

MAH B.Ed CET General Knowledge

Sample Paper – 4

Duration: 27 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 30

Instructions

- This paper contains **30** Multiple Choice Questions (Single Correct Answer), modelled on the General Knowledge portion of **MAH B.Ed CET** entrance.
- Each correct answer carries **+1 mark**. There is **no negative marking** for incorrect or unattempted answers.
- Only **one** option is correct. Choose carefully.
- Syllabus: Current Affairs, History, Geography, Science & Technology, Indian Polity, Maharashtra GK, and Literature at SSC/general awareness level.
- Use of mobile phones, calculators, or electronic gadgets is strictly prohibited.

Questions

Q.1. The Galwan Valley clash between Indian and Chinese troops in June 2020 occurred in which Union Territory?

- (A) Jammu & Kashmir
- (B) Ladakh
- (C) Uttarakhand
- (D) Himachal Pradesh

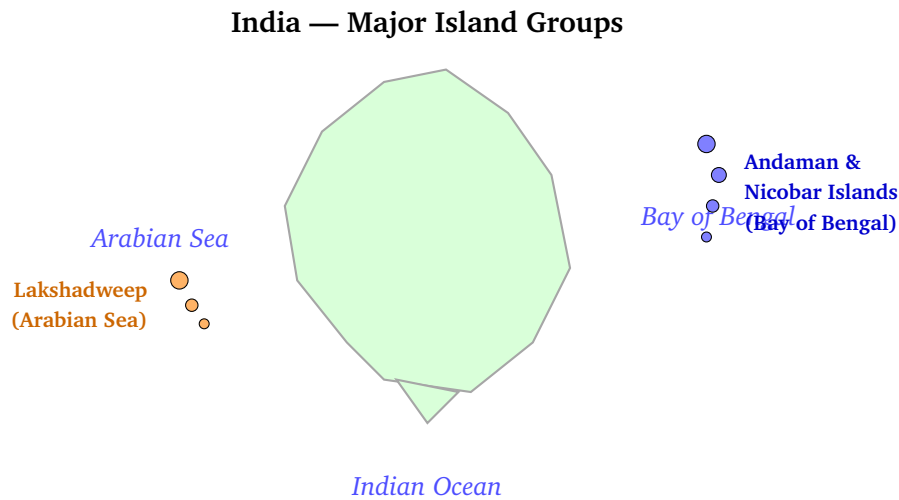
Q.2. Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj was crowned king at Raigad Fort in:

- (A) 1664
- (B) 1670
- (C) 1674



(D) 1680

Q.3. The Andaman and Nicobar Islands are located in which water body?



- (A) Arabian Sea
- (B) Indian Ocean (central)
- (C) Laccadive Sea
- (D) Bay of Bengal

Q.4. The capital of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands union territory is:

- (A) Port Blair
- (B) Kavaratti
- (C) Daman
- (D) Silvassa

Q.5. The WHO declared COVID-19 a global pandemic in:

- (A) January 2020
- (B) March 2020
- (C) June 2020
- (D) December 2019

Q.6. Which constitutional authority audits the accounts of the Union and State Governments in India?



- (A) Finance Commission
- (B) NITI Aayog
- (C) Reserve Bank of India
- (D) Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG)

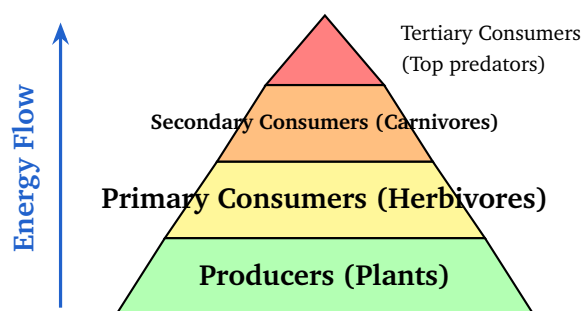
Q.7. Emperor Ashoka embraced Buddhism and renounced war after the devastating:

- (A) Battle of Hydaspes
- (B) Battle of Buxar
- (C) Kalinga War (261 BCE)
- (D) Battle of Tarain

Q.8. Black cotton soil (Regur soil), found mainly in the Deccan Plateau, is best suited for growing:

