

MAH B.Ed CET General Knowledge

Sample Paper – 5

Duration: 27 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 30

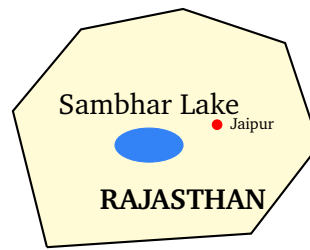
Instructions

- This paper contains **30 Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)**.
- Each question carries **1 mark**. There is **no negative marking**.
- Each question has **four options (A, B, C, D)**; select the single best answer.
- Total duration of the exam is **27 minutes**.
- Use of calculators or electronic devices is **not permitted**.
- Read each question carefully before selecting your answer.

General Knowledge

- Q1.** India's new Parliament building was inaugurated by the Prime Minister on 28 May 2023. The building is located in:
- (A) Connaught Place
(B) Lutyens' Delhi
(C) New Delhi's Central Vista precinct
(D) Rajpath (Kartavya Path)
- Q2.** The First Round Table Conference (1930–31) was convened in London to discuss constitutional reforms for India. The Indian National Congress **BOYCOTTED** this conference under the leadership of:
- (A) Jawaharlal Nehru
(B) Madan Mohan Malaviya
(C) Subhas Chandra Bose
(D) Mahatma Gandhi
- Q3.** Sambhar Salt Lake, India's largest inland saline lake, is located in which state?





- (A) Rajasthan
- (B) Gujarat
- (C) Odisha
- (D) Andhra Pradesh

Q4. Newton's Third Law of Motion states that:

- (A) Every object remains at rest unless acted upon by a force
- (B) For every action there is an equal and opposite reaction
- (C) Force equals mass times acceleration
- (D) Acceleration is directly proportional to force squared

Q5. India's first tiger reserve established under Project Tiger (1973) is:

- (A) Kanha Tiger Reserve
- (B) Sundarbans Tiger Reserve
- (C) Jim Corbett Tiger Reserve
- (D) Sariska Tiger Reserve

Q6. Under which Article of the Indian Constitution can the President of India promulgate an ordinance when Parliament is not in session?

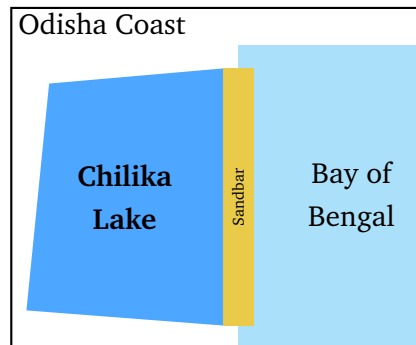
- (A) Article 108
- (B) Article 111
- (C) Article 119
- (D) Article 123

Q7. The Battle of Buxar (1764) resulted in a decisive British East India Company victory over a combined force that included the Nawab of Awadh (Shuja ud-Daula), the Nawab of Bengal (Mir Qasim), and:



- (A) Mughal Emperor Shah Alam II
- (B) Tipu Sultan
- (C) Hyder Ali
- (D) Nizam of Hyderabad

Q8. Chilika Lake, India's largest coastal lagoon and a Ramsar wetland site, is located in:



- (A) West Bengal
- (B) Odisha
- (C) Andhra Pradesh
- (D) Tamil Nadu

Q9. The ABO blood group system in humans was discovered by:

- (A) Louis Pasteur
- (B) Robert Koch
- (C) Karl Landsteiner
- (D) Alexander Fleming

Q10. India's Goods and Services Tax (GST) was implemented on:

- (A) 1 April 2016
- (B) 15 August 2016
- (C) 1 January 2017
- (D) 1 July 2017



Q11. What is the maximum strength of the Rajya Sabha as provided by the Indian Constitution?

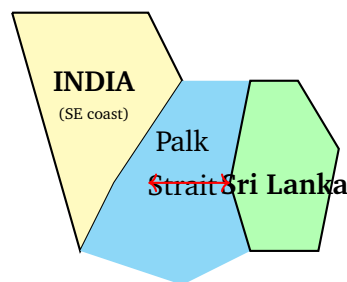
238 Elected Members	12
Elected (States & UTs)	Nominated
Total Maximum Strength = 250	

- (A) 250 (238 elected + 12 nominated)
- (B) 245 (233 elected + 12 nominated)
- (C) 260 (248 elected + 12 nominated)
- (D) 272 members

Q12. The Cripps Mission (1942) was sent to India during World War II. It was rejected by the Indian National Congress primarily because:

- (A) It proposed immediate transfer of power
- (B) It offered Dominion Status only after the war, with a right to secession for provinces
- (C) It did not include any Indian members
- (D) It proposed partition of India into two nations immediately

Q13. The Palk Strait separates India from:



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

Q14. The intensity (magnitude) of an earthquake is measured on the:



- (A) Beaufort scale
- (B) Decibel scale
- (C) Kelvin scale
- (D) Richter scale

Q15. As per the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) report released in 2023, India surpassed which country to become the world's most populous nation?

- (A) China
- (B) United States
- (C) Indonesia
- (D) Pakistan

Q16. The imposition of President's Rule in a state (also called State Emergency) is provided under which Article of the Indian Constitution?

