

CUET-UG Geography Sample Paper - 10

Duration: 1 Hour

Maximum Marks: 250

Instructions

- This paper contains a total of 50 Multiple Choice Questions.
- Each correct answer carries **+5 marks**.
- Each incorrect answer carries **-1 mark**.
- No negative marking for unattempted questions.

- Q1.** The transition from 'Determinism' to 'Possibilism' was primarily driven by:
- (A) The decrease in human population density.
 - (B) Technological advancements and the widening of human choices.
 - (C) The discovery of new continents by early explorers.
 - (D) A return to primitive naturalism.
- Q2.** Which sub-field of Social Geography deals with the spatial distribution of different social groups and their relations?
- (A) Electoral Geography
 - (B) Behavioral Geography
 - (C) Social Well-being Geography
 - (D) Medical Geography
- Q3.** Which branch of Geography is most closely linked to the discipline of 'Demography'?
- (A) Settlement Geography
 - (B) Population Geography
 - (C) Political Geography
 - (D) Economic Geography



- Q4.** Consider the following statements regarding 'Human Development':
- I. It is a process of enlarging people's choices.
 - II. Income is the only goal of human development.
 - III. Equity and Sustainability are its key pillars.
- Which of the statements are correct?
- (A) I and II only
 - (B) II and III only
 - (C) I and III only
 - (D) I, II and III
- Q5.** A population pyramid with a narrow base and a tapered top indicates:
- (A) High birth rates and low death rates.
 - (B) Expanding population growth.
 - (C) Declining birth rates and an aging population.
 - (D) Constant growth rate.
- Q6.** Which of the following countries is categorized as having a 'Very High' HDI (above 0.800)?
- (A) India
 - (B) Norway
 - (C) Pakistan
 - (D) Nigeria
- Q7.** The 'Sex Ratio' in the world is generally calculated as:
- (A) Number of females per 100 males.
 - (B) Number of males per 1,000 females.
 - (C) Number of females per 1,000 males.
 - (D) Percentage of females in total population.
- Q8.** In 'Market Gardening', the size of farms is usually:



- (A) Extremely large (thousands of hectares).
- (B) Small and located near urban centers.
- (C) Medium-sized and focused on cattle.
- (D) Communally owned by the state.

Q9. Which of the following is an example of a 'Quaternary' activity?

- (A) Mining
- (B) Teaching in a university
- (C) Research and Development (R&D)
- (D) Retail Trading

Q10. Which industrial region is often called the 'Rust Bowl' of the USA due to the decline in heavy industries?

- (A) Silicon Valley
- (B) Pittsburgh
- (C) New England
- (D) Florida

Q11. 'Kolkhoz' is a term used for collective farming in which country?

- (A) Israel
- (B) Former Soviet Union (USSR)
- (C) China
- (D) Denmark

Q12. Which of the following is a footloose industry?

- (A) Iron and Steel
- (B) Cement
- (C) Watch making/Electronics
- (D) Sugar industry



- Q13.** The 'Trans-Siberian Railway' connects St. Petersburg with which city on the Pacific coast?
- (A) Moscow
 - (B) Irkutsk
 - (C) Vladivostok
 - (D) Novosibirsk
- Q14.** Which sea is connected to the Atlantic Ocean by the Mediterranean Sea?
- (A) Red Sea
 - (B) Black Sea
 - (C) Caspian Sea
 - (D) Arabian Sea
- Q15.** A 'Port of Call' is a port that:
- (A) Specializes in exporting a single bulk commodity.
 - (B) Serves as a refueling and watering point for ships on long routes.
 - (C) Is used only for military purposes.
 - (D) Is located inland on a river.
- Q16.** Identify the major industrial region located in the north-eastern part of the United States.
- (A) Appalachian Region
 - (B) Great Lakes Region
 - (C) Gulf Coast
 - (D) Pacific Northwest
- Q17.** Which of the following is a major iron-ore exporting port in Brazil?
- (A) Rio de Janeiro
 - (B) Tubarao



- (C) Buenos Aires
- (D) Valparaiso

Q18. The 'Grand Trunk Road' historically connected which two regions?

- (A) Kabul and Chittagong
- (B) Delhi and Mumbai
- (C) Lahore and Karachi
- (D) Amritsar and Kolkata

Q19. Which country has the highest density of rail network in the world?

- (A) USA
- (B) Belgium
- (C) India
- (D) Russia

Q20. Identify the major terminal of the 'Orient Express' in the East.

- (A) London
- (B) Paris
- (C) Istanbul
- (D) Berlin

Q21. Which state in India has the highest percentage of 'Urban Population' as per 2011 Census?

- (A) Maharashtra
- (B) Goa
- (C) Tamil Nadu
- (D) Mizoram

Q22. The 'Environmental Determinism' school suggests that 'Human is a passive agent'. This view was largely supported by:



- (A) Lucian Febvre
- (B) Ellen Churchill Semple
- (C) Vidal de la Blache
- (D) Carl Sauer

Q23. Which language family is spoken by the largest number of people in India?

- (A) Dravidian
- (B) Sino-Tibetan
- (C) Indo-Aryan
- (D) Austric

Q24. The movement of people from one place to another due to 'Push Factors' usually includes:

- (A) Better job opportunities
- (B) Political stability
- (C) Natural disasters and poverty
- (D) Pleasant climate

Q25. Identify the state with the highest 'Human Development Index' value in India.

- (A) Punjab
- (B) Kerala
- (C) Tamil Nadu
- (D) Gujarat

Q26. Towns that have grown around a fort or a garrison are known as:

- (A) Administrative towns
- (B) Cantonment (Statutory) towns
- (C) Mining towns
- (D) Transport towns



- Q27.** In which of the following states are 'Hamleted Settlements' most commonly found?
- (A) Rajasthan
 - (B) Chhattisgarh and lower Himalayas
 - (C) Indo-Gangetic Plain
 - (D) Gujarat
- Q28.** Which city is categorized as a 'Transport Town' due to its role as a major railway junction/hub?
- (A) Itarsi
 - (B) Bhilai
 - (C) Vishakhapatnam
 - (D) Aligarh
- Q29.** The 'Bharatmala Pariyojana' is primarily aimed at:
- (A) Cleaning the major rivers of India.
 - (B) Improving road connectivity in border and coastal areas.
 - (C) Developing new international airports.
 - (D) Promoting solar energy in rural households.
- Q30.** Identify the major oil refinery located in the state of Assam.
- (A) Jamnagar
 - (B) Mathura
 - (C) Digboi
 - (D) Barauni
- Q31.** Which type of coal is considered the best quality with the highest carbon content?
- (A) Lignite
 - (B) Bituminous



- (C) Anthracite
- (D) Peat

Q32. The 'Integrated Tribal Development Project' (ITDP) in Bharmaur region was focused on the development of which tribe?

- (A) Bhils
- (B) Gaddi
- (C) Santhals
- (D) Nagas

Q33. The 'National Waterway 1' (NW-1) extends between:

- (A) Sadiya and Dhubri
- (B) Allahabad and Haldia
- (C) Kottapuram and Kollam
- (D) Talcher and Dhamra

Q34. Which organization is responsible for the construction and maintenance of roads in the border areas of India?

- (A) NHAI
- (B) PWD
- (C) BRO
- (D) CPWD

Q35. The 'Air India' was nationalized in which year?

- (A) 1947
- (B) 1953
- (C) 1961
- (D) 1991

Q36. Which port is an example of an 'Out Port' in India?



- (A) Haldia
- (B) Kolkata
- (C) Paradip
- (D) Ennore

Q37. In India, the first radio program was broadcast by the Radio Club of Bombay in:

- (A) 1923
- (B) 1930
- (C) 1936
- (D) 1947

Q38. Which of the following is a 'Point Source' of water pollution?