- (A) Cotton
- (B) Rice
- (C) Wheat
- (D) Jute

Q.9. In a food chain, energy flows from:



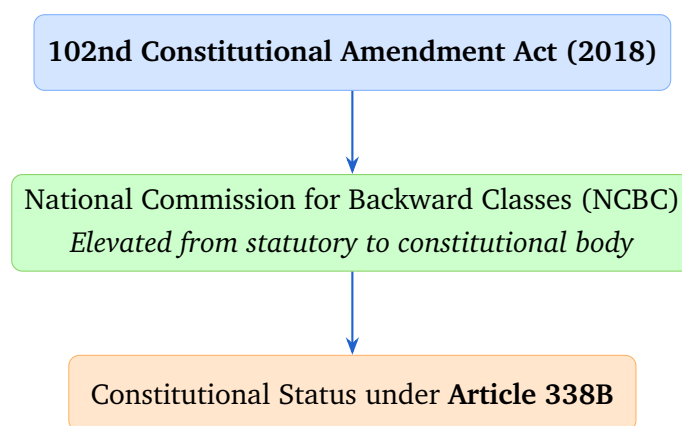
- (A) Secondary consumers → Primary consumers → Producers
- (B) Producers → Primary consumers → Secondary consumers
- (C) Decomposers → Consumers → Producers
- (D) Carnivores → Herbivores → Plants



Q.10. India's nationwide COVID-19 vaccination programme (Co-WIN platform) was launched in:

- (A) November 2020
- (B) December 2020
- (C) January 2021
- (D) March 2021

Q.11. The National Commission for Backward Classes was given constitutional status through which amendment?



- (A) 93rd Amendment
- (B) 97th Amendment
- (C) 101st Amendment
- (D) 102nd Amendment (Article 338B)

Q.12. The Morley-Minto Reforms (Indian Councils Act, 1909) introduced the controversial concept of:

- (A) Dyarchy
- (B) Separate electorates for Muslims
- (C) Provincial autonomy
- (D) Federal structure

Q.13. The largest freshwater lake in India is:

- (A) Wular Lake (Jammu & Kashmir)



- (B) Dal Lake
- (C) Chilika Lake
- (D) Loktak Lake

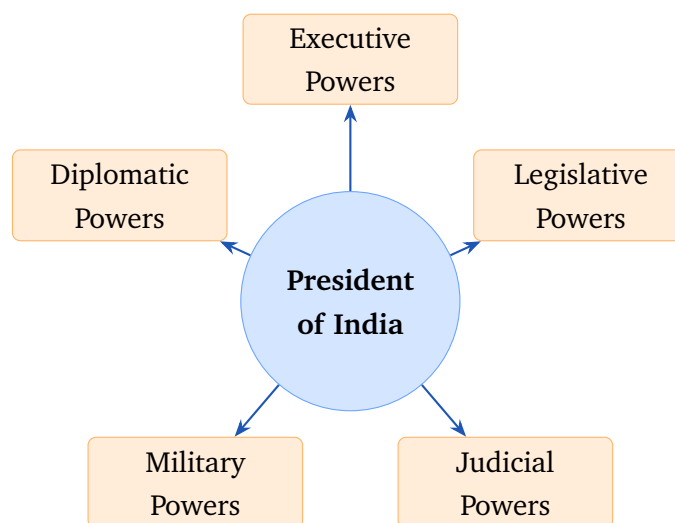
Q.14. Sound travels fastest through which medium?

- (A) Vacuum
- (B) Air
- (C) Steel (solids)
- (D) Water

Q.15. India's 75th Independence Day (Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav) was celebrated in:

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

Q.16. The President of India, as Head of State, is established under which article?