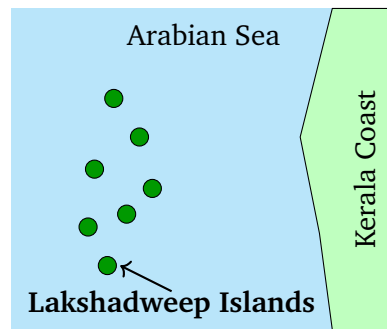
- (A) Article 352
- (B) Article 356
- (C) Article 360
- (D) Article 368

Q17. The Lucknow Pact (1916) was a historic agreement between the Indian National Congress and the:

- (A) Arya Samaj
- (B) Brahmo Samaj
- (C) All India Muslim League
- (D) Home Rule League

Q18. Lakshadweep, India's smallest Union Territory by area, consists of which type of islands?





- (A) Volcanic islands
- (B) Sedimentary islands
- (C) Mangrove delta islands
- (D) Coral islands

Q19. Penicillin, the first widely used antibiotic, was discovered by:

- (A) Alexander Fleming
- (B) Louis Pasteur
- (C) Robert Koch
- (D) Joseph Lister

Q20. The headquarters of the World Bank is located in:

- (A) New York, USA
- (B) Washington D.C., USA
- (C) Geneva, Switzerland
- (D) London, UK

Q21. The Anti-Defection Law in India is contained in which Schedule of the Constitution, added by the 52nd Amendment (1985)?

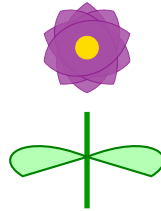
- (A) 8th Schedule
- (B) 9th Schedule
- (C) 10th Schedule
- (D) 11th Schedule

Q22. The Khilafat Movement (1919–1924) in India was led primarily by:



- (A) Lala Lajpat Rai and Bipin Chandra Pal
- (B) Maulana Abul Kalam Azad alone
- (C) M.A. Jinnah and Liaquat Ali Khan
- (D) Mohammad Ali and Shaukat Ali (the Ali Brothers)

Q23. The state flower of Maharashtra is:



Jarul (Pride of India)
(*Lagerstroemia speciosa*)

- (A) Jarul (Pride of India / *Lagerstroemia speciosa*)
- (B) Lotus
- (C) Jasmine
- (D) Marigold

Q24. Girish Karnad, the renowned Indian playwright who won the Jnanpith Award (1994), wrote the famous play:

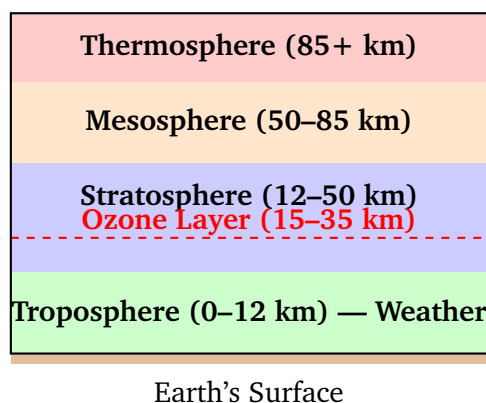
- (A) Ghashiram Kotwal
- (B) Hayavadana
- (C) Natasamrat
- (D) Aashadh ka ek Din

Q25. The escape velocity required to overcome Earth's gravitational pull is approximately:

- (A) 7.9 km/s
- (B) 9.8 km/s
- (C) 11.2 km/s
- (D) 15.6 km/s



- Q26.** The 44th Constitutional Amendment (1978) was significant because it:
- (A) Added Fundamental Duties to the Constitution
 - (B) Reduced the voting age from 21 to 18 years
 - (C) Introduced the Right to Education
 - (D) Required the President to act on the written advice of the Council of Ministers before declaring a National Emergency under Article 352
- Q27.** Who was the first Governor-General of independent India after 15 August 1947?
- (A) Lord Mountbatten
 - (B) C. Rajagopalachari
 - (C) Jawaharlal Nehru
 - (D) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
- Q28.** The longest river flowing through Maharashtra is:
- (A) Krishna
 - (B) Godavari
 - (C) Bhima
 - (D) Tapi
- Q29.** The ozone layer, which protects Earth from harmful ultraviolet radiation, is located in the:



- (A) Troposphere



- (B) Mesosphere
- (C) Stratosphere
- (D) Thermosphere

Q30. The 'Dnyaneshwari', a famous Marathi commentary on the Bhagavad Gita, was written by:

- (A) Tukaram
- (B) Eknath
- (C) Namdev
- (D) Dnyaneshwar (Jnaneshwar)



Solutions**Q1.****Solution**

Concept — Current Affairs (Parliament Building 2023): India's new Parliament building, part of the Central Vista Redevelopment Project, was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 28 May 2023. It is located in the Central Vista precinct of New Delhi.

Key Facts:

- The triangular building seats 888 Members in the Lok Sabha chamber and 384 in the Rajya Sabha chamber.
- The Central Vista project also includes a new Prime Minister's residence and Common Central Secretariat.
- The building is situated along the Central Vista avenue, distinct from the commercial hub of Connaught Place.

