CUET-UG Geography Sample Paper-12

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 "Environmental Determinism" to "Possibilism" was facilitated by technological advancements. Which of the following statements best illustrates the concept of "Neodeterminism" as proposed by Griffith Taylor?

(A) Humans are free to choose their path, and nature is merely an advisor.

(B) Nature acts as a "Stop-and-Go" traffic light, where humans can accelerate or slow down growth but cannot ignore the red light.

(C) Geography is strictly the study of "Areal Differentiation" where every region is unique.

(D) Technological growth is the only factor determining the spatial distribution of human activities.

Q2. Match the following schools of thought with their core philosophy:

- I. Welfare School – (a) Concerned with social well-being and health.
- II. Radical School – (b) Emphasizes basic human experiences and agency.
- III. Behavioral School – (c) Uses Marxian theory to explain poverty and inequality.

(A) I-a, II-c, III-b

(B) I-b, II-a, III-c

(C) I-c, II-b, III-a

(D) I-a, II-b, III-c

Q3. Which stage of the "Quantitative Revolution" in geography was criticized for being "dehumanized" and ignoring the subjective nature of human perception?

(A) The late 1950s to late 1960s

(B) The post-modernist era of the 1990s

(C) The emergence of the Welfare School in the 1970s

(D) The exploration and description phase of the colonial period

Q4. In the Demographic Transition Model, Stage II is characterized by a "Population Explosion." This occurs primarily because:

(A) Birth rates and death rates are both extremely high and fluctuating.

(B) Birth rates remain high while death rates plummet due to improved sanitation and health.

(C) Fertility rates fall below the replacement level while immigration increases.

(D) The population becomes urbanized and literate, leading to smaller family sizes.

Q5. The "Age-Sex Pyramid" of a country shows a narrow base and a tapering top. This structure most likely belongs to which type of country?

(A) A developing nation like Nigeria with high birth rates.

(B) A developed nation like Japan with a declining population.

(C) A country like Australia with a constant/stationary population.

(D) An agrarian society with high juvenile dependency.

Q6. Which of the following is considered a "Pull Factor" for migration rather than a "Push Factor"?

(A) Frequent occurrences of natural disasters and droughts.

(B) Political instability and civil unrest in the home region.

(C) Better opportunities for employment and regular wages in the destination.

(D) Lack of medical facilities and educational infrastructure in rural areas.

Q7. What differentiates the "Growth" of a population from its "Development"?

(A) Growth is qualitative, while development is quantitative.

(B) Growth is value-neutral (can be positive or negative), while development is always value-positive.

(C) Growth refers to income, while development refers to the birth-death ratio.

(D) There is no difference; they are synonymous in human geography.

Q8. Which indicator is used by the UNDP to measure the "Knowledge" dimension of the Human Development Index (HDI)?

(A) Life expectancy at birth.

(B) Mean years of schooling and expected years of schooling.

(C) Gross National Income (GNI) per capita in PPP.

(D) The ratio of doctors to the total population.

Q9. According to Thomas Malthus's theory, population increases in a _____ ratio, while food supply increases in an _____ ratio.

(A) Arithmetic, Geometric

(B) Geometric, Arithmetic

(C) Exponential, Stagnant

(D) Linear, Polynomial

Q10. In "Kolkhoz" type of farming, which was practiced in the former Soviet Union, the primary characteristic was:

(A) Individual ownership of land with government-subsidized seeds.

(B) Social ownership of the means of production and collective labor.

(C) Large-scale plantation of tea and coffee for export.

(D) Nomadic herding in the tundra regions.

Q11. Which of the following is a "Weight-Losing" industry that is typically located near the source of raw materials?

(A) Cotton Textile Industry

(B) Iron and Steel Industry

(C) Footloose Electronic Industry

(D) Software Development Firms

Q12. The "Rhur Coalfield" of Germany has undergone a transition from traditional heavy industry to "New Industrial Landscapes." This process is known as:

(A) Outsourcing

(B) Re-industrialization / Restructuring

(C) Primary Sector Dominance

(D) Agglomeration Diseconomies

Q13. What defines a "Quinary Activity" within the hierarchy of human activities?

(A) The extraction of minerals from the earth's crust.

(B) High-level decision-making and policy formulation by "Gold Collar" professionals.

(C) The provision of specialized services like banking and insurance.

(D) The processing of raw materials into finished goods.

Q14. In Von Thünen's model of agricultural land use, the innermost ring surrounding a city is dedicated to:

(A) Extensive grain farming.

(B) Firewood and lumber production.

(C) Market gardening and fresh milk production.

(D) Ranching and livestock grazing.

Q15. The practice of "Transhumance" is most commonly associated with which activity?

(A) Commercial Grain Farming

(B) Nomadic Herding

(C) Mediterranean Agriculture

(D) Viticulture

Q16. Why is "Mediterranean Agriculture" considered highly specialized and commercially profitable?

(A) It focuses on the mass production of staple cereal crops like wheat and rice.

(B) It specializes in viticulture (citrus fruits and grapes) for the global wine industry.

(C) It relies entirely on monsoon rainfall for irrigation.

(D) It is based on the slash-and-burn technique.

Q17. The "North Atlantic Sea Route" is the busiest in the world. Which two regions does it primarily connect?

(A) Eastern Asia and Western North America

(B) North-Eastern USA and North-Western Europe

(C) South America and Africa

(D) Australia and Southern Europe

Q18. Which of the following inland waterways serves as the world's most heavily used international waterway, connecting the industrial heartland of Germany to the North Sea?

(A) The Volga Waterway

(B) The Rhine Waterway

(C) The Mississippi Waterway

(D) The Great Lakes–St. Lawrence Seaway

(E)

Q19. What is the primary role of the World Trade Organization (WTO) in the context of international trade?

(A) To provide high-interest loans to developing nations for infrastructure.

(B) To act as a global forum for negotiating trade agreements and resolving disputes.

(C) To fix the exchange rates of global currencies.

(D) To prohibit all forms of international trade in services.

Q20. "Cyber Space" or the "Internet" has revolutionized communication. Technically, it is a world of electronic computerized space that is:

(A) Restricted by physical international boundaries.

(B) Encompassed by the term "Hyper-text" and exists without physical location.

(C) Solely used for primary sector data collection.

(D) Dependent entirely on land-based fiber optics without satellite aid.

Q21. If a ship is traveling from Port Said to Port Suez, which man-made maritime feature is it crossing?

(A) The Panama Canal

(B) The Suez Canal

(C) The Kiel Canal

(D) The English Channel

Q22. The "Trans-Siberian Railway," the longest railway line in the world, runs between which two major cities?

(A) Moscow and Vladivostok

(B) St. Petersburg and Tokyo

(C) Halifax and Vancouver

(D) Perth and Sydney

Q23. Which of the following "Outports" was specifically developed to relieve the pressure on the main port of Kolkata?

(A) Haldia

(B) Kandla

(C) Paradip

(D) Vishakhapatnam

Q24. The "Big Trunk Route" refers to which of the following?

(A) The Mediterranean-Indian Ocean Sea Route

(B) The North Atlantic Sea Route

(C) The Cape of Good Hope Route

(D) The Panama Canal Route

Q25. Identify the correct location of the "Silicon Valley" of the world.