- (A) Article 50
- (B) Article 52



- (C) Article 60
- (D) Article 79

Q.17. The Poona Pact (1932) was signed between Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar primarily over the issue of:

- (A) Separate electorate vs. reserved seats for Depressed Classes
- (B) Partition of India
- (C) Dominion status for India
- (D) Communal Award by the British

Q.18. The state of Meghalaya (created 1972) gets its name from Sanskrit words meaning:

- (A) Land of mountains
- (B) Land of rivers
- (C) Abode of clouds
- (D) Land of forests

Q.19. A geostationary satellite orbits Earth at an altitude of approximately 36,000 km and is used for:

- (A) GPS navigation only
- (B) Scientific research only
- (C) Spy surveillance
- (D) Weather forecasting and communication

Q.20. The Khelo India programme, launched by the Government of India, aims to:

- (A) Promote professional cricket globally
- (B) Revive sports culture and identify young talent at grassroots level
- (C) Build international-standard stadiums
- (D) Train Olympic coaches



Q.21. Under which Article of the Indian Constitution can the High Court issue writs?

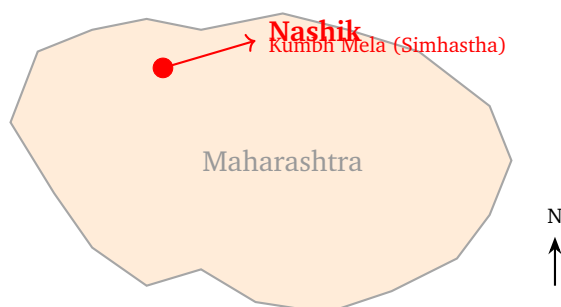
Writ	Meaning
Habeas Corpus	Produce the body
Mandamus	We command
Certiorari	To be certified
Prohibition	Stop proceedings
Quo Warranto	By what authority

- (A) Article 226
- (B) Article 32
- (C) Article 136
- (D) Article 142

Q.22. The Moplah Rebellion (1921) took place in:

- (A) Punjab
- (B) Bengal
- (C) Malabar region (present-day Kerala)
- (D) Gujarat

Q.23. Nashik in Maharashtra is famous for hosting which major Hindu pilgrimage event held every 12 years?



- (A) Wari
- (B) Kumbh Mela (Simhastha)
- (C) Pandharpur Yatra



(D) Shirdi Festival

Q.24. The novel *Untouchable* (1935), depicting a single day in the life of a sweeper, was written by:

(A) R.K. Narayan

(B) Raja Rao

(C) Ruskin Bond

(D) Mulk Raj Anand

Q.25. In startup terminology, a “unicorn” company is one that has achieved a private-market valuation of at least:

(A) \$1 billion

(B) \$500 million

(C) \$10 billion

(D) \$100 million

Q.26. The 86th Constitutional Amendment Act (2002) added Article 21A to the Indian Constitution, which provides:

(A) Right to employment

(B) Right to housing

(C) Right to free and compulsory education for children aged 6–14

(D) Right to health

Q.27. The Gateway of India, an iconic arch monument in Mumbai, was built to commemorate the visit of:

(A) Queen Victoria

(B) King George V and Queen Mary (1911)

(C) Lord Mountbatten

(D) Prince Charles



- Q.28.** Shashi Tharoor's book that critiques British colonialism in India, based on his Oxford Union speech, is titled:
- (A) The Great Indian Novel
 - (B) India Shastra
 - (C) Pax Indica
 - (D) An Era of Darkness
- Q.29.** The Koyna Hydroelectric Project (one of Maharashtra's largest) is located on the Koyna River in:
- (A) Satara district
 - (B) Kolhapur district
 - (C) Pune district
 - (D) Ratnagiri district
- Q.30.** The National Film Awards for Best Feature Film in various regional languages are presented by the:
- (A) Film Federation of India
 - (B) CBFC (Censor Board)
 - (C) Directorate of Film Festivals, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
 - (D) National Film Development Corporation



Detailed Solutions

Q.1.

Solution**Answer: (B)**

The **Galwan Valley** lies in the Galwan River basin in **Ladakh**, which became a Union Territory (bifurcated from Jammu & Kashmir) on October 31, 2019. In June 2020, a violent face-off between Indian and Chinese soldiers occurred here, resulting in casualties on both sides — the most serious border clash in decades. Ladakh shares the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with Tibet (China).

Q.2.

Solution**Answer: (C)**

Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj performed his coronation (*Rajyabhishek*) at **Raigad Fort** on **June 6, 1674**, formally establishing the Maratha kingdom and taking the title of *Chhatrapati* (Lord of the Umbrella). Raigad Fort in present-day Raigad district of Maharashtra was his capital. He passed away in April 1680 at the same fort.