- (A) Agricultural runoff from fields.
- (B) Acid rain.
- (C) A municipal sewage pipe discharging into a river.
- (D) Dust from construction sites.

Q39. Air pollution in urban areas often leads to the formation of _____, which reduces visibility and causes respiratory issues.

- (A) Mist
- (B) Smog
- (C) Dew
- (D) Frost

Q40. The 'Namami Gange' program is an Integrated Conservation Mission to accomplish the twin objectives of effective abatement of pollution and _____.

- (A) Generating hydroelectricity.
- (B) Conservation and rejuvenation of National River Ganga.
- (C) Promoting river tourism.



(D) Interlinking Ganga with South Indian rivers.

Passage I

Read the passage below carefully. The questions that follow (Questions 41 to 45) are based on the information provided in this text. Choose the one best answer for each question.

“Planning is a vital exercise for the balanced development of a country. In India, planning has been a centralized process for a long time, but there is an increasing shift toward ‘Target Area Planning’. This approach is adopted to reduce regional disparities and ensure that the benefits of development reach the most backward areas. For instance, the Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) and the Hill Area Development Programme (HADP) are specific examples of this strategy. These programs focus on creating infrastructure, providing employment, and restoring the ecological balance in fragile environments. The Hill Area Development Programme was initiated during the Fifth Five-Year Plan covering 15 districts comprising all the hilly districts of Uttar Pradesh (now Uttarakhand), Mikir Hill and North Cachar hills of Assam, Khasi hills, Jaintia hills and Garo hills of Meghalaya, and the Nilgiri district of Tamil Nadu. The basic objective of the HADP was to exploit the indigenous resources of the hills through development of agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, and forestry. It also aimed at improving the life of the local people while maintaining the ecological health of the region. This requires a shift from purely economic planning to a more holistic environmental-geographic approach.”

Q41. Which Five-Year Plan initiated the Hill Area Development Programme?

- (A) Third
- (B) Fourth
- (C) Fifth
- (D) Sixth



- Q42.** The Nilgiri district, mentioned in the passage, is located in which state?
- (A) Kerala
 - (B) Tamil Nadu
 - (C) Karnataka
 - (D) Andhra Pradesh
- Q43.** What is the primary aim of 'Target Area Planning' as per the passage?
- (A) To increase the GDP of urban centers.
 - (B) To reduce regional disparities.
 - (C) To promote international trade.
 - (D) To centralize all administrative powers.
- Q44.** Which of the following was NOT an objective of the HADP mentioned in the text?
- (A) Development of Horticulture.
 - (B) Development of Heavy Industries.
 - (C) Development of Animal Husbandry.
 - (D) Maintenance of ecological health.
- Q45.** The Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) is an example of which planning approach?
- (A) Sectoral Planning
 - (B) Centralized Planning
 - (C) Target Area Planning
 - (D) Urban Planning



Passage II

Read the passage below carefully. The questions that follow (Questions 46 to 50) are based on the information provided in this text. Choose the one best answer for each question.

“The advent of the information age has transformed 'International Trade' from a simple exchange of physical goods into a complex web of services and digital commodities. Traditionally, trade was governed by the availability of natural resources and the cost of labor. However, in the 21st century, 'Knowledge Capital' and 'Technological Innovation' have become the primary drivers. The World Trade Organization (WTO), which replaced the GATT in 1995, plays a crucial role in setting the global rules. While globalization has integrated world economies, it has also led to concerns regarding 'Trade Deficits' and the exploitation of developing nations. A trade deficit occurs when a country's imports exceed its exports. For many developing nations, the export of raw materials like minerals and agricultural products remains the mainstay, whereas developed nations dominate the export of high-value manufactured goods and services. This creates an unfavorable balance of trade. Furthermore, the role of 'Regional Trade Blocs' like the European Union (EU) and ASEAN has increased, allowing countries within a geographic region to trade more freely by reducing tariffs. These blocs aim to enhance collective bargaining power and promote internal economic stability. “

Q46. In which year did the WTO replace the GATT?

- (A) 1948
- (B) 1991
- (C) 1995
- (D) 2000

Q47. What is a 'Trade Deficit' as defined in the passage?



- (A) Exports exceed imports.
- (B) Imports exceed exports.
- (C) Imports and exports are equal.
- (D) Total cessation of international trade.

Q48. Which organization is mentioned as a 'Regional Trade Bloc' in the text?

- (A) WTO
- (B) GATT
- (C) ASEAN
- (D) UNDP

Q49. According to the text, what has become a primary driver of trade in the 21st century?

- (A) Physical labor only.
- (B) Natural resources only.
- (C) Knowledge Capital and Technological Innovation.
- (D) Barter system.

Q50. What is one objective of 'Regional Trade Blocs' mentioned in the passage?

- (A) To increase tariffs between member nations.
- (B) To isolate countries from the world market.
- (C) To enhance collective bargaining power.
- (D) To focus only on the export of raw materials.



Detailed Solutions**Q1.****Solution****Concept:**

The transition from Environmental Determinism to Possibilism marks a significant evolution in geographical thought.

Environmental Determinism is the philosophy that the physical environment, especially the climate and terrain, dictates human culture and social development.

In this view, nature is the active agent while humans are passive.

Possibilism, on the other hand, suggests that the environment sets certain constraints or limitations, but culture is otherwise determined by social conditions.

It posits that humans are the active agents who use their knowledge to create possibilities from nature.

Solution:

1. In the early stages of human history, technology was primitive, and humans were heavily influenced by the forces of nature, a state known as the 'Naturalisation of Humans'.
2. As human societies began to develop better tools and techniques, they started understanding the laws of nature.
3. For example, understanding DNA and genetics allowed us to conquer many diseases, and understanding the laws of thermodynamics helped us develop fast planes.
4. Technological advancements allowed humans to move from a state of necessity to a state of freedom.
5. They began to create resources such as health resorts on highlands, huge urban sprawls, and satellites in space.
6. This widening of human choices and the ability to modify the environment effectively shifted the paradigm from Determinism to Possibilism.
7. Therefore, it is the interaction between human technology and nature that created these new possibilities.

Final Answer: The transition was primarily driven by technological advancements and the widening of human choices.

Answer: (B)



Q2.

Solution**Concept:**

Social Geography is a major sub-field of Human Geography that focuses on the study of social phenomena and its spatial components.

It examines how social categories like age, gender, ethnicity, and social groups are distributed in space and how they interact with each other and their environment.

This field has various sub-disciplines including Behavioral Geography, Social Well-being, Historical Geography, and Medical Geography.

Each sub-discipline interfaces with different social sciences like Sociology, Psychology, and Epidemiology.

Solution:

1. Behavioral Geography is a sub-field of Social Geography that emerged as a critique of the 'Economic Man' model.
2. It emphasizes that human behavior in space is not always rational but is governed by how individuals perceive and cognitively map their environment.
3. It specifically deals with how different social groups perceive their surroundings and how these perceptions lead to specific spatial distributions and social relations.
4. While 'Social Well-being' focuses on equity and quality of life, and 'Medical Geography' deals with health patterns, Behavioral Geography analyzes the social groups themselves and their decision-making processes.
5. In many curriculum frameworks, the study of social groups, their spatial identity, and their interactions is categorized under the behavioral aspect of social geography.
6. Understanding these relations helps geographers explain social segregation and the formation of community-specific neighborhoods in urban settings.

Final Answer: Behavioral Geography deals with the spatial distribution of different social groups and their relations.

Answer: (B)



Q3.

Solution**Concept:**

Human Geography is highly interdisciplinary, meaning it overlaps with several other academic fields.

Every branch of Human Geography has a "sister discipline" in the social sciences.

For instance, Political Geography is linked to Political Science, Economic Geography to Economics, and Historical Geography to History.