(A) Near New York, USA

(B) Near San Francisco, California, USA

(C) Near London, UK

(D) Near Tokyo, Japan

Q26. The "Phase of Stagnant Growth" in India's demographic history (1901–1921) was characterized by both high birth and death rates. Which factor was primarily responsible for the negative growth rate recorded in 1921?

(A) Large scale out-migration to British colonies.

(B) Widespread epidemics like Influenza and severe food shortages.

(C) The impact of the First World War on the male population.

(D) Rapid urbanization leading to smaller family sizes.

Q27. Which of the following states in India has the highest physiological density, and why is this metric considered more accurate than arithmetic density?

(A) Rajasthan; because it accounts for the vast desert expanse.

(B) West Bengal; because it relates total population to the total net cultivated area.

(C) Uttar Pradesh; because it relates total population to the total geographical area.

(D) Kerala; because it accounts for the high rate of literacy in rural areas.

Q28. In the context of "Working Population" in India, a "Main Worker" is defined by the Census of India as a person who works for at least:

(A) 100 days in a year.

(B) 183 days (or six months) in a year.

(C) 250 days in a year including paid leaves.

(D) 60 days during the peak agricultural season.

Q29. Which of the following linguistic families is spoken by the largest percentage of the Indian population?

(A) Austric (Nishada)

(B) Dravidian (Dravida)

(C) Sino-Tibetan (Kirata)

(D) Indo-European (Aryan)

Q30. The "Rural-Urban" composition of India shows that while urbanization is increasing, the degree of urbanization varies. Which of the following states has the highest percentage of its population living in urban areas as per the 2011 Census?

(A) Tamil Nadu

(B) Maharashtra

(C) Goa

(D) Gujarat

Q31. In the Ganga Plains, if you encounter a settlement where a large central village is surrounded by several smaller hamlets physically separated from the main unit but bearing the same name, this type is classified as:

(A) Clustered or Nucleated

(B) Semi-clustered or Fragmented

(C) Hamleted Settlements

(D) Dispersed or Isolated

Q32. Which of the following is a classic example of an "Administrative Town" in India?

(A) Jamshedpur

(B) Chandigarh

(C) Varanasi

(D) Roorkee

Q33. According to the classification of Indian towns based on functions, "Statutory Towns" are those that:

(A) Have a population exceeding 100,000.

(B) Are notified by the state government as having a municipality, corporation, or cantonment board.

(C) Have at least 75% of the male working population engaged in agriculture.

(D) Are historically significant as ancient capitals.

Q34. The "National Water Policy (2002)" emphasizes that water is a scarce natural resource. Which sector currently consumes the highest percentage of the total water resources in India?

(A) Domestic sector

(B) Industrial sector

(C) Agriculture (Irrigation)

(D) Energy (Hydro-power)

Q35. Which type of "Coal" is known as Brown Coal and is primarily found in Neyveli, Tamil Nadu?

(A) Anthracite

(B) Bituminous

(C) Lignite

(D) Peat

Q36. "Watershed Management" programs like 'Haryali' and 'Neeru-Meeru' aim at:

(A) Interlinking of major perennial rivers.

(B) Efficient management and conservation of surface and groundwater.

(C) Promoting intensive subsistence farming in arid zones.

(D) Constructing large dams for multi-purpose projects.

Q37. The "Bhadravati Steel Plant" (VISL) is unique because it was initially located away from coal fields. What was its original primary source of fuel?

(A) Natural Gas from Bombay High

(B) Charcoal from the surrounding forests

(C) Hydro-electricity from the Mahatma Gandhi Power Station

(D) Imported Coking Coal from Australia

Q38. In the context of Land Use, "Current Fallow" refers to land that is:

(A) Left uncultivated for more than 5 years.

(B) Left uncultivated for 1 to 5 years.

(C) Left uncultivated for one or less than one agricultural year.

(D) Cultivated more than once in an agricultural year.

Q39. Which of the following is a "Non-conventional" energy source that India is aggressively pursuing via the "International Solar Alliance"?

(A) Nuclear Energy

(B) Natural Gas

(C) Solar Energy

(D) Thermal Power

Q40. The "Integrated Tribal Development Project" (ITDP) in Bharmour region of Himachal Pradesh focused on which specific tribal community?

(A) Bhils

(B) Gonds

(C) Gaddis

(D) Santhals

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.

The transport of liquid and gaseous materials, such as mineral oil and natural gas, via pipelines is a hallmark of modern industrial efficiency. Pipelines like the 'Big Inch' in the USA carry petroleum from the oil wells of the Gulf of Mexico to the North-Eastern States. While the initial cost of laying pipelines is prohibitive, the long-term operational costs are minimal, characterized by low energy consumption and the absence of trans-shipment losses. However, pipelines are fixed and inflexible, making them geopolitical targets and sensitive to international trade disputes. In the modern era, the shift toward 'Slurry' pipelines—where coal or iron ore is mixed with water—is expanding the reach of this mode beyond just fluids, challenging traditional rail dominance in heavy bulk transport.

Q41. The "Big Inch" pipeline is a vital artery for the American economy. Based on the passage and your geographical knowledge, which specific flow does it facilitate?

(A) Natural gas from the Appalachian Mountains to California.

(B) Crude oil from the Gulf of Mexico to the industrial North-East.

(C) Refined gasoline from Texas to the Canadian border.

(D) Water for irrigation from the Mississippi River to the Great Basin.

Q42. The passage mentions "Slurry" pipelines as an emerging trend. Which of the following best describes the process of transporting solid minerals through these pipelines?

(A) Converting solids into a gaseous state through high-temperature heating.

(B) Breaking minerals into small particles and mixing them with water to create a fluid-like mixture.

(C) Using high-speed magnetic levitation inside the vacuum-sealed pipes.

(D) Transporting raw ore using pressurized air currents without any liquid medium.

Q43. What is identified in the text as the primary disadvantage of pipeline transport compared to road or rail transport?

(A) High operational and maintenance costs over long distances.

(B) Significant loss of material due to evaporation and leakage during transit.

(C) Inflexibility in capacity expansion and the fixed nature of the route.

(D) High carbon footprint compared to traditional maritime shipping.

Q44. Assertion (A): Pipelines are increasingly preferred for international energy trade despite their high initial setup cost.
Reason (R): They provide a continuous, uninterrupted supply of energy and are unaffected by weather conditions or traffic congestion.

(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.

(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.

(C) A is true but R is false.

(D) A is false but R is true.

Q45. In the context of "Tertiary Activities," which professional category would be responsible for the logistical management and software monitoring of global pipeline networks?

(A) Red-collar workers

(B) Blue-collar workers

(C) White-collar workers

(D) Gold-collar workers

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 concept of a 'New Industrial Landscape' is most visible in regions once dominated by heavy 'Smoke-stack' industries. The Ruhr region of Germany and the Pittsburgh-Lake Erie region of the USA, formerly known as 'Rust Belts,' have undergone significant industrial restructuring. Due to the depletion of local high-grade iron ore and coal, and the rising costs of environmental compliance, these regions have shifted from traditional iron and steel smelting to high-technology 'Technopolies.' This transition is characterized by a shift from 'Blue-collar' manual labor to 'White-collar' and 'Gold-collar' professional services. In India, a similar shift is observed in the Chotanagpur Plateau, where the emphasis is moving from raw material export to integrated value-addition, guided by principles of sustainable development to mitigate land degradation and water pollution.

Q46. The term "Rust Belt" is used in the passage to describe regions that have:

(A) Become global leaders in agricultural biotechnology.