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) Connaught Place — a commercial hub in New Delhi, unrelated to the Parliament complex.
- (B) Lutyens' Delhi — refers to the heritage bungalow zone designed by Edwin Lutyens; the Parliament building is in the Central Vista precinct, not this residential zone.
- (D) Rajpath (Kartavya Path) — the ceremonial boulevard adjacent to the precinct; the specific address is the Central Vista precinct, not the road itself.

Final Answer: The new Parliament building is located in New Delhi's Central Vista precinct ⇒ (C)

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 1](#)

Q2.**Solution**

Concept — History (First Round Table Conference): The First Round Table Conference (November 1930 – January 1931) was held in London to discuss constitutional reforms. The Indian National Congress boycotted it because the Civil Disobedience Movement was ongoing under Mahatma Gandhi's leadership and Congress demanded complete independence first.

Key Facts:

- Gandhi attended the Second Round Table Conference (1931) after the Gandhi–Irwin Pact.
- The Third Round Table Conference (1932) was again boycotted by Congress.
- The first conference was attended by representatives of princely states and minority communities.

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) Jawaharlal Nehru — important Congress leader but Gandhi led the boycott decision.
- (B) Madan Mohan Malaviya — attended the conference as a non-Congress delegate.
- (C) Subhas Chandra Bose — was active in Congress but Gandhi was the primary leader of this boycott decision.

Final Answer: Congress boycotted the First Round Table Conference under Mahatma Gandhi ⇒ (D)

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 2](#)

Q3.

Solution

Concept — Geography (Sambhar Salt Lake): Sambhar Salt Lake is India's largest inland saline lake, situated about 80 km southwest of Jaipur in Rajasthan. It is a Ramsar wetland site and India's principal source of inland salt production.

Key Facts:

- Sambhar Lake spans approximately 190–230 sq km during monsoon, shrinking in dry season.
- Salt has been produced here for centuries; the lake accounts for a significant share of India's salt output.
- The lake is a critical habitat for migratory flamingos and other birds.

Why other options are wrong:

- (B) Gujarat — has the Rann of Kutch (seasonal salt flats), not Sambhar Lake.
- (C) Odisha — is home to Chilika Lake (largest coastal lagoon), not Sambhar.
- (D) Andhra Pradesh — known for Kolleru Lake; Sambhar is not located here.

Final Answer: Sambhar Salt Lake is located in Rajasthan ⇒ (A)

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 3](#)



Q4.

Solution

Concept — Science (Newton's Third Law of Motion): Newton's Third Law states: "For every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction." Whenever one body exerts a force on another, the second body exerts an equal and opposite force on the first. These action-reaction forces act on different objects simultaneously.

Key Facts:

- Newton's First Law (Law of Inertia): an object stays at rest or in uniform motion unless acted upon by a net external force.
- Newton's Second Law: $F = ma$ (force equals mass times acceleration).
- Newton's Third Law: action-reaction pairs always act on two different bodies.

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) Every object remains at rest unless acted upon by a force — this describes Newton's First Law.
- (C) Force equals mass times acceleration — this is Newton's Second Law ($F = ma$).
- (D) Acceleration directly proportional to force squared — incorrect; acceleration is directly proportional to force (not squared), per $a = F/m$.

Final Answer: Newton's Third Law: for every action there is an equal and opposite reaction $\Rightarrow$ (B)

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 4](#)

Q5.

Solution

Concept — Environment (Jim Corbett Tiger Reserve): Project Tiger was launched in April 1973 by the Government of India to protect the Bengal tiger. Jim Corbett National Park in Uttarakhand (then Uttar Pradesh) was designated as the very first tiger reserve under this project.

Key Facts:

- Jim Corbett was established in 1936 as Hailey National Park, India's first national park.
- Project Tiger today covers 54 tiger reserves across 18 states.
- India hosts approximately 75% of the world's wild tiger population.



Why other options are wrong:

- (A) Kanha Tiger Reserve — one of the earliest reserves designated under Project Tiger, but not the first.
- (B) Sundarbans Tiger Reserve — designated later; located in the mangrove delta of West Bengal.
- (D) Sariska Tiger Reserve — designated under Project Tiger but not the first; became famous for tiger loss due to poaching (2004–05).

Final Answer: India's first Project Tiger reserve is Jim Corbett Tiger Reserve ⇒ (C)

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 5](#)

Q6.

Solution

Concept — Polity (Ordinance Making Power – Article 123): Article 123 of the Indian Constitution grants the President the power to promulgate ordinances when Parliament is not in session. An ordinance has the same force as an Act of Parliament but must be laid before both Houses and lapses after six weeks of reassembly if not approved.

Key Facts:

- The corresponding power for state Governors is under Article 213.
- An ordinance can be withdrawn by the President at any time.
- The Supreme Court held that repeated re-promulgation of ordinances without parliamentary approval is unconstitutional (*D.C. Wadhwa* case).

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) Article 108 — deals with joint sitting of both Houses of Parliament to resolve deadlocks.
- (B) Article 111 — deals with Presidential assent to Bills passed by Parliament.
- (C) Article 119 — deals with regulation of procedure of each House of Parliament by law.