Demography is the scientific and statistical study of human populations, primarily focusing on size, density, distribution, and vital statistics like births and deaths.

Solution:

1. Population Geography is the study of the spatial variations in the distribution, composition, migration, and growth of populations.
2. It uses the same fundamental data points as Demography, such as fertility rates, mortality rates, and life expectancy.
3. While Demography provides the quantitative and statistical analysis, Population Geography applies this data to specific locations and environments.
4. It seeks to answer "where" population changes are happening and "why" they vary from one region to another.
5. Settlement Geography focuses on human habitations like villages and cities, while Political Geography deals with boundaries and elections.
6. Because both Demography and Population Geography share the exact same subject matter—the human population—they are considered the most closely linked pair.

Final Answer: Population Geography is the branch of Geography most closely linked to Demography.

Answer: (B)



Q4.

Solution**Concept:**

Human Development is a concept that was pioneered by Dr. Mahbub-ul-Haq and Prof. Amartya Sen.

It is a paradigm shift that argues development should not be measured only by economic growth, but by the quality of human life.

The basic goal of human development is to create an environment where people can enjoy long, healthy, and creative lives.

This involves enlarging choices, improving health, and ensuring access to knowledge and resources.

Solution:

1. Statement I is correct: The essence of human development is the process of enlarging people's choices. If people do not have choices, they cannot lead a meaningful life.
2. Statement II is incorrect: Income is not the only goal. While income is a means to achieve a standard of living, it is not an end in itself. High income without health or freedom does not represent high human development.
3. Statement III is correct: Human Development rests on four main pillars: Equity, Sustainability, Productivity, and Empowerment.
4. Equity refers to making equal access to opportunities available to everybody.
5. Sustainability means continuity in the availability of opportunities, ensuring that future generations can also enjoy the same resources.
6. Since statements I and III correctly define the concept and its requirements, they are the correct choice.

Final Answer: Statements I and III are correct.

Answer: (C)



Q5.

Solution**Concept:**

A population pyramid, also called an age-sex pyramid, is a graphical illustration that shows the distribution of various age groups in a population.

The shape of the pyramid reflects the demographic characteristics of that population.

There are three general types of shapes:

- Triangular (Expansive): High birth rates and high death rates.
- Bell-shaped (Stationary): Birth and death rates are nearly equal.
- Tapered top with narrow base (Constrictive): Low birth and death rates.

Solution:

1. A narrow base in the pyramid indicates a low proportion of young children, which is a direct result of declining birth rates.
2. A tapered or narrow top indicates a significant elderly population, but relative to the base, it shows that people are living longer (higher life expectancy).
3. When the base is narrower than the middle or top sections, the population is considered to be "constricting" or declining.
4. This stage is typical of highly developed nations where birth rates have fallen below the replacement level, leading to an aging population.
5. In such societies, the growth rate is either zero or negative.
6. Examples of countries with such pyramids include Japan, Germany, and Italy.
7. Therefore, a narrow base and tapered top are clear indicators of a decline in fertility and a shift toward an older demographic structure.

Final Answer: A population pyramid with a narrow base and a tapered top indicates declining birth rates and an aging population.

Answer: (C)



Q6.

Solution**Concept:**

The Human Development Index (HDI) is a statistical composite index used to rank countries by their level of human development.

It was developed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and focuses on three basic dimensions:

1. A long and healthy life (measured by life expectancy at birth).
2. Knowledge (measured by mean years of schooling and expected years of schooling).
3. A decent standard of living (measured by GNI per capita in PPP dollars).

Countries are categorized into four groups: Very High (> 0.800), High (0.700 to 0.799), Medium (0.550 to 0.699), and Low (< 0.550).

Solution:

1. Norway has consistently ranked at the top or near the top of the HDI rankings for many years due to its high life expectancy, excellent education system, and high per capita income.
2. Its score is well above the 0.800 threshold required for the 'Very High' category.
3. India currently falls into the 'Medium' human development category, with an HDI value typically ranging between 0.630 and 0.650.
4. Pakistan and Nigeria generally fall into the 'Medium' or 'Low' categories due to challenges in health infrastructure and literacy rates.
5. Therefore, among the given options, only Norway qualifies as a country with 'Very High' human development.

Final Answer: Norway is categorized as having a 'Very High' HDI.

Answer: (B)



Q7.

Solution**Concept:**

The Sex Ratio is a demographic concept used to measure the balance between the male and female populations in a region.

It is an important indicator of the status of women and gender equality in a society.

Different countries and international organizations use different formulas to calculate this ratio.

In many countries, including India, the ratio is expressed in terms of the number of females per unit of males.

Solution:

1. In the context of world geography and many national censuses like India's, the sex ratio is defined as the number of females per 1,000 males.
2. The formula used is: $(\text{Female Population}/\text{Male Population}) \times 1,000$.
3. This calculation helps in identifying gender imbalances that might be caused by factors like female foeticide, gender-based migration, or differences in mortality rates.
4. It is important to note that in some Western countries and UN reports, the ratio is sometimes calculated as the number of males per 100 females.
5. However, following the standard textbook definition for this curriculum, the calculation is based on the number of females per 1,000 males.

Final Answer: The 'Sex Ratio' is generally calculated as the number of females per 1,000 males.

Answer: (C)



Q8.

Solution**Concept:**

Market Gardening and Horticulture is a specialized type of agriculture that focuses on the cultivation of high-value crops like vegetables, fruits, and flowers.

This type of farming is highly intensive and is specifically geared toward meeting the demands of urban consumers.

Due to the perishable nature of the products, these farms are strategically located where there are good transportation links to city centers.

Solution:

1. Market gardens are typically characterized by small farm sizes.
2. Because the land near urban areas is expensive and high in demand, farmers cannot afford extremely large holdings.
3. Instead, they practice intensive cultivation using high doses of fertilizers, pesticides, and modern irrigation to maximize yield from a small area.
4. The focus is on high labor input and advanced technology rather than vast land expanses.
5. These farms are often located in the 'urban fringe' or 'peri-urban' areas to ensure that fresh produce can reach the market quickly, often overnight.
6. This proximity is why the term "Truck Farming" is also associated with this practice in some regions.

Final Answer: In Market Gardening, the size of farms is usually small and located near urban centers.

Answer: (B)



Q9.

Solution**Concept:**

Economic activities are classified into different sectors based on the nature of the work.

- Primary: Extraction of raw materials (Mining, Agriculture).
- Secondary: Manufacturing and processing.
- Tertiary: Services (Trade, Transport, Teaching).
- Quaternary: Knowledge-based services involving information processing and specialized research.
- Quinary: High-level decision-making and policy formation.

Solution:

1. Quaternary activities represent a separate category of the service sector that involves intellectual activities.
2. This includes the collection, production, and dissemination of information, as well as specialized technical skills.
3. Research and Development (R&D) is the quintessential example of a quaternary activity because it focuses on innovation and the creation of new knowledge.
4. Teaching in a university is often considered tertiary, although it borders on quaternary due to the knowledge aspect.
5. Mining is a primary activity, and retail trading is a tertiary activity.
6. Therefore, R&D is the most accurate fit for the quaternary sector as it drives technological progress through information analysis.

Final Answer: Research and Development (R&D) is an example of a 'Quaternary' activity.

Answer: (C)



Q10.

Solution**Concept:**

The 'Rust Bowl' (or Rust Belt) is a term used to describe a region that was once the powerhouse of heavy manufacturing and steel production but has since faced economic decline.

This decline is usually caused by the depletion of local resources, high labor costs, and competition from newer industrial areas or foreign markets.

In the United States, this specifically refers to the industrial heartland centered around the Great Lakes.