(B) Experienced industrial decline due to the obsolescence of traditional heavy manufacturing.

(C) Successfully eliminated all forms of environmental pollution.

(D) Transitioned entirely to nomadic herding and primary activities.

Q47. Which of the following is a primary "Locational Factor" that caused the traditional

Iron and Steel industry to move away from the Pittsburgh region toward coastal areas?

(A) The discovery of massive coal reserves under the Atlantic Ocean.

(B) The "Weight-Losing" nature of raw materials and the exhaustion of local high-grade ores.

(C) A global ban on the use of inland waterways for industrial transport.

(D) The preference of "Gold-collar" workers to live in tropical climates.

Q48. The passage mentions "Technopolies." What distinguishes a Technopoly from a traditional industrial cluster?

(A) It relies exclusively on manual labor and heavy machinery.

(B) It is a self-sustained area of high-tech manufacturing and research and development (R&D).

(C) It is always located near coal mines to ensure a constant power supply.

(D) It focuses primarily on the extraction of primary resources like timber and minerals.

Q49. In the context of the Chotanagpur Plateau mentioned in the passage, which environmental challenge is most directly linked to intensive mining and industrialization?

(A) Desertification due to lack of rainfall.

(B) Land degradation and the contamination of groundwater with heavy metals.

(C) Increased snowfall causing disruptions in rail transport.

(D) Over-grazing by migratory pastoralists.

Q50. Assertion (A): The shift from "Blue-collar" to "Gold-collar" jobs indicates a transition toward a knowledge-based economy.
Reason (R): Secondary activities are becoming more profitable than Quaternary and Quinary activities in developed industrial regions.

(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.

(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.

(C) A is true but R is false.

(D) A is false but R is true.

Detailed Solutions

Q1.

Solution

Concept: Neodeterminism, proposed by Griffith Taylor, represents a balanced view between environmental determinism and possibilism. It suggests that nature sets certain limits or constraints on human activities, but within those limits humans have the freedom to make choices and modify their environment. It is often explained through the "Stop-and-Go Determinism" model, where nature regulates the pace and direction of development rather than fully controlling or completely allowing unrestricted human action.

Solution: The question asks for the best illustration of neodeterminism. Option (A) represents pure possibilism, where humans are completely free, which is incorrect. Option (C) refers to regional differentiation, unrelated to neodeterminism. Option (D) is technological determinism, which ignores environmental constraints. Option (B) correctly reflects Griffith Taylor's idea that nature acts like a traffic signal, allowing or restricting human progress depending on environmental conditions, but not fully controlling it. This aligns with the balanced approach of neodeterminism.

Final Answer: Nature acts as a "Stop-and-Go" traffic light model

Answer: (B)

Q2.

Solution

Concept: Schools of geographical thought differ in their focus on human society, environment, and ideology. The Welfare School focuses on human well-being, health, and improving living conditions through spatial planning. The Radical School is based on Marxist theory and emphasizes inequality, class struggle, and capitalist exploitation. The Behavioral School focuses on human decision-making, perception, and cognitive processes in spatial behavior, highlighting how individuals interpret and respond to their environment.

Solution: The correct matching requires aligning each school with its core philosophy. Welfare School corresponds to concern for social well-being and health (a). Radical School is associated with Marxian theory explaining poverty and inequality (c). Behavioral School focuses on human perception and agency (b). Therefore, the correct combination is I-a, II-c, III-b. Other options incorrectly interchange Marxist and behavioral concepts or misplace welfare geography.

Final Answer: I-a, II-c, III-b

Answer: (A)

Q3.

Solution

Concept: The Quantitative Revolution in geography (1950s–1960s) introduced statistical, mathematical, and model-based approaches to spatial analysis. While it improved precision and scientific rigor, it was later criticized for being overly abstract and "dehumanized." Critics argued that it ignored human emotions, perceptions, subjective experiences, and cultural factors, reducing geography to numerical patterns and spatial laws without considering real human behavior in lived environments.

Solution: The question asks when geography was criticized for being dehumanized. This criticism emerged mainly during and after the peak of the Quantitative Revolution in the late 1950s to late 1960s. During this phase, geographers relied heavily on models and spatial statistics, often neglecting humanistic and behavioral perspectives. This led to the rise of humanistic and behavioral geography later. Hence, option (A) is correct.

Final Answer: Late 1950s to late 1960s

Answer: (A)

Q4.

Solution

Concept: The Demographic Transition Model (DTM) explains population change through stages based on birth rates and death rates. Stage II, also called the Early Expanding Stage, is characterized by a rapid decline in death rates due to improvements in healthcare, sanitation, and nutrition, while birth rates remain high. This imbalance leads to a sharp increase in population, known as population explosion.

Solution: In Stage II, societies experience improved medical facilities, vaccination, and better food supply, which significantly reduce mortality rates. However, cultural and social factors keep fertility rates high, resulting in rapid population growth. Option (B) correctly describes this situation. Other options either describe Stage I (high fluctuating rates), Stage III (declining fertility), or urbanized low-growth societies. Therefore, B is correct.

Final Answer: Birth rates remain high while death rates decline

Answer: (B)

Q5.

Solution

Concept: The Age-Sex Pyramid is a graphical representation of population structure by age and sex. A narrow base with a tapering top indicates low birth rates and high life expectancy, leading to an ageing population. This structure is typical of developed countries undergoing demographic transition, where population growth is slow or even declining due to reduced fertility rates and improved healthcare systems.

Solution: A pyramid with a narrow base suggests fewer young people and low fertility rates, while a tapering top indicates a higher proportion of elderly population. This is characteristic of developed nations such as Japan, where population growth is stagnant or declining. Option (B) correctly identifies this pattern. Developing countries like Nigeria have wide bases due to high birth rates, making other options incorrect.

Final Answer: Developed nation like Japan with declining population

Answer: (B)

Q6.

Solution

Concept: Migration is influenced by push and pull factors in human geography. Push factors are negative conditions in the place of origin that force people to leave, such as poverty, unemployment, political instability, natural disasters, and lack of basic services. Pull factors are positive attributes of the destination that attract migrants, such as better employment opportunities, higher wages, improved healthcare, education, safety, and overall better living standards. Migration decisions are usually the result of a combination of both forces.

Solution: The question asks for a pull factor. Options (A), (B), and (D) are clearly push factors because they describe adverse conditions like disasters, political unrest, and lack of facilities in the origin region. These conditions force people to migrate. Option (C) represents a positive attraction in the destination area, offering better employment opportunities and stable income. This is a classic example of a pull factor that attracts migrants toward economically developed regions. Hence, option (C) is correct.

Final Answer: Better employment opportunities and regular wages

Answer: (C)

Q7.

Solution

Concept: In human geography, population growth and development are distinct concepts. Growth refers to a measurable change in population size or economic indicators and is value-neutral, meaning it can be positive or negative. Development, on the other hand, is a qualitative concept that reflects improvements in living standards, health, education, and overall well-being. It is value-positive and focuses on the distribution of resources, equality, and quality of life rather than just numerical increase.

Solution: The question differentiates growth from development. Option (A) is incorrect because it reverses the definitions. Option (C) incorrectly links growth and development to specific demographic indicators. Option (D) is also incorrect as both terms are not synonymous. Option (B) correctly states that growth is value-neutral and can be positive or negative, while development is always value-positive, indicating improvement in human welfare. This distinction is fundamental in development geography. Hence, option (B) is correct.