Q.3.

Solution**Answer: (D)**

As illustrated in the map, the **Andaman and Nicobar Islands** are situated in the **Bay of Bengal**, in the northeastern part of the Indian Ocean. The archipelago of about 572 islands lies south of Myanmar and east of mainland India. The Laccadive Sea lies to the west of Kerala. **Lakshadweep** is in the **Arabian Sea**, west of the Indian mainland — making option (D) the correct answer for Andaman & Nicobar specifically.

Q.4.

Solution**Answer: (A)**

Port Blair is the capital and largest city of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Union Territory, located on South Andaman Island. It houses the famous Cellular Jail (Kala Pani). *Kavaratti* is the capital of Lakshadweep; *Daman* is the administrative



seat of Daman & Diu; and *Silvassa* is the capital of Dadra & Nagar Haveli.

Q.5.

Solution

Answer: (B)

The World Health Organization (**WHO**) officially declared COVID-19 a **global pandemic** on **March 11, 2020** — the first pandemic declaration since H1N1 influenza in 2009. The causative virus (SARS-CoV-2) was first reported in Wuhan, China in December 2019. By March 11, 2020, over 118,000 cases had been confirmed across 114 countries.

Q.6.

Solution

Answer: (D)

The **Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India** is the supreme audit institution, established under **Article 148** of the Constitution. The CAG audits all receipts and expenditure of the Union government (Articles 149–151) and State governments, submitting reports to the President/Governor respectively. The CAG is appointed by the President and is independent of the executive, serving a six-year term or until age 65.

Q.7.

Solution

Answer: (C)

The **Kalinga War (261 BCE)**, fought by Emperor Ashoka of the Maurya dynasty against the kingdom of Kalinga (present-day Odisha), resulted in over 100,000 deaths and 150,000 deportations. Deeply moved by the carnage, Ashoka embraced **Buddhism** and adopted the policy of *Dhamma* (righteousness), promoting non-violence, religious tolerance, and welfare works. He dispatched Buddhist missionaries as far as Sri Lanka and Central Asia.

Q.8.

Solution

Answer: (A)

Black cotton soil (*Regur* soil) is formed from weathered Deccan basaltic lava and



covers large parts of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, and Andhra Pradesh. It is rich in iron, calcium, and magnesium, and has exceptional water-retention capacity. These properties make it highly suitable for growing **cotton**. It is also used for sugarcane, wheat, and oilseeds, but its stickiness when wet makes it difficult to plough.

Q.9.

Solution**Answer: (B)**

As shown in the ecological pyramid, **energy flows upward** in a food chain: **Producers** (plants that fix solar energy through photosynthesis) → **Primary Consumers** (herbivores) → **Secondary Consumers** (carnivores) → **Tertiary Consumers** (top predators). According to Lindeman's *10% Law* (1942), only about 10% of energy is transferred at each trophic level; the remaining 90% is lost as heat.

Q.10.

Solution**Answer: (C)**

India launched the world's largest **COVID-19 vaccination drive** on **January 16, 2021**, using the Co-WIN digital platform for registration and tracking. The first phase prioritized healthcare and frontline workers. The two vaccines initially deployed were *Covishield* (AstraZeneca/Oxford formula, manufactured by Serum Institute) and *Covaxin* (developed by Bharat Biotech in partnership with ICMR).

Q.11.

Solution**Answer: (D)**

The **102nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 2018** gave constitutional status to the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) by inserting **Article 338B** into the Constitution. Previously, the NCBC was a statutory body (NCBC Act, 1993). The constitutional body has the power to investigate complaints relating to safeguards for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) and advise the Union and State governments. The amendment also defined "socially and educationally backward classes" in Article 342A.

Q.12.



Solution**Answer: (B)**

The **Morley-Minto Reforms** (Indian Councils Act, 1909) introduced **separate communal electorates for Muslims**, wherein Muslim voters could only vote for Muslim candidates in reserved seats. This deliberate divide-and-rule policy is widely regarded as sowing communal division. *Dyarchy* was introduced by the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms (Government of India Act, 1919); *Provincial Autonomy* by the Government of India Act, 1935.

Q.13.