Final Answer: The President's ordinance-making power is under Article 123 ⇒ (D)

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 6](#)



Q7.

Solution

Concept — History (Battle of Buxar 1764): The Battle of Buxar (22 October 1764) was fought between the British East India Company and a combined force comprising Mir Qasim (Nawab of Bengal), Shuja ud-Daula (Nawab of Awadh), and Mughal Emperor Shah Alam II. The decisive British victory cemented their supremacy in the subcontinent.

Key Facts:

- The battle led to the Treaty of Allahabad (1765), giving the Company the Diwani rights of Bengal, Bihar, and Odisha.
- Unlike the Battle of Plassey (1757), Buxar was a pitched battle against a coalition.
- Shah Alam II granted the Company Diwani rights as part of the peace settlement.

Why other options are wrong:

- (B) Tipu Sultan — Sultan of Mysore who fought the British in the late 18th century; not at Buxar.
- (C) Hyder Ali — Tipu Sultan's father and ruler of Mysore; battles with the British were in the south, not at Buxar.
- (D) Nizam of Hyderabad — maintained a separate relationship with the British; not part of the Buxar coalition.

Final Answer: Shah Alam II fought alongside Mir Qasim and Shuja ud-Daula at Buxar ⇒ (A)

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 7](#)

Q8.

Solution

Concept — Geography (Chilika Lake): Chilika Lake is India's largest coastal lagoon (approximately 1,100 sq km) situated on the eastern coast of Odisha. It was designated India's first Ramsar wetland site in 1981 and is a critical habitat for migratory birds and the endangered Irrawaddy dolphin.

Key Facts:

- Chilika is separated from the Bay of Bengal by a narrow sandbar known as Rajhans Island.



- Over one million migratory birds visit the lake every winter, including flamingos, herons, and teals.
- Chilika Development Authority (CDA) manages the lake's ecology and livelihood of fishing communities.

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) West Bengal — has Sundarbans mangrove delta, not Chilika Lake.
- (C) Andhra Pradesh — has Pulicat Lake (India's second largest coastal lagoon), not Chilika.
- (D) Tamil Nadu — has Vembanad and other backwaters, not Chilika.

Final Answer: Chilika Lake is located in Odisha ⇒ (B)

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 8](#)

Q9.

Solution

Concept — Science (ABO Blood Group System): Karl Landsteiner, an Austrian biologist, discovered the ABO blood group system in 1901, identifying blood types A, B, and O. He later co-discovered the AB blood type and the Rh factor. He received the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1930.

Key Facts:

- Blood group compatibility is critical for safe blood transfusions.
- Blood type O negative is the universal donor; AB positive is the universal recipient.
- Landsteiner's discovery revolutionised transfusion medicine and surgical practice.

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) Louis Pasteur — known for germ theory, pasteurisation, and vaccines for anthrax and rabies.
- (B) Robert Koch — discovered the bacteria causing tuberculosis (1882) and cholera; not ABO.
- (D) Alexander Fleming — discovered penicillin in 1928; not the ABO system.

Final Answer: ABO blood group system was discovered by Karl Landsteiner ⇒ (C)

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 9](#)



Q10.

Solution

Concept — Economy (GST Implementation Date): India's Goods and Services Tax (GST) was implemented on 1 July 2017, replacing a complex multi-layered indirect tax system including central excise duty, service tax, and state VAT. It was launched with the motto "One Nation, One Tax, One Market."

Key Facts:

- GST has four major slabs: 5%, 12%, 18%, and 28%.
- The GST Council, chaired by the Union Finance Minister, decides tax rates.
- GST is a destination-based consumption tax applied at the point of final consumption.

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) 1 April 2016 — the GST Constitution Amendment Bill was passed around this period; GST was not yet implemented.
- (B) 15 August 2016 — no GST-related event on this date.
- (C) 1 January 2017 — GST was still being finalised; the law had not yet come into force.

Final Answer: GST was implemented on 1 July 2017 ⇒ **(D)**

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 10](#)

Q11.

Solution

Concept — Polity (Rajya Sabha Maximum Strength): Article 80 of the Indian Constitution specifies the maximum strength of the Rajya Sabha as 250 members: 238 elected representatives from States and Union Territories, plus 12 members nominated by the President for their expertise in literature, science, art, and social service.

Key Facts:

- The current actual strength of Rajya Sabha is 245 (233 elected + 12 nominated).
- Rajya Sabha is a permanent body; one-third of members retire every two years.
- Members serve a six-year term; there are no simultaneous elections for the full house.



Why other options are wrong:

- (B) 245 — this is the current operational (actual) strength, not the constitutional maximum of 250.
- (C) 260 — not a constitutionally defined figure for Rajya Sabha.
- (D) 272 — not constitutionally provided anywhere.

Final Answer: Maximum constitutional strength of Rajya Sabha is 250 (238 + 12) $\Rightarrow$ (A)

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 11](#)

Q12.

Solution

Concept — History (Cripps Mission 1942): The Cripps Mission (March–April 1942) was led by Sir Stafford Cripps. It proposed Dominion Status for India after World War II, with a constituent assembly and a right for provinces to opt out. The Congress rejected it because the offer was post-war and the defence portfolio was not offered to Indians; Gandhi called it “a post-dated cheque on a failing bank.”