Final Answer: Growth is value-neutral, development is value-positive

Answer: (B)

Q8.

Solution

Concept: The Human Development Index (HDI), developed by UNDP, measures human development using three key dimensions: health, education, and standard of living. The knowledge dimension specifically reflects educational attainment and access to knowledge. It is measured using indicators such as mean years of schooling for adults and expected years of schooling for children. These indicators capture both current educational status and future educational potential of a population.

Solution: The question asks which indicator represents the knowledge dimension of HDI. Option (A) relates to health, not education. Option (C) measures income or standard of living. Option (D) is not part of HDI methodology. Option (B), which includes mean years of schooling and expected years of schooling, correctly represents the knowledge dimension as defined by UNDP. These two indicators together reflect both educational attainment and access to education. Therefore, option (B) is correct.

Final Answer: Mean years of schooling and expected years of schooling

Answer: (B)

Q9.

Solution

Concept: Thomas Malthus proposed a theory of population growth stating that population increases faster than food supply. According to his model, population grows in a geometric progression, meaning it increases rapidly in a multiplicative manner over time. In contrast, food supply increases in an arithmetic progression, meaning it grows slowly in a linear and additive manner. This imbalance leads to pressure on resources, eventually resulting in checks like famine, disease, or war.

Solution: The question is based on Malthusian theory. Option (A) reverses the correct relationship. Option (C) and (D) are not standard Malthusian terms. Option (B) correctly states that population increases in a geometric ratio while food supply increases in an arithmetic ratio. This fundamental assumption forms the basis of Malthus's argument about population pressure on resources. Therefore, option (B) is correct.

Final Answer: Geometric, Arithmetic

Answer: (B)

Q10.

Solution

Concept: Kolkhoz was a form of collective farming practiced in the former Soviet Union under a socialist economic system. In this system, land and means of production were collectively owned by the members of the farm, but the state had significant control over planning and output. Farmers worked together as a cooperative unit and shared the produce based on labor contribution. This system was designed to replace individual land ownership with collective agricultural production.

Solution: The question asks about the primary characteristic of Kolkhoz farming. Option (A) is incorrect because it refers to individual ownership, which is opposite of collectivization. Option (C) refers to plantation agriculture, and option (D) refers to nomadic herding, both unrelated. Option (B) correctly describes Kolkhoz as a system of social ownership of means of production with collective labor, where farmers worked jointly and shared outputs. Hence, option (B) is correct.

Final Answer: Social ownership and collective labor

Answer: (B)

Q11.

Solution

Concept: Weight-losing (or bulk-reducing) industries are those in which the raw material is heavier or bulkier than the finished product. Transportation costs are a significant factor in locating such industries. These industries tend to locate close to the source of raw materials to minimize transport costs. Classic examples include metals, paper, and sugar refining. By being near raw material sources, industries reduce the expense and logistical complexity associated with moving heavy materials to processing centers.

Solution: The question asks for a weight-losing industry. Option (A) refers to cotton textiles, which can be near either source or market, but the raw cotton is lighter after processing. Option (C) and (D) are footloose or service-based industries, which are location-independent. Option (B), Iron and Steel Industry, is a textbook weight-losing industry because iron ore and coal are heavy and bulky, and the final steel product is lighter relative to its inputs. Therefore, locating near the coal or iron ore sources reduces transport costs, fitting the definition of a weight-losing industry. Hence, option (B) is correct.

Final Answer: Iron and Steel Industry

Answer: (B)

Q12.

Solution

Concept: Industrial landscapes are dynamic and evolve over time. Traditional heavy industries, such as coal and steel production, often dominate industrial regions due to abundant raw materials. Over time, economic, technological, and environmental pressures may lead to a shift in industrial activity. The transformation of older industrial regions into new industrial landscapes involves restructuring, modernization, or diversification of industrial activity, often emphasizing cleaner technologies, high-value industries, and service-based sectors.

Solution: The question refers to the Ruhr Coalfield in Germany. Historically, it was dominated by coal mining and steel production. With the decline of coal and heavy industry, the region underwent a shift toward modern, diversified industrial and service sectors. This transformation process is known as re-industrialization or restructuring. Option (A), outsourcing, refers to relocation of production abroad, which is not specific to the Ruhr transition. Option (C), primary sector dominance, is historically true but not the process. Option (D), agglomeration diseconomies, refers to negative effects of industrial clustering. Therefore, option (B) correctly identifies the transition process as re-industrialization/restructuring.

Final Answer: Re-industrialization / Restructuring

Answer: (B)

Q13.

Solution

Concept: Quinary activities represent the highest level of human economic activity. They involve decision-making, policy formulation, and top-level management performed by professionals often called "Gold Collar" workers. This sector is distinct from quaternary activities, which provide specialized knowledge services like research or finance. Quinary activities shape economic and social policy, influencing regional, national, and global systems. Examples include government executives, CEOs, and university administrators who make strategic decisions impacting society.
Solution: The question asks which activity represents a quinary activity. Option (A) is primary sector extraction, not quinary. Option (C) refers to quaternary service provision like banking, which is specialized but not decision-focused. Option (D) is secondary sector manufacturing. Option (B) correctly identifies high-level decision-making and policy formulation by "Gold Collar" professionals. Quinary activities are characterized by strategic influence over the economy and society, rather than routine service provision or production. Therefore, option (B) is correct.
Final Answer: High-level decision-making and policy formulation

Answer: (B)

Q14.

Solution

Concept: Von Thünen's model of agricultural land use explains how different types of farming are arranged around a central city based on transportation costs and perishability. Intensive, high-value crops that require rapid transport and yield high revenue are located closest to the city. As distance from the city increases, less perishable and lower-value products are grown. The model demonstrates the spatial organization of agricultural production in relation to urban markets.
Solution: The question asks which activity is in the innermost ring. Option (A) extensive grain farming is located farther from cities due to low perishability. Option (B) firewood is less perishable and farther out. Option (D) ranching occurs at the periphery due to low land value and space needs. Option (C), market gardening and fresh milk production, is perishable and high-value, requiring rapid transport to the city. According to Von Thünen's model, these products occupy the innermost ring to minimize transportation costs and maximize freshness and profit. Hence, option (C) is correct.
Final Answer: Market gardening and fresh milk production

Answer: (C)

Q15.

Solution

Concept: Transhumance is a form of pastoralism involving the seasonal movement of livestock between highland and lowland pastures. This practice allows herders to exploit seasonal availability of grazing resources, maintain livestock health, and optimize yields. It is distinct from nomadic herding, which may have no fixed seasonal pattern. Transhumance is closely associated with mountainous regions, such as the Alps or Himalayas, and is an important strategy for sustainable livestock management in challenging terrains.

Solution: The question asks which activity is linked to transhumance. Option (A), commercial grain farming, involves stationary crop cultivation. Option (C), Mediterranean agriculture, refers to horticulture in temperate climates. Option (D), viticulture, is grape cultivation. Option (B), nomadic herding, correctly reflects transhumance because herders move livestock seasonally between summer and winter pastures to maximize grazing efficiency. Therefore, option (B) is correct.

Final Answer: Nomadic Herding

Answer: (B)

Q16.