Solution:

1. Pittsburgh was famously known as the "Steel City" and was the center of the American iron and steel industry for decades.
2. Due to the shift in manufacturing to other regions (like the Sun Belt) and the aging of the industrial infrastructure, many factories in Pittsburgh closed down.
3. This led to the region being nicknamed the 'Rust Bowl' as the abandoned machinery and factory structures literally began to rust.
4. Silicon Valley is known for high-tech and software, not heavy industry decline.
5. Florida and New England do not fit the description of a declining heavy industrial core in the same historical context as the Pittsburgh-Great Lakes area.

Final Answer: Pittsburgh is the industrial region often called the 'Rust Bowl' of the USA.

Answer: (B)



Q11.

Solution**Concept:**

Collective farming is a system where agricultural production of multiple farms is run as a single joint enterprise.

This model was popularized in socialist and communist states to increase efficiency through socialized labor and shared resources.

In the former Soviet Union, this system was introduced by Joseph Stalin in the late 1920s as part of the first five-year plan to modernize agriculture and provide food for the growing urban industrial workforce.

Solution:

1. The term 'Kolkhoz' specifically refers to a collective farm in the former Soviet Union (USSR).
2. Under this system, the state owned the land, but the members of the Kolkhoz pooled their labor and resources to work the land collectively.
3. After meeting state quotas and paying for inputs, the remaining produce or profit was distributed among the members based on the work they performed.
4. This is distinct from 'Sovkhoz', which were state-owned farms where workers were paid wages like industrial employees.
5. While China had 'Communes' and Israel has 'Kibbutzim', the specific term 'Kolkhoz' is historically and geographically tied to the Soviet era.
6. Therefore, the USSR is the correct country associated with this form of agricultural organization.

Final Answer: 'Kolkhoz' is a term used for collective farming in the Former Soviet Union (USSR).

Answer: (B)



Q12.

Solution**Concept:**

A 'Footloose Industry' is a term used for an industry that can be placed and located at any location without effect from factors such as resources or transport.

Unlike traditional heavy industries, these do not have a strong preference for being near raw material sources or heavy transport hubs.

They are typically non-polluting and produce high-value products in small quantities, meaning the cost of transporting the final product is a small fraction of the total cost.

Solution:

1. Iron and steel, cement, and sugar industries are 'weight-losing' industries.
2. For example, the sugar industry must be near sugarcane fields because cane is bulky and loses sugar content if not processed quickly.
3. Similarly, steel and cement require massive amounts of heavy raw materials (coal, iron ore, limestone), making them location-dependent.
4. Watch making and electronics, however, use components that are lightweight and easily transportable.
5. These industries rely more on a skilled labor force and proximity to markets or communication networks rather than bulky raw materials.
6. Since they can "float" or be set up in a variety of places without significant cost penalties, they are classified as footloose.

Final Answer: Watch making and Electronics are examples of footloose industries.

Answer: (C)



Q13.

Solution**Concept:**

The Trans-Siberian Railway is the longest railway line in the world, spanning the entire width of Russia.

It is a vital economic artery that connects European Russia with the Russian Far East.

The construction of this line was crucial for the development of the Siberian hinterland and for establishing a permanent link between the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of the massive Russian territory.

Solution:

1. The Trans-Siberian Railway begins at St. Petersburg (formerly Leningrad) in the west, which is a major port near the Baltic Sea.
2. The route travels through Moscow, the Ural Mountains, and the vast Siberian plains.
3. It passes through major cities like Novosibirsk and Irkutsk, and skirts the southern edge of Lake Baikal.
4. The easternmost terminus of this grand railway line is the city of Vladivostok.
5. Vladivostok is Russia's largest port on the Pacific Ocean, serving as a gateway to East Asia.
6. Therefore, the railway effectively links the western European end of the country to its eastern Pacific edge at Vladivostok.

Final Answer: The 'Trans-Siberian Railway' connects St. Petersburg with Vladivostok.

Answer: (C)

Q14.

Solution**Concept:**

The Mediterranean Sea is a large body of water surrounded by Europe, Africa, and Asia.

It is connected to the Atlantic Ocean in the west through the narrow Strait of Gibraltar.

Geographically, the Mediterranean acts as a central hub connecting several other seas through various straits and man-made canals.

Solution:

1. The Red Sea is connected to the Mediterranean via the man-made Suez Canal.
2. The Arabian Sea is far to the south and is connected to the Red Sea via the Gulf of Aden.
3. The Caspian Sea is a landlocked sea (technically a lake) with no natural oceanic connection.
4. The Black Sea is the body of water that is connected to the Mediterranean Sea through the Bosphorus Strait, the Sea of Marmara, and the Dardanelles.
5. Therefore, a vessel traveling from the Atlantic Ocean would enter the Mediterranean and could then proceed into the Black Sea.
6. This connection is vital for trade and naval movement between Southern Europe, Russia, and the rest of the Atlantic world.

Final Answer: The Black Sea is connected to the Atlantic Ocean via the Mediterranean Sea.

Answer: (B)



Q15.

Solution**Concept:**

Ports are categorized based on their location, the nature of their cargo, and the specific functions they serve.

While some ports are specialized for cargo handling or military use, others serve as intermediate stops for vessels traveling on long-distance international maritime routes.

These intermediate ports provide essential services that allow ships to continue their journey safely and efficiently.

Solution:

1. A 'Port of Call' is a port where ships stop briefly during a long voyage.
2. The primary purpose of these stops is not necessarily to load or unload a full cargo, but to take on essential supplies.
3. This includes refueling (bunkering), taking on fresh water, and replenishing food supplies for the crew.
4. Examples of famous historical ports of call include Aden, Honolulu, and Singapore.
5. An 'Out Port' is a subsidiary port for a main port, and a 'Packet Station' is for mail/passengers.
6. Therefore, the defining characteristic of a port of call is its role as a replenishment point on a long maritime route.

Final Answer: A 'Port of Call' is a port that serves as a refueling and watering point for ships on long routes.

Answer: (B)



Q16.

Solution**Concept:**

Industrial regions are formed due to the concentration of industries in a specific geographical area, often driven by the availability of raw materials, power resources, and transport networks.

In the United States, the North-Eastern part of the country is the oldest and most traditional industrial heartland.

This area benefited greatly from the proximity to coal mines in the Appalachians and the easy water transport provided by the massive inland waterway system of the North.

Solution:

1. The North-Eastern industrial core of the USA is centered around the Great Lakes.
2. This region includes major industrial cities like Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, and Buffalo.
3. The Great Lakes (Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, and Ontario) provide a cheap and efficient means of transporting iron ore from the Mesabi Range to the coal-rich areas.
4. The presence of the Appalachian coal fields nearby made this the ideal location for the development of heavy industries like iron and steel.
5. While the Appalachian Region itself is a source of coal, the industrial concentration is officially recognized as the Great Lakes-Atlantic Coast region.
6. Therefore, the Great Lakes Region is the primary industrial hub of the North-Eastern United States.

Final Answer: The Great Lakes Region is the major industrial region located in the north-eastern part of the United States.

Answer: (B)



Q17.

Solution**Concept:**

Brazil is one of the world's leading producers and exporters of iron ore, primarily due to its vast high-grade deposits in the Carajas and Iron Quadrangle (Quadrilátero Ferrífero) regions.

To facilitate the export of these minerals to international markets like China and Europe, Brazil has developed specialized deep-water ports capable of handling massive bulk carriers.

Solution:

1. Tubarao, located near the city of Vitória in the state of Espírito Santo, is one of the most important iron-ore exporting ports in the world.
2. It was specifically developed by the company Vale to handle the export of iron ore from the Minas Gerais region.
3. The port is connected to the mines by the Vitória-Minas Railway, allowing for a seamless flow of minerals.
4. Rio de Janeiro is a major general port but is not primarily specialized for bulk iron ore export compared to Tubarao.
5. Buenos Aires is in Argentina, and Valparaiso is in Chile, making them incorrect for a Brazilian location.
6. Consequently, Tubarao stands out as the primary terminal for Brazil's iron ore trade.