Solution**Answer: (A)**

Wular Lake in Jammu & Kashmir is the **largest freshwater lake** in India, covering approximately 189 sq km (though it fluctuates seasonally between 24 and 260 sq km). It is fed by the Jhelum River and is a Ramsar-designated wetland of international importance. *Chilika Lake* (Odisha) is the largest coastal lagoon (brackish water); *Dal Lake* is in Srinagar; *Loktak Lake* is in Manipur.

Q.14.

Solution**Answer: (C)**

Sound is a mechanical (longitudinal) wave that requires a medium. It travels fastest through **solids** because particles are tightly packed, allowing vibrational energy to be transmitted rapidly. Approximate speeds: *Steel* $\approx 5,100$ m/s; *Water* $\approx 1,500$ m/s; *Air* ≈ 343 m/s (at 20°C); *Vacuum* = 0 m/s (sound cannot travel through vacuum since there is no medium).

Q.15.

Solution**Answer: (D)**

India gained independence on **August 15, 1947** (the 1st Independence Day). The **75th Independence Day** therefore fell on **August 15, 2021** ($1947 + 74 = 2021$). The Government of India launched “*Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav*” on March 12, 2021 (75 weeks before the anniversary) to celebrate 75 years of freedom. Note: The 75th *Republic Day* was in 2024, since India became a republic on January 26, 1950.



Q.16.

Solution**Answer: (B)**

Article 52 of the Indian Constitution states: “There shall be a President of India.” As shown in the fan diagram, the President exercises *Executive* powers (Art. 53), *Legislative* powers (summoning/proroguing Parliament, giving assent to Bills), *Judicial* powers (pardons and reprieves — Art. 72), *Military* powers (Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces), and *Diplomatic* powers (treaties and international relations). *Article 60* prescribes the presidential oath; *Article 79* establishes Parliament.

Q.17.

Solution**Answer: (A)**

The **Poona Pact** was signed on September 24, 1932 between Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. The British PM Ramsay MacDonald’s *Communal Award* had granted **separate electorates** for Depressed Classes. Gandhi fasted unto death in protest. The resulting Pact replaced separate electorates with **reserved seats within the general electorate** — increasing the reserved seats from 71 to 148 in provincial legislatures — satisfying both leaders on different grounds.

Q.18.

Solution**Answer: (C)**

Meghalaya derives its name from Sanskrit: *Megha* (cloud / *megh*) + *Alaya* (abode / *aalay*) = “**Abode of Clouds.**” The state was carved out of Assam and became a full state on January 21, 1972. It is home to *Mawsynram* and *Cherrapunji* (Sohra) — two of the wettest places on Earth — which aptly justify the name.

Q.19.

Solution**Answer: (D)**

A **geostationary satellite** orbits Earth at $\approx 35,786$ km above the equator with a period of 24 hours — matching Earth’s rotation — so it appears stationary over one point on the surface. This fixed-view property makes it ideal for **continuous weather monitoring** (same region imaged repeatedly) and **communications** (TV



broadcast, internet, telephone). India's INSAT and GSAT series are examples. GPS uses medium-Earth orbit (MEO) satellites at $\approx 20,200$ km, not geostationary.

Q.20.

Solution**Answer: (B)**

The **Khelo India** programme was launched by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports to **revive sports culture at the grassroots level** and **identify and nurture young athletic talent**. It encompasses the Khelo India School Games (KISG), Khelo India University Games (KIUG), and Khelo India Winter Games (KIWG). Selected athletes receive a scholarship of Rs. 5 lakh per year for eight years under the programme.

Q.21.

Solution**Answer: (A)**

Article 226 empowers every High Court to issue **writs** — including the five shown in the table — not only for enforcement of Fundamental Rights but for *any other legal purpose* (broader jurisdiction than the Supreme Court's Article 32, which covers only Fundamental Rights). The five writs: *Habeas Corpus* (produce unlawfully detained person); *Mandamus* (direct public body to perform duty); *Certiorari* (quash lower court order); *Prohibition* (prevent court from exceeding jurisdiction); *Quo Warranto* (challenge authority to hold public office).

Q.22.