Solution

Concept: Mediterranean agriculture is a highly specialized form of commercial farming practiced in regions with a Mediterranean climate. It focuses on high-value crops like grapes, olives, and citrus fruits, which are well-suited to dry summers and mild, wet winters. These crops require intensive labor, careful cultivation, and irrigation management. The produce is often processed into value-added products such as wine, olive oil, and canned fruits, making the system economically profitable and globally traded.

Solution: The question asks why Mediterranean agriculture is specialized and commercially profitable. Option (A) refers to staple cereals like wheat or rice, which are low-value crops and widely grown, so this is incorrect. Option (C) emphasizes reliance on monsoon, which does not apply to Mediterranean regions with rainfall patterns distinct from monsoons. Option (D) refers to slash-and-burn, unrelated to intensive Mediterranean farming. Option (B) correctly identifies viticulture, citrus, and grapes targeted at the global wine and fruit markets. These crops are high-value, labor-intensive, and have strong export demand, making Mediterranean agriculture both specialized and profitable. Hence, option (B) is correct.

Final Answer: Specializes in viticulture (citrus and grapes) for global wine industry

Answer: (B)

Q17.

Solution

Concept: The North Atlantic Sea Route is one of the busiest maritime corridors in global shipping. It serves as the primary connection between North America and Europe, facilitating the transport of manufactured goods, raw materials, and energy resources. This route is economically significant because it links industrialized regions, supports international trade, and enables efficient cargo movement. Its strategic importance has been enhanced by containerization and modern shipping infrastructure.

Solution: The question asks which regions the North Atlantic Sea Route connects. Option (A) links Eastern Asia and Western North America, which is incorrect because that is the Pacific route. Option (C) South America–Africa and Option (D) Australia–Southern Europe are not relevant to the North Atlantic. Option (B) correctly identifies North-Eastern USA and North-Western Europe as the primary connected regions. This corridor is heavily used for transatlantic trade between major industrial and consumer markets, making it the world's busiest shipping route. Therefore, option (B) is correct.

Final Answer: North-Eastern USA and North-Western Europe

Answer: (B)

Q18.

Solution

Concept: Inland waterways are vital for transporting bulk goods efficiently. The Rhine Waterway is the world's most heavily used international inland waterway. It connects Germany's industrial heartland to the North Sea, facilitating export of steel, coal, chemicals, and manufactured goods. By reducing transport costs, inland waterways enhance industrial competitiveness and contribute to regional economic integration. Their strategic location and navigability make them critical for trade within Europe and beyond.

Solution: The question asks for the heavily used international waterway linking Germany's industrial area to the North Sea. Option (A), Volga Waterway, is in Russia and flows into the Caspian. Option (C), Mississippi, is in the USA. Option (D), Great Lakes–St. Lawrence Seaway, is in North America. Option (B), Rhine Waterway, correctly identifies the key European industrial waterway. It supports Germany's industrial exports and connects inland cities to international markets. Therefore, option (B) is correct.

Final Answer: The Rhine Waterway

Answer: (B)

Q19.

Solution

Concept: The World Trade Organization (WTO) is a global institution that regulates international trade between countries. Its core functions include providing a forum for negotiating trade agreements, monitoring trade policies, and resolving disputes. The WTO promotes free trade by reducing barriers like tariffs, quotas, and subsidies. It does not handle financial loans, currency exchange rates, or prohibit trade in services, but rather ensures transparency, predictability, and fairness in global commerce.

Solution: The question asks about the primary role of WTO. Option (A) is incorrect because WTO does not provide loans; that is the role of the World Bank or IMF. Option (C) about fixing exchange rates is also incorrect. Option (D), prohibiting trade in services, is contrary to WTO goals. Option (B) correctly identifies WTO's role as a global forum for negotiating trade agreements and resolving disputes among member countries. It ensures a rules-based system, allowing smooth and predictable international trade. Hence, option (B) is correct.

Final Answer: Acts as a global forum for trade agreements and dispute resolution

Answer: (B)

Q20.

Solution

Concept: Cyberspace refers to the virtual environment created by computer networks, especially the Internet. It exists in electronic, digital space and is not confined by physical borders. Through cyberspace, information, communication, and services can be accessed globally via computers, mobile devices, and satellites. Hypertext and other digital technologies allow users to navigate, interact, and exchange information seamlessly. It underpins global connectivity, e-commerce, and knowledge sharing in a non-physical environment.

Solution: The question asks about the technical nature of cyberspace. Option (A) is incorrect because cyberspace is not restricted by national boundaries. Option (C) limits it to primary sector data collection, which is incorrect. Option (D) suggests full dependence on land-based infrastructure without satellites, which is inaccurate. Option (B) correctly states that cyberspace exists in hyper-text and electronic space without a fixed physical location. This highlights its global, virtual, and interconnected nature, enabling communication and services worldwide. Hence, option (B) is correct.

Final Answer: Encompassed by "Hyper-text" and exists without physical location

Answer: (B)

Q21.

Solution

Concept: The Suez Canal is a man-made waterway in Egypt connecting the Mediterranean Sea to the Red Sea. It enables ships to bypass the long journey around Africa via the Cape of Good Hope, significantly reducing travel time between Europe and Asia. Constructed in the 19th century, it is one of the world's most strategic and heavily used maritime routes for international trade and global shipping, particularly oil and container cargo.

Solution: The question asks which maritime feature a ship crosses from Port Said to Port Suez. Option (A), the Panama Canal, is in Central America. Option (C), Kiel Canal, is in Germany. Option (D), English Channel, is between England and France. Option (B), the Suez Canal, correctly connects the Mediterranean Sea at Port Said to the Red Sea at Port Suez. This artificial canal allows ships to avoid circumnavigating Africa, greatly facilitating Europe–Asia trade. Therefore, option (B) is correct.

Final Answer: The Suez Canal

Answer: (B)

Q22.

Solution

Concept: The Trans-Siberian Railway is the world's longest railway line, spanning nearly 9,300 km across Russia. It connects European Russia to the Russian Far East, facilitating transportation of passengers, goods, and resources across the vast Siberian expanse. The railway plays a key role in regional economic development, trade, and integration, linking remote industrial, agricultural, and urban centers with major population hubs and ports.

Solution: The question asks for the endpoints of the Trans-Siberian Railway. Option (B) lists St. Petersburg and Tokyo, which is incorrect as Tokyo is in Japan. Option (C), Halifax–Vancouver, is in Canada. Option (D), Perth–Sydney, is in Australia. Option (A), Moscow and Vladivostok, is correct, spanning the breadth of Russia from Europe to the Pacific. This line supports both passenger travel and freight transport, linking industrial and natural resource regions. Therefore, option (A) is correct.

Final Answer: Moscow and Vladivostok

Answer: (A)

Q23.

Solution

Concept: Outports are secondary or auxiliary ports developed to ease congestion at major primary ports. They help distribute cargo traffic, improve logistics, and reduce delays. These ports are often located near the main port and serve regional industries and shipping. Their establishment is crucial for efficient port management, maritime trade, and supporting hinterland industrial activity, especially in high-density shipping regions.

Solution: The question asks which outport was developed to relieve pressure on Kolkata. Option (B), Kandla, serves western India; (C), Paradip, is on the east coast but serves Odisha; (D), Vishakhapatnam, is farther south-east. Option (A), Haldia, was specifically constructed near Kolkata to handle increasing cargo volumes and industrial freight, functioning as an auxiliary port. By accommodating bulk shipments and container traffic, Haldia eases congestion at Kolkata and supports regional economic activity. Therefore, option (A) is correct.