Key Facts:

- The Muslim League also rejected the Cripps proposals for not guaranteeing Pakistan.
- The failure of the Cripps Mission directly led to the Quit India Movement of August 1942.
- Congress demanded immediate and real transfer of power, not a post-war promise.

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) It proposed immediate transfer of power — false; Dominion Status was promised only after the war ended.
- (C) It did not include Indian members — false; Cripps consulted Indian political leaders throughout.
- (D) It proposed immediate partition into two nations — false; it allowed optional provincial secession post-war, not immediate partition.

Final Answer: Congress rejected the Cripps Mission because it offered only post-war Dominion Status with provincial secession rights $\Rightarrow$ (B)

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 12](#)



Q13.

Solution

Concept — Geography (Palk Strait): The Palk Strait is a narrow body of water separating the southeastern tip of India (Tamil Nadu coast) from the northern coast of Sri Lanka. It connects the Palk Bay in the north with the Gulf of Mannar in the south and is about 53–80 km wide.

Key Facts:

- Adam's Bridge (Ram Setu), a chain of limestone shoals, runs across the Palk Strait between Pamban Island (India) and Mannar Island (Sri Lanka).
- The Sethusamudram Shipping Canal Project aims to create a navigable channel through or near the strait.
- The strait was named after Robert Palk, a Governor of Madras (1755–1763).

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) Maldives — separated from India by the Laccadive Sea (southern Indian Ocean), not the Palk Strait.
- (B) Bangladesh — shares a land boundary and the Bay of Bengal with India; no Palk Strait connection.
- (D) Indonesia — separated from India by the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal; thousands of kilometres away.

Final Answer: The Palk Strait separates India from Sri Lanka ⇒ (C)

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 13](#)

Q14.

Solution

Concept — Science (Richter Scale): The Richter magnitude scale was developed by Charles F. Richter in 1935 to measure the magnitude (energy released) of earthquakes. It is a logarithmic scale: each whole-number increase represents a tenfold increase in amplitude and approximately 31.6 times more energy release.

Key Facts:

- A magnitude 7.0+ earthquake is classified as a major earthquake; 8.0+ is great.
- The Moment Magnitude Scale (M_w) has largely replaced the Richter scale for large earthquakes in scientific use, but “Richter scale” remains the common name.



- The Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale measures the observed effects/shaking at a location, not the energy at source.

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) Beaufort scale — measures wind speed and sea state (0–12 or 0–17).
- (B) Decibel scale — measures sound pressure levels (acoustic intensity).
- (C) Kelvin scale — absolute temperature scale; unrelated to earthquake measurement.

Final Answer: Earthquake magnitude is measured on the Richter scale ⇒ (D)

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 14](#)

Q15.

Solution

Concept — Current Affairs (India's Population 2023): In April 2023, the UNFPA's State of World Population Report 2023 announced that India's population had reached approximately 1.428 billion, surpassing China (approximately 1.426 billion) to become the world's most populous country.

Key Facts:

- India's fertility rate has been declining but its large young population keeps absolute numbers growing.
- China's population began declining in 2022–23, largely due to the legacy of the one-child policy (1980–2015).
- India is projected to remain the world's most populous country for decades.

Why other options are wrong:

- (B) United States — third most populous country with approximately 340 million people.
- (C) Indonesia — fourth most populous with approximately 280 million people.
- (D) Pakistan — fifth most populous with approximately 240 million people.

Final Answer: India surpassed China to become the world's most populous nation in 2023 ⇒ (A)

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 15](#)



Q16.

Solution

Concept — Polity (President's Rule – Article 356): Article 356 provides for the imposition of President's Rule (State Emergency) in a state when constitutional machinery fails or the Governor reports that the state cannot be governed in accordance with the Constitution. It is commonly called "President's Rule" or "Governor's Rule."

Key Facts:

- President's Rule must be approved by both Houses of Parliament within two months.
- It can be extended beyond one year only under specified conditions (national emergency or Election Commission certification of difficulty in holding elections).
- The Sarkaria Commission (1983–87) and the Bommai case (1994) placed important constitutional limits on its misuse.

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) Article 352 — provides for National Emergency (threat to the security of India due to war, external aggression, or armed rebellion).
- (C) Article 360 — provides for Financial Emergency when India's financial stability is threatened.
- (D) Article 368 — deals with the power and procedure for constitutional amendment.

Final Answer: President's Rule (State Emergency) is imposed under Article 356 ⇒ (B)

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 16](#)

Q17.

Solution

Concept — History (Lucknow Pact 1916): The Lucknow Pact of December 1916 was a landmark agreement between the Indian National Congress (led by Bal Gangadhar Tilak) and the All India Muslim League (led by M.A. Jinnah). Both organisations united on constitutional demands and Congress agreed to separate electorates for Muslims as a concession.

Key Facts:

- Jinnah was called “Ambassador of Hindu-Muslim Unity” during this period.
- The pact demanded greater Indian participation in government councils and legislative bodies.
- It represented a rare moment of Congress-League unity before communal polarisation deepened.

