jal Jeevan Mission (“Har Ghar Jal”) was launched on 15 August 2019 with the goal of providing safe and adequate piped drinking water to every rural household in India by 2024. It is one of the largest water supply schemes in the world, aiming to cover all 191 million rural households.



Q20. The Indian Air Force Day is celebrated every year on:

- (A) September 8
- (B) October 8
- (C) November 8
- (D) December 8

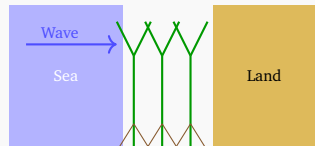
Answer: (B)

Solution

Indian Air Force Day is celebrated on 8 October every year. The Indian Air Force was officially established on 8 October 1932 as an auxiliary air force of the British Empire. The day is marked with an air display at Hindon Air Force Station and other bases across India.

Section E: Environment and Society

Q21. Mangrove forests along the coastline serve as a natural barrier primarily against:



- (A) Cyclones, storm surges, and tsunamis
- (B) Desertification and sand dunes
- (C) River floods in plains
- (D) Soil erosion due to rainfall

Answer: (A)

Solution

Mangrove forests act as a natural shield against cyclones, storm surges, and tsunamis by absorbing wave energy and reducing their impact on coastal communities. During the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami, coastal areas with mangroves suffered significantly less damage. Mangroves also provide breeding grounds for fish, prevent coastal erosion, and sequester carbon.



Q22. The most extensive and well-developed coral reefs in India are found in:

- (A) Andaman and Nicobar Islands only
- (B) Gulf of Kutch only
- (C) Gulf of Mannar only
- (D) Lakshadweep Islands

Answer: (D)

Solution

Lakshadweep has the most extensive coral reef ecosystems in India. The entire Lakshadweep archipelago is of coral origin and is surrounded by fringing and barrier reefs. Coral reefs are also found in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Gulf of Mannar, and Gulf of Kutch, but Lakshadweep has the richest and most extensive reef systems.

Q23. The National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), which implements India's Biological Diversity Act and regulates access to biological resources, is headquartered in:

- (A) Mumbai
- (B) Kolkata
- (C) Chennai
- (D) Hyderabad

Answer: (C)

Solution

The National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) was established in 2003 under the Biological Diversity Act, 2002. It is headquartered in Chennai (Tamil Nadu). The NBA facilitates implementation of India's obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity and regulates access to biological resources to ensure their conservation and sustainable use.



Q24. The Green India Mission, one of the eight missions under India's National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC), primarily aims to:

- (A) Increase agricultural production through better irrigation
- (B) Promote solar and wind energy in India
- (C) Reduce water pollution in Indian rivers
- (D) Protect and increase India's forest cover and enhance ecosystem services

Answer: (D)

Solution

The Green India Mission (GIM) is one of the eight national missions under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC). It aims to protect, restore, and enhance India's forest cover; improve ecosystem services; increase carbon sinks; and enhance biodiversity. The mission targets increasing forest and tree cover by 5 million hectares and improving the quality of existing forest cover.

Q25. "Sacred groves" (known as *Devvans*, *Devarakadus*, or *Orans* in different parts of India) are best described as:

- (A) Industrial waste dumping grounds near villages
- (B) Government-declared Protected Areas like national parks
- (C) Patches of forest traditionally protected by local communities for religious and cultural reasons
- (D) Forests cleared for shifting cultivation

Answer: (C)

Solution

Sacred groves are patches of natural forest that local communities protect for religious and cultural reasons, believing them to be the abode of deities. They are known by different names across India – *Devvans* or *Dev vans* in Himachal Pradesh, *Devarakadus* in Karnataka, *Orans* in Rajasthan, and *Sarnas* in Jharkhand. These represent one of India's oldest forms of community-based biodiversity conservation.

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	A	22	D	23	C	24	D	25	C