Final Answer: Haldia

Answer: (A)

Q24.

Solution

Concept: The "Big Trunk Route" refers to one of the world's major long-distance sea trade routes. It facilitates transportation of goods between Europe and South Asia, connecting markets through strategic maritime corridors. Such routes are historically significant, shaping trade patterns, global supply chains, and industrial connectivity. The term emphasizes the continuous, heavily trafficked sea route rather than individual segments, highlighting its economic importance in global commerce.

Solution: The question asks which route is called the Big Trunk Route. Option (B), the North Atlantic Sea Route, connects Europe and North America, not Asia. Option (C), Cape of Good Hope, is a longer route around Africa. Option (D), Panama Canal, connects the Atlantic and Pacific in Central America. Option (A), the Mediterranean–Indian Ocean Sea Route, correctly identifies the Big Trunk Route linking Europe and South Asia via the Mediterranean, Red Sea, and Arabian Sea, historically vital for trade between these regions. Therefore, option (A) is correct.

Final Answer: Mediterranean–Indian Ocean Sea Route

Answer: (A)

Q25.

Solution

Concept: Silicon Valley is a global hub for high-technology innovation, research, and entrepreneurship. It is located in the southern part of the San Francisco Bay Area, California, USA. The region hosts major tech companies, startups, venture capital firms, and research institutions. Its ecosystem supports the development of semiconductors, software, electronics, and IT services, driving global technological advancement and economic growth.

Solution: The question asks for the location of the world's Silicon Valley. Option (A), near New York, is incorrect. Option (C), London, UK, and Option (D), Tokyo, Japan, are also incorrect. Option (B), near San Francisco, California, USA, is correct. The region earned the name Silicon Valley due to the concentration of silicon chip manufacturers and tech firms. It remains a center of innovation, entrepreneurship, and technological development, attracting talent and investment globally. Hence, option (B) is correct.

Final Answer: Near San Francisco, California, USA

Answer: (B)

Q26.

Solution

Concept: The "Phase of Stagnant Growth" in India (1901–1921) refers to a period when population growth was minimal due to both high birth and high death rates. Mortality shocks, epidemics, famines, and poor healthcare prevented natural population increase. External factors like wars or emigration had minor impact compared to health and nutrition crises. This phase illustrates how demographic trends are shaped by mortality and environmental challenges rather than fertility alone.

Solution: The question asks about the primary factor behind negative growth in 1921. Option (A), large-scale migration, had limited demographic impact. Option (C), WWI, affected mainly male adults but not enough to cause nationwide negative growth. Option (D), rapid urbanization, is historically inaccurate for early 20th century India. Option (B) is correct: widespread epidemics such as influenza, combined with severe food shortages, led to extremely high death rates. These crises surpassed the birth rates, resulting in a negative population growth recorded in the 1921 Census. Therefore, option (B) is correct.

Final Answer: Widespread epidemics and severe food shortages

Answer: (B)

Q27.

Solution

Concept: Physiological density measures the number of people per unit of arable or cultivable land. Unlike arithmetic density, which considers the total geographical area, physiological density provides a more accurate measure of population pressure on productive land. States with fertile land and dense populations, such as West Bengal, often have high physiological density, indicating potential stress on agriculture, food security, and land resources compared to sparsely populated or desert regions.

Solution: The question asks which state has the highest physiological density. Option (A), Rajasthan, has large desert areas and low arable land, so density is low. Option (C), Uttar Pradesh, while populous, has lower physiological density compared to West Bengal when accounting for net cultivated area. Option (D), Kerala, is densely populated but smaller in arable land context. Option (B), West Bengal, has extensive population living on limited cultivable land, resulting in the highest physiological density. This metric is more meaningful than arithmetic density because it reflects population pressure on productive land rather than the entire geographic area. Hence, option (B) is correct.

Final Answer: West Bengal; relates population to cultivated area

Answer: (B)

Q28.

Solution

Concept: In India, the Census defines "Working Population" categories to understand economic participation. A "Main Worker" is someone engaged in productive work for a significant part of the year, while a "Marginal Worker" works for shorter durations. This distinction is important for policy-making, labor statistics, and socio-economic analysis. Main Workers indicate stable employment contributing consistently to household income and the national economy.

Solution: The question asks about the minimum duration defining a Main Worker. Option (A), 100 days, and Option (D), 60 days, are too short and fall under Marginal Workers. Option (C), 250 days, is not the official benchmark. Option (B) correctly states 183 days or six months, as per the Census of India. Individuals working at least half a year are categorized as Main Workers, reflecting sustained economic activity. This helps planners understand the core labor force, distinguish from seasonal or casual labor, and design employment-related policies. Therefore, option (B) is correct.

Final Answer: 183 days (or six months) in a year

Answer: (B)

Q29.

Solution

Concept: India's linguistic diversity is categorized into major families: Indo-European (Aryan), Dravidian, Austric, and Sino-Tibetan. Indo-European languages, particularly Hindi, Bengali, Punjabi, and Marathi, are spoken by the largest proportion of the population. Dravidian languages dominate southern India. Linguistic family studies are important for cultural geography, language policy, education, and regional planning, helping understand population distribution and communication patterns across the country.

Solution: The question asks which linguistic family is spoken by the largest percentage of Indians. Option (A), Austric, has a small tribal population. Option (B), Dravidian, is concentrated in the south. Option (C), Sino-Tibetan, is spoken in northeastern states by a minority. Option (D), Indo-European, covers northern, central, and western India, including Hindi, Bengali, Marathi, and Punjabi, constituting the largest share of India's population. Hence, option (D) is correct.

Final Answer: Indo-European (Aryan)

Answer: (D)

Q30.

Solution

Concept: The Rural–Urban composition of India reflects the proportion of population residing in towns and cities versus villages. Urbanization varies across states due to economic development, industrialization, migration, and infrastructure. Census data captures the degree of urbanization, which is critical for urban planning, resource allocation, and service delivery. States with high urban population percentages, though small in area, indicate concentrated economic and social development in cities.

Solution: The question asks which state had the highest urban population percentage in 2011. Option (A), Tamil Nadu, and Option (B), Maharashtra, have significant urban centers but not the highest proportion. Option (D), Gujarat, also lags behind. Option (C), Goa, a small state with extensive urban settlement, has the highest proportion of urban residents. The data shows that over half of Goa's population lives in urban areas, reflecting concentrated urbanization, tourism, and industrial activities. Hence, option (C) is correct.

Final Answer: Goa

Answer: (C)

Q31.

Solution

Concept: Settlement patterns in the Ganga Plains vary according to land use, social organization, and agricultural practices. A central village surrounded by smaller hamlets of the same name represents a hierarchical structure in settlement. These hamlets are physically separate but functionally connected to the main village. Such patterns indicate clustered habitation in fertile plains, facilitating cooperation in agriculture and sharing of community resources, while maintaining distinct hamlet identities.

Solution: The question asks about settlements with a large central village and surrounding smaller units bearing the same name. Option (A), Clustered/Nucleated, refers to tightly grouped villages without separate hamlets. Option (D), Dispersed/Isolated, is the opposite of the pattern described. Option (B), Semi-clustered/Fragmented, refers to loosely connected or scattered units but not necessarily named the same. Option (C), Hamleted Settlements, correctly identifies this pattern: a main village surrounded by hamlets physically separate yet associated by name. This is common in Ganga Plains due to fertile land, irrigation, and socio-economic organization. Therefore, option (C) is correct.