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) Arya Samaj — a Hindu religious reform movement founded by Swami Dayananda Saraswati; not a political signatory.
- (B) Brahmo Samaj — a Bengali socio-religious reform movement; not involved in the Lucknow Pact.
- (D) Home Rule League — Tilak (Indian Home Rule League) and Annie Besant (All India Home Rule League) founded separate Home Rule Leagues in 1916; the Lucknow Pact was specifically with the Muslim League.

Final Answer: The Lucknow Pact was between Congress and the All India Muslim League ⇒ (C)

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 17](#)

Q18.

Solution

Concept — Geography (Lakshadweep Islands): Lakshadweep is a group of coral islands and atolls in the Arabian Sea, located about 200–440 km off the Kerala coast. It is India’s smallest Union Territory by both area (32 sq km) and population. The islands are formed entirely by coral reefs built up from the calcium carbonate skeletons of coral polyps.

Key Facts:

- Lakshadweep comprises 36 islands; only 10 are inhabited.
- The name means “one hundred thousand islands” in Sanskrit/Malayalam.
- Agatti Island has the only airport in Lakshadweep.

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) Volcanic islands — Barren Island and Narcondam Island in the Andaman chain are volcanic; Lakshadweep is not.
- (B) Sedimentary islands — formed by accumulation of sediment; Lakshadweep’s origin is biogenic coral, not sediment.



- (C) Mangrove delta islands — like the Sundarbans; not applicable to Lakshadweep.

Final Answer: Lakshadweep consists of coral islands $\Rightarrow$ (D)

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 18](#)

Q19.

Solution

Concept — Science (Penicillin Discovery): Penicillin was discovered by Alexander Fleming in 1928 when he observed that the mould *Penicillium notatum* inhibited the growth of *Staphylococcus* bacteria on a petri dish. Howard Florey and Ernst Boris Chain later developed it into a usable antibiotic. Fleming, Florey, and Chain shared the 1945 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine.

Key Facts:

- Penicillin is a β -lactam antibiotic that destroys bacterial cell walls.
- Its mass production during World War II saved an estimated millions of lives by treating infected wounds.
- Fleming's discovery was serendipitous, arising from a contaminated petri dish left near an open window.

Why other options are wrong:

- (B) Louis Pasteur — developed germ theory, pasteurisation, and vaccines for anthrax and rabies; not penicillin.
- (C) Robert Koch — discovered the bacteria causing tuberculosis and cholera; not penicillin.
- (D) Joseph Lister — pioneered antiseptic surgery using carbolic acid; worked before antibiotics were discovered.

Final Answer: Penicillin was discovered by Alexander Fleming $\Rightarrow$ (A)

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 19](#)



Q20.

Solution

Concept — Economy (World Bank Headquarters): The World Bank Group is headquartered in Washington D.C., USA. It was established in 1944 at the Bretton Woods Conference and provides financial and technical assistance to developing countries for poverty reduction and development projects.

Key Facts:

- The World Bank Group comprises five institutions: IBRD, IDA, IFC, MIGA, and ICSID.
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is also headquartered in Washington D.C.
- The World Trade Organisation (WTO) and WHO are headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) New York, USA — headquarters of the United Nations (UN), not the World Bank.
- (C) Geneva, Switzerland — home to WHO, WTO, ILO, and many UN bodies, not the World Bank.
- (D) London, UK — an important global financial centre but not the World Bank's headquarters.

Final Answer: World Bank is headquartered in Washington D.C., USA ⇒ **(B)**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 20](#)

Q21.

Solution

Concept — Polity (Anti-Defection Law – 10th Schedule): The Anti-Defection Law is contained in the 10th Schedule of the Indian Constitution, added by the 52nd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1985. It was enacted to prevent political defections for personal gain, a practice that led to the phrase “aaya ram gaya ram” (describing frequent floor-crossing).

Key Facts:

- A member is disqualified if they voluntarily give up party membership or vote against party direction without permission.
- The Speaker/Chairman of the respective House is the adjudicating authority.



- The 91st Amendment (2003) strengthened the law by requiring at least two-thirds of party members for a valid merger.

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) 8th Schedule — lists languages officially recognised by the Constitution (currently 22 languages).
- (B) 9th Schedule — contains laws placed beyond judicial review (added by 1st Amendment, 1951).
- (D) 11th Schedule — lists 29 subjects under Panchayati Raj Institutions, added by the 73rd Amendment (1992).

Final Answer: Anti-Defection Law is in the 10th Schedule $\Rightarrow$ (C)

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 21](#)

Q22.

Solution

Concept — History (Khilafat Movement): The Khilafat Movement (1919–1924) was launched in India to protest the British-backed dismemberment of the Ottoman Caliphate (Khilafat) after World War I. It was led by Mohammad Ali and Shaukat Ali, the “Ali Brothers,” with crucial support from Mahatma Gandhi who linked it to the Non-Cooperation Movement (1920–22).

Key Facts:

- The movement united Hindus and Muslims in joint mass agitation against British rule.
- The movement collapsed when Mustafa Kemal Ataturk himself abolished the Caliphate in Turkey in March 1924.
- It was the last major instance of large-scale Hindu-Muslim political unity in the independence movement.