Final Answer: Tubarao is a major iron-ore exporting port in Brazil.

Answer: (B)

Q18.

Solution**Concept:**

The Grand Trunk Road (GT Road) is one of Asia's oldest and longest major roads.

For centuries, it has linked the eastern and western regions of the Indian subcontinent.

Historically, it was significantly upgraded by Sher Shah Suri in the 16th century to connect the different parts of his empire, facilitating trade and military movement.

Solution:

1. Historically, the Grand Trunk Road extended from Chittagong in modern-day Bangladesh (in the east) to Kabul in modern-day Afghanistan (in the west).
2. It passed through major ancient cities like Kolkata, Varanasi, Delhi, Lahore, and Peshawar.
3. During the British period, it was often referred to as the road connecting Calcutta (Kolkata) to Peshawar.
4. In the modern era, the section within India primarily connects Amritsar to Kolkata.
5. However, when looking at the "historical" connection as specified in the question, the furthest reaches of the route spanned from Kabul to Chittagong.
6. This road remains a vital lifeline for the Indo-Gangetic Plain even today.

Final Answer: The 'Grand Trunk Road' historically connected Kabul and Chittagong.

Answer: (A)



Q19.

Solution**Concept:**

Railway density is measured by the length of the railway network per 100 square kilometers of land area.

High density usually indicates a very small, highly industrialized country where every part of the territory is intensely connected by rail.

While large countries like the USA or Russia have massive total lengths of track, their vast land area results in a lower overall density.

Solution:

1. Belgium has the highest density of rail network in the world.
2. As a small, highly developed European nation, it was one of the first countries on the continent to industrialize and build a comprehensive rail system.
3. The total length of its track relative to its small territorial size (approx. 30,528 sq km) gives it a density of roughly 11 km per 100 sq km.
4. In comparison, the USA has the longest total network, but because the country is so vast, its density is much lower than that of Belgium.
5. India and Russia also have large networks but occupy massive landmasses, keeping their density figures moderate.
6. Thus, for every square kilometer of land, Belgium has more rail track than any other country.

Final Answer: Belgium has the highest density of rail network in the world.

Answer: (B)



Q20.

Solution**Concept:**

The Orient Express was a legendary long-distance passenger train service created in 1883.

It is famous for its luxury and for being the first transcontinental express in Europe.

The route was designed to connect the western part of Europe to the gateway of the East, crossing through several major European capitals.

Solution:

1. The original route of the Orient Express ran from Paris, France, in the west to the city of Constantinople (modern-day Istanbul) in the east.
2. Istanbul is geographically unique because it sits on two continents, Europe and Asia, making it the perfect symbolic and literal "Eastern terminal."
3. The train allowed travelers to journey from the heart of Western Europe to the shores of the Bosphorus without changing carriages.
4. While London and Berlin were parts of the broader European rail network connected to the service, the primary eastern terminus of the main line was Istanbul.
5. This connection made Istanbul a crucial hub for travelers heading further into the Middle East or Asia.

Final Answer: Istanbul is the major terminal of the 'Orient Express' in the East.

Answer: (C)



Q21.

Solution**Concept:**

The level of urbanization in India is measured as the percentage of the urban population to the total population.

According to the 2011 Census, while larger states like Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu have high absolute numbers of urban dwellers, the proportion of urban population relative to the state's total population varies significantly across the country.

Small states often show higher percentages due to their limited geographic area and concentrated development.

Solution:

1. As per the 2011 Census data, Goa is the most urbanized state in India.
2. Approximately 62.17% of Goa's population lives in urban areas, which is the highest among all Indian states.
3. In comparison, Mizoram follows closely with an urban population of around 52.1%.
4. Tamil Nadu (48.4%) and Maharashtra (45.2%) are also highly urbanized but fall below Goa in terms of the percentage of the total population.
5. The high degree of urbanization in Goa is attributed to its small size, high literacy rates, and the growth of the tourism and mining sectors which have led to the development of several urban nodes.
6. Therefore, when looking at the percentage metric, Goa stands at the top.

Final Answer: Goa is the state with the highest percentage of urban population in India.

Answer: (B)



Q22.

Solution**Concept:**

Environmental Determinism is a school of thought in geography that argues that the physical environment, especially climate, dictates human activities and culture.

In this framework, humans are viewed as passive agents who are "molded" by the nature around them.

This philosophy was particularly dominant in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, spearheaded by German geographers and their followers.

Solution:

1. Ellen Churchill Semple, an American geographer and a student of Friedrich Ratzel, was a staunch advocate of Environmental Determinism.
2. In her famous work, 'Influences of Geographic Environment', she famously stated that "Man is a product of the Earth's surface," suggesting that nature controls human behavior, strength, and intelligence.
3. Her views emphasized the superiority of nature over human choice, which is the core of the "Human as a passive agent" argument.
4. Lucien Febvre and Vidal de la Blache were proponents of Possibilism, which argues that humans have choices.
5. Carl Sauer was known for the concept of 'Cultural Landscape', which also emphasizes human agency.
6. Thus, Semple remains the primary figure associated with the extreme deterministic view mentioned.

Final Answer: Ellen Churchill Semple was a major supporter of the 'Environmental Determinism' school.

Answer: (B)



Q23.

Solution**Concept:**

The linguistic diversity of India is categorized into four major language families: Indo-Aryan, Dravidian, Sino-Tibetan (Kirata), and Austric (Nishada).

The distribution of these families is closely linked to the historical migration and settlement patterns of different ethnic groups across the Indian subcontinent.

Solution:

1. The Indo-Aryan language family (a branch of the Indo-European family) is spoken by the largest percentage of the Indian population.
2. Approximately 73% of Indians speak languages belonging to this family, which includes Hindi, Bengali, Marathi, Gujarati, Punjabi, and Odia.
3. The Dravidian family is the second largest, spoken by about 20% of the population, primarily in Southern India (Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, and Malayalam).
4. The Austric and Sino-Tibetan families represent much smaller percentages, mostly concentrated in tribal belts and the Himalayan/North-Eastern regions.
5. Because the Indo-Aryan group covers the vast majority of Northern, Western, and Eastern India, it is numerically dominant in the country.

Final Answer: The Indo-Aryan language family is spoken by the largest number of people in India.

Answer: (C)

Q24.

Solution**Concept:**

Migration is driven by two sets of factors: Push Factors and Pull Factors.

Push Factors are negative conditions that force or "push" people to leave their place of origin.

Pull Factors are positive conditions at a destination that attract or "pull" people toward it.

Understanding these factors helps in analyzing migration streams and demographic shifts.

Solution:

1. Push factors make a place less attractive to live in.
2. Common examples include economic causes like poverty and lack of employment, or social causes like political instability and war.
3. Natural disasters (floods, droughts, earthquakes) are also major push factors as they destroy livelihoods and safety.
4. In contrast, "better job opportunities," "political stability," and "pleasant climate" are pull factors because they provide a reason for people to move *to* a new place.
5. Therefore, natural disasters and poverty serve as the catalyst that forces people away from their homes, qualifying them as push factors.

Final Answer: 'Push Factors' include natural disasters and poverty.

Answer: (C)



Q25.

Solution**Concept:**

The Human Development Index (HDI) in India is a composite measure that accounts for health (life expectancy), education (literacy), and command over resources (per capita income).

At the state level, the Government of India and various agencies calculate these values to monitor regional progress.

There is a significant disparity between states, with Southern and Western states generally performing better than those in the North and East.