Solution**Answer: (C)**

The **Moplah Rebellion** (Malabar Rebellion) of **1921** occurred in the **Malabar region** of the Madras Presidency — present-day northern Kerala. It began as an armed uprising by Muslim Mappilas (Moplahs) against British authority and Hindu landlords (*jenmis*) during the Khilafat movement. Though it started with nationalist overtones, it subsequently took a communal character. It was eventually suppressed by the British forces.

Q.23.



Solution**Answer: (B)**

Nashik, situated on the banks of the **Godavari River** in northwestern Maharashtra (see map), is one of the four holy cities that host the Kumbh Mela. The Nashik Kumbh is called **Simhastha Kumbh Mela** because it is held when Jupiter (*Brihaspati*) is in the Leo (*Simha*) zodiac sign. The other three Kumbh Mela venues are Prayagraj (Ganga), Haridwar (Ganga), and Ujjain (Shipra).

Q.24.

Solution**Answer: (D)**

Untouchable (1935) was written by **Mulk Raj Anand**, a pioneer of Indian writing in English. The novel follows *Bakha*, a young sweeper (“untouchable”), through a single eventful day, vividly depicting the humiliations of the caste system. E.M. Forster wrote the preface. Anand’s other major works include *Coolie* and *Two Leaves and a Bud*. R.K. Narayan is known for the Malgudi series; Raja Rao for *Kanthapura*.

Q.25.

Solution**Answer: (A)**

The term “**unicorn**” in startup/venture capital terminology refers to a privately held startup company with a valuation of at least **US\$1 billion**. It was coined by venture capitalist **Aileen Lee** in a 2013 *TechCrunch* article to denote such companies’ statistical rarity. A company valued at \$10 billion+ is called a *decacorn*; one at \$100 billion+ is a *hectocorn*. As of 2024, India has over 100 unicorn startups (third-largest globally).

Q.26.

Solution**Answer: (C)**

The **86th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2002** inserted **Article 21A** into the Constitution, making **free and compulsory education** a Fundamental Right for children between **6 and 14 years** of age. This provision was operationalised by the *Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009*, which came into force on April 1, 2010, mandating neighbourhood schools for all chil-



dren in this age group.

Q.27.

Solution

Answer: (B)

The **Gateway of India** was constructed to commemorate the royal visit of **King George V and Queen Mary** to India in December 1911 — the first British monarchs to visit the country. Designed by Scottish architect **George Wittet** in the Indo-Saracenic style (blending Hindu, Muslim, and Western elements), the foundation stone was laid in 1913 and the monument was formally inaugurated on December 4, 1924.

Q.28.

Solution

Answer: (D)

An Era of Darkness: The British Empire in India (2016) was written by **Shashi Tharoor**, Indian politician and author. It expands on his **Oxford Union speech** (July 2015) — which went viral — arguing that Britain systematically deindustrialised and impoverished India, and owes reparations. Tharoor's other works: *The Great Indian Novel* (historical fiction), *Pax Indica* (foreign policy), *India Shastra* (political essays).

Q.29.

Solution

Answer: (A)

The **Koyna Hydroelectric Project** is built on the **Koyna River** (a tributary of the Krishna) in **Satara district**, Maharashtra. With a total installed capacity of **1,960 MW**, it is one of the largest hydroelectric power plants in India and a critical source of power for Maharashtra. The Koyna reservoir area experienced a destructive dam-induced earthquake of magnitude 6.3 in December 1967.

Q.30.

Solution

Answer: (C)

The **National Film Awards**, India's highest film honours, are administered and



presented by the **Directorate of Film Festivals (DFF)** under the **Ministry of Information and Broadcasting**, Government of India. They are adjudicated by a national jury appointed annually. The awards cover Best Feature Film, Best Non-Feature Film, Best Writing on Cinema, and category awards across regional languages including Marathi, Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, etc.

Answer Key

Q.	Ans	Q.	Ans	Q.	Ans	Q.	Ans	Q.	Ans
1	B	2	C	3	D	4	A	5	B
6	D	7	C	8	A	9	B	10	C
11	D	12	B	13	A	14	C	15	D
16	B	17	A	18	C	19	D	20	B
21	A	22	C	23	B	24	D	25	A
26	C	27	B	28	D	29	A	30	C