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) Lala Lajpat Rai and Bipin Chandra Pal — leaders of the Swadeshi movement (1905–08) along with Bal Gangadhar Tilak; not the Khilafat leaders.
- (B) Maulana Abul Kalam Azad alone — was a supporter of the movement but the Ali Brothers were its primary organisational leaders.
- (C) M.A. Jinnah and Liaquat Ali Khan — Jinnah was opposed to mass agitation and religious politics; he did not lead the Khilafat Movement.



Final Answer: Khilafat Movement was led by Mohammad Ali and Shaukat Ali (Ali Brothers) ⇒ (D)

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 22](#)

Q23.

Solution

Concept — Maharashtra GK (State Flower): The state flower of Maharashtra is Jarul, also known as Pride of India or *Lagerstroemia speciosa*. It is a medium-to-large flowering tree that produces beautiful clusters of purple-to-pink flowers and is found widely across Maharashtra and tropical India.

Key Facts:

- Jarul blooms prominently during the summer months (April to July) with striking purple-lavender flowers arranged in large panicles.
- The tree also has traditional medicinal uses; its leaves are studied for anti-diabetic properties.
- The tree is widely planted as an ornamental species along roadsides and in gardens across Maharashtra.

Why other options are wrong:

- (B) Lotus — is India's national flower (*Nelumbo nucifera*); not Maharashtra's state flower.
- (C) Jasmine — the state flower of Karnataka (*Jasminum sambac*); not Maharashtra's.
- (D) Marigold — widely used in Indian festivals and worship but is not the official state flower of Maharashtra.

Final Answer: State flower of Maharashtra is Jarul (Pride of India) ⇒ (A)

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 23](#)



Q24.

Solution

Concept — Literature (Girish Karnad): Girish Karnad (1938–2019) was a renowned Indian playwright, film director, and actor who wrote primarily in Kannada. His play *Hayavadana* (1971) is based on a story from the ancient Sanskrit text *Kathasaritsagara* and explores themes of identity, completeness, and the duality of human nature. He won the Jnanpith Award in 1994.

Key Facts:

- Other notable plays by Karnad: *Tughlaq* (1964), *Taledanda* (1990), and *Naga-Mandala* (1988).
- *Hayavadana* employs the device of a “play within a play” and uses traditional Yakshagana theatrical elements.
- Karnad was also awarded the Padma Bhushan (1992) and Padma Shri (1974).

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) Ghashiram Kotwal — a celebrated Marathi play written by Vijay Tendulkar (1972); not by Karnad.
- (C) Natasamrat — a celebrated Marathi play written by V.V. Shirwadkar (Kusumagraj); not by Karnad.
- (D) Aashadh ka ek Din — a famous Hindi play by Mohan Rakesh (1958); not by Karnad.

Final Answer: Girish Karnad wrote the famous play *Hayavadana* ⇒ (B)

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 24](#)

Q25.

Solution

Concept — Science (Escape Velocity): Escape velocity is the minimum speed an object must achieve to escape a planet’s gravitational pull without further propulsion. For Earth, this is approximately 11.2 km/s. It is derived from the formula $v_e = \sqrt{2GM/R}$, where G is the gravitational constant, M is Earth’s mass, and R is Earth’s radius.

Key Facts:

- 7.9 km/s (first cosmic velocity) is the orbital velocity needed to maintain a low Earth orbit.



- 11.2 km/s (second cosmic velocity) is the escape velocity from Earth.
- 16.7 km/s (third cosmic velocity) is the speed needed to escape the Solar System from Earth's surface.

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) 7.9 km/s — this is the first cosmic velocity (orbital velocity), not the escape velocity.
- (B) 9.8 km/s — this is the numerical value of g (acceleration due to gravity) in m/s^2 , not escape velocity in km/s.
- (D) 15.6 km/s — not a standard cosmic velocity value for Earth; escape velocity from Earth is 11.2 km/s.

Final Answer: Escape velocity from Earth is approximately 11.2 km/s $\Rightarrow$ (C)

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 25](#)

Q26.

Solution

Concept — Polity (44th Constitutional Amendment 1978): The 44th Amendment Act of 1978 was enacted by the Janata government to undo many of the authoritarian changes made by the 42nd Amendment (1976) during the Emergency. A key provision was that the President can now proclaim a National Emergency under Article 352 only on the written advice of the Cabinet (Council of Ministers).

Key Facts:

- The 44th Amendment also restored the Right to Property from a Fundamental Right (Article 31) to a constitutional right (Article 300A).
- It changed “internal disturbance” (grounds for emergency) to “armed rebellion” — a more precise and stringent condition.
- The amendment gave the Lok Sabha the power to revoke a National Emergency by a simple majority.

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) Fundamental Duties were added by the 42nd Amendment (1976), not the 44th.
- (B) Voting age from 21 to 18 years — done by the 61st Amendment (1988).
- (C) Right to Education as Article 21A — introduced by the 86th Amendment (2002).



Final Answer: The 44th Amendment required Cabinet's written advice before declaring a National Emergency ⇒ (D)

Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 26](#)

Q27.