Solution:

1. Kerala consistently ranks as the state with the highest Human Development Index in India.
2. This is largely due to its exceptional performance in social indicators. Kerala has the highest literacy rate (over 94%) and the best health outcomes, including the highest life expectancy and lowest infant mortality rates in the country.
3. The "Kerala Model" of development emphasizes social welfare and investments in health and education, which has led to high HDI values despite having a lower per capita income than some industrial states like Gujarat or Haryana.
4. While Punjab and Gujarat have seen high economic growth, their social indicators have historically lagged behind Kerala.
5. Consequently, Kerala has maintained its top position in human development for several decades.

Final Answer: Kerala is the state with the highest HDI value in India.

Answer: (B)



Q26.

Solution**Concept:**

Functional classification of towns categorizes urban areas based on the primary economic activity or the historical purpose they serve.

Some towns are established primarily for administrative reasons, while others grow around industrial hubs, religious sites, or military installations.

Solution:

1. Towns that are established for military purposes, specifically to house a permanent military station or a garrison, are known as Cantonment or Garrison towns.
2. These towns were often established during the British colonial era to keep the army away from the civilian population.
3. Examples in India include Ambala, Mhow, Babina, and Jalandhar Cantonment.
4. Administrative towns are the seats of government (like New Delhi), and mining towns are located near mineral deposits (like Digboi or Jharia).
5. Transport towns grow around major transport hubs like ports or railway junctions.
6. Therefore, the term "Cantonment" specifically refers to the statutory towns that grew around forts or garrisons.

Final Answer: Towns grown around a fort or garrison are known as Cantonment (Statutory) towns.

Answer: (B)



Q27.

Solution**Concept:**

Rural settlements in India are classified into four types: Clustered, Semi-clustered, Hamleted, and Dispersed.

Hamleted settlements occur when a large village is physically divided into several units separated from each other but bearing the same name.

These units are locally called panna, para, palli, nagla, or dhani.

Solution:

1. Hamleted settlements are often motivated by social and ethnic factors where different castes or groups prefer to live in separate clusters within the same village boundary.
2. These patterns are very common in the middle and lower Ganga plain, Chhattisgarh, and the lower valleys of the Himalayas.
3. In the Indo-Gangetic plain, settlements are usually clustered, but in areas with broken topography or specific social structures like the lower Himalayas, hamlets become more prominent.
4. Rajasthan typically sees dispersed or semi-clustered settlements due to water scarcity, and Gujarat also leans toward clustered or semi-clustered forms in the plains.
5. Thus, Chhattisgarh and the lower Himalayan regions are the primary geographic locations for these fragmented hamleted patterns.

Final Answer: Hamleted settlements are most commonly found in Chhattisgarh and the lower Himalayas.

Answer: (B)



Q28.

Solution**Concept:**

A 'Transport Town' is a functional category of urban centers where the economy is dominated by activities related to the movement of goods and people.

These towns are usually located at strategic nodes such as major ports, railway junctions, or crossroads of major highways.

Solution:

1. Itarsi, located in Madhya Pradesh, is one of the most prominent examples of a railway junction town in India.
2. It serves as a major hub where several critical railway lines from North, South, East, and West intersect.
3. The town's growth and identity are almost entirely tied to the railway station and its associated logistics, workshops, and transit services.
4. Bhilai is primarily an 'Industrial Town' (steel), Vishakhapatnam is a 'Port Town' (though it has transport functions), and Aligarh is an 'Educational/Commercial Town'.
5. Among the options provided, Itarsi is the most classic example of a town whose primary function is being a railway junction hub.

Final Answer: Itarsi is categorized as a 'Transport Town' due to its role as a railway junction.

Answer: (A)

Q29.

Solution**Concept:**

Infrastructure development is a key focus of the Indian government to boost economic growth.

'Bharatmala Pariyojana' is a flagship umbrella program for the highways sector.

It was launched to optimize the efficiency of freight and passenger movement across the country by bridging critical infrastructure gaps.

Solution:

1. The primary focus of Bharatmala is the development of Economic Corridors, Inter-corridors, and Feeder Routes.
2. A major component of the project is improving road connectivity in coastal and border areas, including the development of strategic roads to enhance national security and trade.
3. It also aims to improve connectivity with neighboring countries (International Border Roads).
4. Projects like cleaning rivers come under 'Namami Gange', and rural solar energy falls under 'PM-KUSUM'.
5. By focusing on border and coastal road connectivity, Bharatmala ensures better logistics and defense readiness.

Final Answer: The 'Bharatmala Pariyojana' is aimed at improving road connectivity in border and coastal areas.

Answer: (B)



Q30.

Solution**Concept:**

Assam is the oldest oil-producing state in India.

Oil was first discovered there in the late 19th century.

Assam houses several important refineries that process the crude oil extracted from the Brahmaputra valley.

Solution:

1. Digboi is the site of the oldest operating oil refinery in the world and the first in India, established in 1901.
2. It is located in the Tinsukia district of Assam and remains a significant symbol of India's petroleum history.
3. Jamnagar is located in Gujarat (owned by Reliance), Mathura is in Uttar Pradesh, and Barauni is in Bihar.
4. Other refineries in Assam include those at Nunmati (Guwahati), Bongaigaon, and Numaligarh.
5. Therefore, Digboi is the correct major refinery associated with the state of Assam.

Final Answer: Digboi is a major oil refinery located in the state of Assam.

Answer: (C)

Q31.

Solution**Concept:**

Coal is a fossil fuel categorized into different types based on its carbon content, moisture, and impurities.

As plant matter is buried deeper and subjected to higher pressure and temperature over millions of years, it undergoes a transformation process called coalification.

This process increases the carbon concentration while decreasing moisture and volatile matter.

The four main types of coal are Anthracite, Bituminous, Lignite, and Peat.

Solution:

1. Anthracite is the highest grade of coal. It is a hard, black, and lustrous coal that contains between 80% to 95% carbon.
2. Because of its high carbon content, it ignites slowly but burns with a blue flame and very little smoke, providing the highest heating value.
3. Bituminous coal is the most common variety used in industry, containing 60% to 80% carbon.
4. Lignite is a low-grade brown coal with high moisture, and Peat is the first stage of coal formation with the lowest carbon content.
5. In India, Anthracite is found only in small quantities, primarily in parts of Jammu and Kashmir.
6. Due to its superior energy density and lack of impurities, Anthracite is considered the best quality coal.

Final Answer: Anthracite is the best quality coal with the highest carbon content.

Answer: (C)



Q32.

Solution**Concept:**

The Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP) is a planning strategy designed to address the specific needs of socio-economically backward tribal areas.

The Bharmaur region, located in the Chamba district of Himachal Pradesh, is a harsh, mountainous terrain that was designated as a 'tribal' area in the 1970s.

This area is the ancestral home of a specific transhumant community that follows a seasonal migratory lifestyle.

Solution:

1. The ITDP in Bharmaur was specifically launched to improve the quality of life for the Gaddi tribal community.
2. The Gaddis are a pastoral group who traditionally practice transhumance, moving their livestock (sheep and goats) between high-altitude pastures in summer and lower valleys in winter.
3. The project focused on providing basic infrastructure like schools, healthcare, roads, and electricity to this marginalized group.
4. It also aimed at diversifying their economy beyond traditional sheep rearing by introducing better agricultural practices and social services.
5. The Bhils, Santhals, and Nagas are major tribes found in Central India, Eastern India, and North-East India respectively, and are not native to the Bharmaur region.
6. Therefore, the Gaddi tribe is the central focus of the Bharmaur developmental project.

Final Answer: The ITDP in Bharmaur was focused on the development of the Gaddi tribe.

Answer: (B)



Q33.

Solution**Concept:**

Inland waterways are a cost-effective and environment-friendly mode of transport for bulk goods. The Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) identifies and maintains National Waterways (NW) across the country's river systems.

National Waterway 1 (NW-1) is the longest and most significant waterway in India, passing through the states of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, and West Bengal.