Final Answer: Hamleted Settlements

Answer: (C)

Q32.

Solution

Concept: Administrative towns in India are planned urban centers that serve as seats of government or public administration. These towns often have carefully designed layouts, infrastructure, and public institutions. Chandigarh is a classic example, designed as a modern city and serving as the capital of two states. Administrative towns are distinguished from industrial, commercial, or historical towns by their governance function and urban planning principles.

Solution: The question asks for an example of an Administrative Town. Option (A), Jamshedpur, is primarily an industrial town. Option (C), Varanasi, is a historical and religious city. Option (D), Roorkee, is known for education and engineering institutions. Option (B), Chandigarh, is the planned capital of Punjab and Haryana, designed by Le Corbusier to serve as an administrative hub. Its layout, governance, and urban planning make it the archetype of an administrative town in India. Therefore, option (B) is correct.

Final Answer: Chandigarh

Answer: (B)

Q33.

Solution

Concept: Statutory Towns in India are settlements officially notified by the state government to have a municipality, corporation, or cantonment board. This classification is based on legal recognition rather than population size or occupational structure. Such towns receive urban governance, civic infrastructure, and development planning, differentiating them from census towns or rural settlements. Understanding statutory towns is essential for urban geography and policy planning.

Solution: The question asks about the criteria for Statutory Towns. Option (A), population exceeding 100,000, is not sufficient for statutory status. Option (C), majority male agricultural employment, is a rural criterion. Option (D), historical significance, does not determine statutory town status. Option (B) correctly states that Statutory Towns are those officially notified by state governments as having a municipality, corporation, or cantonment board. This legal recognition ensures proper administration, civic amenities, and planning. Therefore, option (B) is correct.

Final Answer: Notified by the state government as municipality/corporation/cantonment

Answer: (B)

Q34.

Solution

Concept: India's National Water Policy emphasizes the efficient and sustainable use of water, a scarce natural resource. The primary sectors of water consumption are agriculture, industry, domestic use, and energy. Agriculture dominates water consumption, mainly due to irrigation for crops such as rice, wheat, and sugarcane. Efficient water management in agriculture is crucial for food security, rural livelihoods, and sustainable resource use.

Solution: The question asks which sector consumes the highest share of India's water. Option (A), domestic, is small compared to agriculture. Option (B), industrial, consumes less than irrigation. Option (D), energy, mainly hydroelectric, accounts for minor usage. Option (C), agriculture (irrigation), is correct, as nearly 80–85

Final Answer: Agriculture (Irrigation)

Answer: (C)

Q35.

Solution

Concept: Brown Coal, also known as Lignite, is a low-rank coal with relatively high moisture and lower carbon content than bituminous or anthracite coal. It is primarily used for electricity generation and occurs in younger geological deposits. In India, Neyveli (Tamil Nadu) is a major lignite mining region. Understanding coal types is essential in resource geography, energy planning, and industrial development.

Solution: The question asks which coal type is brown coal found in Neyveli. Option (A), Anthracite, is the hardest coal with high carbon content. Option (B), Bituminous, is harder and blacker than lignite. Option (D), Peat, is uncompressed organic matter, a precursor to coal. Option (C), Lignite, is correct, known as brown coal, used in power plants, and mined extensively in Neyveli. Therefore, option (C) is correct.

Final Answer: Lignite

Answer: (C)

Q36.

Solution

Concept: Watershed management programs in India, such as 'Haryali' and 'Neeru-Meeru,' aim to conserve and efficiently manage surface and groundwater resources. They involve soil and water conservation, rainwater harvesting, afforestation, and sustainable agricultural practices. Effective watershed management ensures water availability for irrigation, drinking, and ecosystem maintenance while reducing flood and drought risks, supporting rural livelihoods and environmental sustainability.

Solution: The question asks the objective of watershed management programs. Option (A), interlinking major rivers, is a separate project. Option (C), intensive subsistence farming, and Option (D), constructing large dams, are not the focus of these programs. Option (B) correctly identifies efficient management and conservation of surface and groundwater. These programs promote local water harvesting, recharge of aquifers, soil conservation, and sustainable use, ensuring water security and environmental protection. Therefore, option (B) is correct.

Final Answer: Efficient management and conservation of surface and groundwater

Answer: (B)

Q37.

Solution

Concept: The Bhadravati Steel Plant (VISL) in Karnataka is one of India's earliest steel plants. Unlike most iron and steel plants, which are located near coal and iron ore fields, VISL was established in a forest-rich region. This required an alternative source of fuel for iron smelting in its early phase. The plant's location highlights early industrial experimentation in India, where proximity to raw materials was sometimes compromised due to availability of alternative energy resources.

Solution: The question asks about the original fuel source of Bhadravati Steel Plant. Option (A), natural gas from Bombay High, is incorrect as offshore gas production came much later. Option (C), hydro-electricity, supports power but not direct smelting fuel. Option (D), imported coking coal, is used in modern steel plants but was not the original source. Option (B), charcoal from surrounding forests, is correct because the plant initially relied on locally available forest wood converted into charcoal for smelting iron. This made Bhadravati unique among early steel plants in India. Therefore, option (B) is correct.

Final Answer: Charcoal from surrounding forests

Answer: (B)

Q38.

Solution

Concept: Land use classification in agriculture includes categories like net sown area, fallow land, and current fallow. Current fallow refers to agricultural land that is temporarily not cultivated during a particular agricultural year to restore soil fertility or due to economic, climatic, or labor-related reasons. It is different from long-term fallow land, which remains uncultivated for several years, often leading to natural regeneration of vegetation.

Solution: The question asks the meaning of current fallow land. Option (A) describes long-term fallow land exceeding five years. Option (B) refers to land left uncultivated for 1–5 years, which is not current fallow. Option (D) describes multiple cropping. Option (C) is correct because current fallow refers to land left uncultivated for one or less than one agricultural year, usually to regain soil fertility or due to temporary farming constraints. This is a short-term rest period within the agricultural cycle. Therefore, option (C) is correct.

Final Answer: Left uncultivated for one or less than one agricultural year

Answer: (C)

Q39.

Solution

Concept: Non-conventional energy sources are renewable and environmentally sustainable alternatives to fossil fuels. Solar energy is one of the most important renewable energy sources due to its abundance and low environmental impact. India has actively promoted solar power through national initiatives and international collaborations like the International Solar Alliance (ISA), aiming to reduce dependence on fossil fuels and promote clean energy transition globally.
Solution: The question asks which non-conventional energy source is promoted by the International Solar Alliance. Option (A), nuclear energy, is not renewable. Option (B), natural gas, is a fossil fuel. Option (D), thermal power, also relies on coal or fossil fuels. Option (C), solar energy, is correct because ISA is a global initiative led by India and France to promote solar energy adoption in sun-rich countries. It focuses on expanding solar infrastructure, reducing costs, and increasing global cooperation in renewable energy development. Therefore, option (C) is correct.
Final Answer: Solar Energy

Answer: (C)

Q40.