Solution

Concept — History (First Governor-General of Independent India): Lord Mountbatten, who had served as the last Viceroy of British India, continued as the first Governor-General of independent India from 15 August 1947 to 21 June 1948. He was asked to stay on by Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru to ensure a smooth constitutional transition.

Key Facts:

- C. Rajagopalachari (Rajaji) succeeded Mountbatten and became the second and last Governor-General (1948–1950) and the only Indian to hold this post.
- When India became a Republic on 26 January 1950, the post of Governor-General was replaced by the President.
- Dr. Rajendra Prasad became India's first President on 26 January 1950.

Why other options are wrong:

- (B) C. Rajagopalachari — second and last Governor-General (1948–1950), not the first.
- (C) Jawaharlal Nehru — became India's first Prime Minister; the Governor-General was a separate constitutional office.
- (D) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel — became India's first Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister; not Governor-General.

Final Answer: Lord Mountbatten was the first Governor-General of independent India ⇒ (A)

Answer: (A) [Go Back to Q 27](#)



Q28.

Solution

Concept — Maharashtra GK (Longest River in Maharashtra): The Godavari is the longest river flowing through Maharashtra, with a total length of approximately 1,465 km (of which about 668 km flows within Maharashtra). It originates from Trimbakeshwar near Nashik in Maharashtra and flows eastward across the Deccan Plateau into the Bay of Bengal.

Key Facts:

- The Godavari is called “Dakshin Ganga” (Ganges of the South) owing to its religious and cultural importance.
- Major cities on the Godavari in Maharashtra include Nashik and Nanded.
- The Godavari basin is the second largest river basin in India after the Ganga.

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) Krishna — flows through Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh, but its length within Maharashtra is shorter than the Godavari’s stretch.
- (C) Bhima — a major tributary of the Krishna; shorter in total and within Maharashtra.
- (D) Tapi (Tapti) — flows through Maharashtra (Nashik, Dhule, Jalgaon) but its total length (724 km) is shorter than the Godavari.

Final Answer: Godavari is the longest river flowing through Maharashtra ⇒ **(B)**

Answer: (B) [Go Back to Q 28](#)

Q29.

Solution

Concept — Science (Ozone Layer Location): The ozone layer is located in the stratosphere, specifically between approximately 15 and 35 km altitude above Earth’s surface. It absorbs 97–99% of the Sun’s harmful ultraviolet-B and ultraviolet-C radiation, making life on Earth’s surface possible.

Key Facts:

- CFCs (chlorofluorocarbons) deplete the ozone layer by catalytically breaking down O_3 molecules.
- The Montreal Protocol (1987) successfully phased out major ozone-depleting substances worldwide.
- The ozone hole above Antarctica has been gradually recovering and is ex-



pected to heal fully by mid-21st century.

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) Troposphere — the lowest layer (0–12 km) where all weather occurs; ozone here is a harmful pollutant, not the protective layer.
- (B) Mesosphere — 50–85 km altitude; where meteors burn up; no significant ozone concentration.
- (D) Thermosphere — 85+ km altitude; where auroras occur and the ISS orbits; extremely thin air, no ozone layer.

Final Answer: The ozone layer is located in the stratosphere ⇒ (C)

Answer: (C) [Go Back to Q 29](#)

Q30.

Solution

Concept — Literature (Dnyaneshwari): The *Dnyaneshwari* (also *Jnaneshwari*, or *Bhavartha Dipika*) is a Marathi commentary on the Bhagavad Gita composed by the saint-poet Dnyaneshwar (Jnaneshwar) around 1290 CE, when he was approximately 16 years old. It is one of the foundational texts of Marathi literature and the Varkari tradition of Maharashtra.

Key Facts:

- The *Dnyaneshwari* is written in the *Owi* metre of classical Marathi, making the Gita accessible to common people in their own language.
- Dnyaneshwar composed it at Nevase (Ahmednagar district, Maharashtra).
- The text is revered as a spiritual and literary masterpiece, combining philosophical depth with poetic beauty.

Why other options are wrong:

- (A) Tukaram — great 17th-century Varkari saint-poet of Maharashtra; famous for *Abhangas* (devotional poetry), not the *Dnyaneshwari*.
- (B) Eknath — 16th-century Marathi saint; composed *Eknathi Bhagavata* (commentary on Bhagavata Purana), not the *Dnyaneshwari*.
- (C) Namdev — 13th-14th century Varkari saint-poet; famous for devotional hymns in Marathi and Punjabi, not the *Dnyaneshwari*.

Final Answer: The *Dnyaneshwari* was written by Dnyaneshwar (Jnaneshwar) ⇒ (D)



Answer: (D) [Go Back to Q 30](#)

Answer Key

Q.No	Ans	Q.No	Ans	Q.No	Ans	Q.No	Ans	Q.No	Ans
1	C	2	D	3	A	4	B	5	C
6	D	7	A	8	B	9	C	10	D
11	A	12	B	13	C	14	D	15	A
16	B	17	C	18	D	19	A	20	B
21	C	22	D	23	A	24	B	25	C
26	D	27	A	28	B	29	C	30	D