Solution:

1. National Waterway 1 (NW-1) is established on the Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system.
2. It extends over a distance of 1,620 km, connecting Prayagraj (formerly Allahabad) in Uttar Pradesh to Haldia in West Bengal.
3. It serves as a vital corridor for the transport of coal, fertilizers, and heavy machinery through the heart of the Indo-Gangetic plain.
4. NW-2 connects Sadiya to Dhubri on the Brahmaputra, and NW-3 is located in the West Coast Canal in Kerala.
5. The development of NW-1 is a key part of the 'Jal Marg Vikas Project' to enhance large-scale commercial navigation.
6. Thus, the stretch between Allahabad and Haldia constitutes the NW-1.

Final Answer: 'National Waterway 1' (NW-1) extends between Allahabad and Haldia.

Answer: (B)



Q34.

Solution**Concept:**

Roads in border areas are crucial for both national security and the economic development of remote mountainous and frontier regions.

Construction in these areas is challenging due to difficult terrain, extreme weather, and high altitudes.

A specialized organization was created in 1960 under the Ministry of Defence to handle these strategic infrastructure projects.

Solution:

1. The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) is the premier agency responsible for the construction and maintenance of roads along India's international borders.
2. The BRO plays a vital role in ensuring the mobility of the armed forces and providing connectivity to people living in the North and North-Eastern border states.
3. One of its most famous achievements is the construction of the Atal Tunnel and some of the highest motorable roads in the world in Ladakh.
4. While NHAI (National Highways Authority of India) manages major national highways, and PWD/CPWD handle state and central civilian buildings/roads, they do not specialize in the strategic border zones.
5. The BRO works in coordination with the Indian Army to keep supply lines open even in snow-bound conditions.
6. Therefore, the BRO is the correct organization for border road infrastructure.

Final Answer: The BRO is responsible for construction and maintenance of roads in border areas.

Answer: (C)



Q35.

Solution**Concept:**

The aviation sector in India began as a private enterprise but underwent a major structural change shortly after independence.

The government wanted to ensure that air travel was regulated and accessible as a public service, leading to the consolidation of several private airlines.

Solution:

1. Air India was originally started by J.R.D. Tata as Tata Airlines in 1932.
2. After India's independence, the Air Corporations Act was passed to bring the aviation industry under government control.
3. In 1953, the Indian government nationalized the entire airline industry.
4. This led to the creation of two corporations: 'Air India International' for international routes and 'Indian Airlines' for domestic and regional routes.
5. The nationalization allowed the state to invest heavily in modernizing the fleet and expanding air connectivity across the newly independent nation.
6. Although Air India was recently returned to the Tata Group, the historical year of its nationalization remains 1953.

Final Answer: Air India was nationalized in 1953.

Answer: (B)

Q36.

Solution**Concept:**

An 'Out Port' is a subsidiary port built in deeper water to serve a main port that is unable to accommodate large modern ships due to shallow water or siltation.

It acts as an auxiliary to the primary port, sharing its cargo load and providing better draft (depth) for heavy vessels.

Solution:

1. The Port of Kolkata is a riverine port located on the banks of the Hooghly River. Over time, the river has faced severe siltation, making it difficult for large container ships to reach the city.
2. To solve this problem, Haldia Port was developed further downstream where the water is much deeper.
3. Haldia serves as an out port to Kolkata, handling the heavy bulk cargo and large tankers that cannot navigate the shallow river channel to Kolkata.
4. Together, they form the Kolkata-Haldia port complex.
5. Paradip is an independent deep-water port in Odisha, and Ennore (Kamarajar) was built as a satellite port for Chennai, but Haldia is the classic textbook example of an out port in the Indian context.

Final Answer: Haldia is an example of an 'Out Port' in India.

Answer: (A)



Q37.

Solution**Concept:**

The history of broadcasting in India started with private initiatives before becoming a state-run service.

Radio became a powerful tool for communication, entertainment, and information dissemination, especially in a country with high illiteracy at the time.

Solution:

1. The first ever radio broadcast in India was carried out by the Radio Club of Bombay.
2. This historic event took place in June 1923.
3. Following this, the Indian Broadcasting Service was established in 1930, which eventually became All India Radio (AIR) in 1936.
4. After independence, AIR became Akashvani and expanded its reach significantly.
5. The 1923 broadcast marked the humble beginning of the electronic media era in the Indian subcontinent.
6. Thus, 1923 is the definitive year for the very first program broadcast.

Final Answer: The first radio program was broadcast in 1923.

Answer: (A)

Q38.

Solution**Concept:**

Water pollution sources are categorized into two types: Point Source and Non-Point Source.

A Point Source is a single, identifiable source of pollution from which pollutants are discharged.

A Non-Point Source is diffuse and comes from many scattered sources, making it harder to pinpoint a specific origin.

Solution:

1. A municipal sewage pipe is a classic point source because you can identify exactly where the waste is entering the water body.
2. Because the discharge comes from a specific pipe or tunnel, it can be monitored, regulated, and treated at that specific location.
3. Agricultural runoff is a non-point source because fertilizer and pesticides wash off from thousands of hectares of land into rivers.
4. Acid rain and dust from construction sites are also diffuse (non-point) because they enter the water system from the atmosphere or broad land areas.
5. Therefore, the sewage pipe represents a localized and identifiable point of pollution.

Final Answer: A municipal sewage pipe discharging into a river is a 'Point Source' of pollution.

Answer: (C)



Q39.

Solution**Concept:**

Urban air pollution is a mixture of solid particles and gases in the air.

In many industrial and highly populated cities, smoke from factories and vehicles reacts with the natural atmospheric moisture (fog).

This chemical reaction is often triggered by sunlight, resulting in a thick, hazardous layer near the ground.

Solution:

1. The term 'Smog' is a combination of the words 'smoke' and 'fog'.
2. It occurs when pollutants like nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds react in the presence of sunlight (Photochemical Smog) or when coal smoke mixes with fog (Classical Smog).
3. Smog significantly reduces visibility, which often leads to traffic accidents and flight delays.
4. More importantly, inhaling smog causes serious respiratory issues like asthma, bronchitis, and lung irritation.
5. Mist, dew, and frost are natural weather phenomena related to water vapor and do not necessarily involve pollution.
6. Therefore, smog is the specific environmental hazard caused by urban air pollution.

Final Answer: Air pollution in urban areas often leads to the formation of smog.

Answer: (B)



Q40.

Solution**Concept:**

The Ganga is not just a river but a lifeline for millions in India, yet it has become one of the most polluted rivers in the world.

The 'Namami Gange' Program is a flagship project launched by the Union Government in 2014. It is an 'Integrated Conservation Mission' that approaches river cleaning from a holistic perspective, combining engineering with ecological restoration.

Solution:

1. The program has two main objectives: the effective abatement of pollution and the conservation and rejuvenation of the National River Ganga.
2. Abatement of pollution involves building sewage treatment plants (STPs) and monitoring industrial effluents.
3. Rejuvenation involves maintaining the 'Aviral Dhara' (continuous flow) and 'Nirmal Dhara' (unpolluted flow) of the river.
4. It also includes afforestation along the river banks and the protection of aquatic biodiversity, like the Ganges River Dolphin.
5. While river tourism and hydroelectricity are related to rivers, they are not the primary conservation goals of this specific mission.
6. Thus, the objective is centered on the holistic health of the river ecosystem.

Final Answer: The objectives are effective abatement of pollution and conservation/rejuvenation of the Ganga.

Answer: (B)



Q41.

Solution**Concept:**

The Hill Area Development Programme (HADP) is a part of 'Target Area Planning' in India, designed to address the specific ecological and socio-economic challenges of mountainous regions. The Indian planning system recognized that hilly areas have unique constraints, such as difficult terrain and fragile ecosystems, which require a different approach than the plains.

Solution:

1. According to the provided passage, the Hill Area Development Programme was initiated during the Fifth Five-Year Plan.
2. The Fifth Five-Year Plan (1974–1978) marked a shift toward addressing regional imbalances through specific area-based programs.
3. The HADP initially covered 15 districts across states like Uttar Pradesh (now Uttarakhand), Assam, Meghalaya, and Tamil Nadu.
4. The goal was to ensure that the benefits of national planning reached geographically disadvantaged populations.
5. Therefore, the passage explicitly links the start of this program to the Fifth Plan period.

Final Answer: The Hill Area Development Programme was initiated during the Fifth Five-Year Plan.

Answer: (C)

Q42.

Solution**Concept:**

The HADP was not restricted to Northern India; it included hilly regions across the country that required special developmental attention.

The passage lists specific districts and states where the program was implemented to show the broad geographical scope of the initiative.

Solution:

1. The passage mentions the "Nilgiri district of Tamil Nadu" as one of the areas covered by the Hill Area Development Programme.
2. The Nilgiri Hills are part of the Western Ghats in Southern India.
3. This district is famous for its tea plantations, biodiversity, and indigenous tribal populations.
4. While the Nilgiris share borders with Kerala and Karnataka, the administrative district is located within the state of Tamil Nadu.
5. Thus, based on the text provided, Tamil Nadu is the correct state.

Final Answer: The Nilgiri district is located in the state of Tamil Nadu.

Answer: (B)



Q43.

Solution**Concept:**

Target Area Planning is a strategy used when general sectoral planning (like focusing only on agriculture or industry) fails to bring uniform development across all regions of a country.

Some areas remain backward due to their physical geography or historical neglect, necessitating a targeted approach.

Solution:

1. The passage states that the shift toward 'Target Area Planning' was adopted to "reduce regional disparities."
2. Regional disparity refers to the gap in economic and social development between different parts of a country.
3. By focusing on specific "target areas" like drought-prone regions or hills, planners ensure that resources are directed toward the most backward locations.
4. This ensures that development is balanced rather than being concentrated only in wealthy urban or industrial centers.
5. Therefore, reducing these inequalities is the primary objective defined in the text.

Final Answer: The primary aim of 'Target Area Planning' is to reduce regional disparities.

Answer: (B)

Q44.

Solution**Concept:**

The objectives of the HADP were designed to be eco-friendly and suited to the hilly terrain.

Heavy industrialization is often avoided in fragile hill ecosystems because it can lead to landslides, deforestation, and severe pollution.

Solution:

1. The passage lists several specific objectives: development of agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, and forestry.
2. It also emphasizes "maintaining the ecological health of the region."
3. Horticulture (fruit farming) and Animal Husbandry are ideal for hills because they utilize the terrain without causing massive environmental damage.
4. The passage does not mention the "Development of Heavy Industries" as an objective.
5. In fact, heavy industry would likely contradict the "holistic environmental-geographic approach" mentioned at the end of the text.

Final Answer: The development of Heavy Industries was NOT an objective of the HADP.

Answer: (B)



Q45.

Solution**Concept:**

The passage compares different programs to illustrate the concept of a specific planning approach. Programs that are designed for a particular geographic region with specific physical challenges fall under a specific category of planning.

Solution:

1. The text mentions the Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) alongside the Hill Area Development Programme (HADP).
2. It explicitly refers to these as "specific examples of this strategy," where the strategy mentioned is 'Target Area Planning'.
3. DPAP focuses on areas that face regular water scarcity, while HADP focuses on mountainous regions.
4. Both programs target a specific "type" of area rather than a specific "sector" of the economy across the whole country.
5. Therefore, DPAP is categorized as Target Area Planning.

Final Answer: The DPAP is an example of Target Area Planning.

Answer: (C)

Q46.

Solution**Concept:**

International trade rules have evolved from the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), which was established after World War II, to a more robust and permanent global institution. This transition marked the beginning of a more structured era of globalization.

Solution:

1. The passage states that the World Trade Organization (WTO) "replaced the GATT in 1995."
2. While GATT was a series of agreements, the WTO was established as a full-fledged international organization to oversee global trade.
3. This change occurred on January 1, 1995, following the conclusion of the Uruguay Round of negotiations.
4. The WTO has a broader scope, including trade in services and intellectual property, which the original GATT did not cover extensively.
5. Thus, 1995 is the correct historical year mentioned in the text.

Final Answer: The WTO replaced the GATT in 1995.

Answer: (C)



Q47.

Solution**Concept:**

The 'Balance of Trade' is the difference between the value of a country's exports and its imports. When the balance is negative, it is referred to as a deficit, which can have significant impacts on a nation's currency and debt levels.

Solution:

1. The passage defines a trade deficit as occurring "when a country's imports exceed its exports."
2. This means the country is spending more money on buying goods and services from abroad than it is earning from selling its own products to other countries.
3. For many developing nations, importing expensive high-value manufactured goods while only exporting low-value raw materials leads to this deficit.
4. If exports exceeded imports, it would be called a 'Trade Surplus'.
5. Therefore, the situation where imports are greater than exports is the trade deficit.

Final Answer: A 'Trade Deficit' occurs when imports exceed exports.

Answer: (B)

Q48.

Solution**Concept:**

Regional Trade Blocs are groups of countries within a specific geographic region that agree to reduce or eliminate trade barriers (like tariffs) among themselves.

This promotes economic integration and collective bargaining power on the global stage.

Solution:

1. The passage lists the "European Union (EU) and ASEAN" as examples of 'Regional Trade Blocs'.
2. ASEAN stands for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.
3. Unlike the WTO and GATT, which are global in scale, ASEAN is limited to countries in the Southeast Asian region.
4. UNDP is a development agency and not a trade bloc.
5. Consequently, ASEAN is the correct answer based on the regional definition provided in the text.

Final Answer: ASEAN is mentioned as a 'Regional Trade Bloc'.

Answer: (C)



Q49.

Solution**Concept:**

In the modern era, the nature of what is traded has changed.

While physical commodities (oil, minerals, food) are still important, the most significant growth in value comes from high-tech sectors and intellectual property.

Solution:

1. According to the passage, "Knowledge Capital" and "Technological Innovation" have become the primary drivers of trade in the 21st century.
2. This refers to the value of patents, software, specialized services, and advanced engineering.
3. Developed nations dominate the global market today because they possess more of this "knowledge capital."
4. The text notes that trade has moved beyond a "simple exchange of physical goods" to a "complex web of services."
5. Therefore, innovation and knowledge are the modern engines of international trade.

Final Answer: Knowledge Capital and Technological Innovation are the primary drivers of 21st-century trade.

Answer: (C)

Q50.

Solution**Concept:**

The formation of trade blocs is a strategic move by nations to protect their economic interests.

By acting as a single unit, a group of smaller countries can negotiate more effectively with larger economic powers like the USA or China.

Solution:

1. The passage explicitly states that these blocs "aim to enhance collective bargaining power and promote internal economic stability."
2. By reducing tariffs internally, they make it cheaper for member nations to trade with each other.
3. This creates a stronger regional economy that is more resilient to global market shocks.
4. Increasing tariffs or isolating members would be counterproductive to the goals of a trade bloc.
5. Thus, "enhancing collective bargaining power" is the objective mentioned in the passage.

Final Answer: One objective of regional trade blocs is to enhance collective bargaining power.

Answer: (C)



Answer Key

Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans
1	B	2	B	3	B	4	C	5	C
6	B	7	C	8	B	9	C	10	B
11	B	12	C	13	C	14	B	15	B
16	B	17	B	18	A	19	B	20	C
21	B	22	B	23	C	24	C	25	B
26	B	27	B	28	A	29	B	30	C
31	C	32	B	33	B	34	C	35	B
36	A	37	A	38	C	39	B	40	B
41	C	42	B	43	B	44	B	45	C
46	C	47	B	48	C	49	C	50	C