Solution

Concept: The Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP) is a government initiative aimed at improving the socio-economic conditions of tribal populations in India. It focuses on education, healthcare, livelihood, and infrastructure development in tribal-dominated regions. Bharmour region in Himachal Pradesh is a high-altitude tribal area where such programs are implemented to support sustainable development and reduce regional disparities among indigenous communities.
Solution: The question asks which tribal community the ITDP in Bharmour focuses on. Option (A), Bhils, are mainly in Rajasthan and central India. Option (B), Gonds, are found in central India. Option (D), Santhals, are concentrated in eastern India. Option (C), Gaddis, is correct because Bharmour region is inhabited predominantly by the Gaddi tribe, a semi-nomadic pastoral community. ITDP here aims to improve their living standards, provide education, and support sustainable livelihoods in harsh Himalayan conditions. Therefore, option (C) is correct.
Final Answer: Gaddis

Answer: (C)

Q41.

Solution

Concept: Pipelines are an important mode of transportation for liquid and gaseous materials such as crude oil, petroleum products, and natural gas. In the United States, large pipeline systems connect production areas with industrial and consumption centers. The "Big Inch" pipeline was historically developed during World War II to ensure uninterrupted energy supply from oil-producing regions to industrial areas.

Solution: The question asks what specific flow the "Big Inch" pipeline facilitated. It was not designed for transporting water or refined gasoline across the country. It also did not primarily transport natural gas from the Appalachian region to California. The Big Inch pipeline was constructed to transport crude oil from the Gulf Coast oil fields to the industrial North-East of the United States. This reduced dependence on vulnerable coastal tanker routes during wartime and ensured a stable energy supply for industries and military needs. Therefore, the correct answer is crude oil from the Gulf of Mexico to the industrial North-East.

Final Answer: Crude oil from the Gulf of Mexico to the industrial North-East

Answer: (B)

Q42.

Solution

Concept: Slurry pipelines are a specialized transport system used for moving solid minerals over long distances. In this method, minerals such as coal or iron ore are crushed into fine particles and mixed with water to form a semi-liquid mixture called slurry. This allows the material to flow through pipelines efficiently, reducing transportation costs and handling difficulties.

Solution: The question asks how solid minerals are transported through slurry pipelines. The process does not involve converting solids into gas or using magnetic levitation systems. Transport through air pressure without liquid medium is also incorrect. In slurry transport, minerals are first pulverized into small particles and then mixed with water to create a fluid-like mixture that can be pumped through pipelines. This technique is widely used for coal and mineral transport in several countries. Therefore, the correct answer is breaking minerals into small particles and mixing them with water.

Final Answer: Minerals mixed with water as slurry

Answer: (B)

Q43.

Solution

Concept: Pipeline transport is efficient for continuous movement of liquids and gases over long distances. It has low operational costs and is less affected by weather conditions. However, pipelines are fixed infrastructure systems, meaning they cannot easily change routes or expand capacity without major investment and engineering modifications.

Solution: The question asks about the primary disadvantage of pipeline transport compared to road or rail. Pipelines generally have low operational costs and minimal material loss, making the first two options incorrect. They also tend to have lower carbon emissions than several other transport systems. The major disadvantage is their inflexibility. Once constructed, the route remains fixed, and increasing capacity or extending the network requires expensive modifications. Unlike roads or railways, pipelines cannot easily adapt to changing transportation demands. Therefore, the correct answer is the fixed nature of the route and difficulty in capacity expansion.

Final Answer: Inflexibility in capacity expansion and the fixed nature of the route

Answer: (C)

Q44.

Solution

Concept: Pipelines have become an increasingly preferred mode for international energy transport because they provide a reliable and uninterrupted flow of petroleum and natural gas. Although the construction cost is high, pipelines are efficient, safe, and less affected by environmental or transportation disruptions compared to road, rail, or maritime systems.

Solution: The assertion states that pipelines are increasingly preferred for international energy trade despite high setup costs. This is true because pipelines ensure stable long-term transport of energy resources. The reason states that pipelines provide continuous supply and are largely unaffected by weather or traffic congestion, which is also true. Furthermore, this reason directly explains why pipelines are preferred despite their high installation cost. Their uninterrupted operation and reliability make them economically beneficial over time. Therefore, both the assertion and reason are true, and the reason correctly explains the assertion.

Final Answer: Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A

Answer: (A)

Q45.

Solution

Concept: Tertiary activities involve service-based occupations that support production, transport, communication, and management systems. Modern pipeline networks require advanced logistical planning, software monitoring, and technical management. Highly specialized professionals with expert knowledge and advanced technical skills are categorized as gold-collar workers in the modern service economy.

Solution: The question asks which professional category would manage and monitor global pipeline networks. Red-collar workers are associated with government services, blue-collar workers perform manual labor, and white-collar workers handle routine office-based tasks. Gold-collar workers, however, are highly skilled professionals such as engineers, software experts, analysts, and technical managers involved in advanced technological operations. Since global pipeline management involves sophisticated software systems, logistics, and engineering expertise, the most appropriate category is gold-collar workers. Therefore, the correct answer is gold-collar workers.

Final Answer: Gold-collar workers

Answer: (D)

Q46.

Solution

Concept: The term "Rust Belt" refers to old industrial regions, especially in parts of North America and Europe, where traditional heavy industries such as iron, steel, and manufacturing declined over time. Technological changes, globalization, automation, and shifting industrial locations caused factory closures, unemployment, and urban economic decline in these once prosperous manufacturing centers.

Solution: The question asks what the term "Rust Belt" describes. It does not refer to agricultural biotechnology leadership or complete environmental recovery. It also has no connection with a transition to nomadic herding. The term specifically refers to regions that experienced industrial decline due to the weakening of traditional manufacturing industries like steel and automobiles. As industries became outdated or relocated, these areas faced economic stagnation, abandoned factories, and declining employment opportunities. Therefore, the correct answer is regions affected by the decline of traditional heavy manufacturing.

Final Answer: Industrial decline of traditional manufacturing

Answer: (B)

Q47.

Solution

Concept: The traditional iron and steel industry developed near coal and iron ore deposits because these raw materials are bulky and lose weight during processing. Over time, exhaustion of local resources and the growth of global maritime trade encouraged industries to shift toward coastal regions where imported raw materials could be transported more cheaply.

Solution: The question asks which locational factor caused the iron and steel industry to move away from Pittsburgh toward coastal areas. There was no discovery of Atlantic coal reserves, and inland waterways were not banned. Worker climate preference is unrelated to industrial location. The most important factor was the weight-losing nature of iron and steel production combined with the depletion of nearby high-grade ores. Coastal locations became more advantageous because imported iron ore and coal could be brought by sea at lower transport costs. Therefore, the correct answer is the exhaustion of local ores and the weight-losing nature of raw materials.

Final Answer: Exhaustion of local ores and weight-losing raw materials

Answer: (B)

Q48.

Solution

Concept: Technopolies are modern industrial regions focused on high-technology industries, innovation, and research. Unlike traditional industrial clusters centered on heavy manufacturing, technopolies integrate research universities, skilled labor, advanced communication systems, and research and development activities to support knowledge-based economic growth.

Solution: The question asks what distinguishes a technopoly from a traditional industrial cluster. Technopolies do not rely mainly on manual labor, coal mines, or primary resource extraction. Instead, they specialize in advanced technology sectors such as electronics, biotechnology, aerospace, and software development. These areas combine high-tech manufacturing with research and development institutions, creating innovation-driven economies. Silicon Valley is a well-known example of a technopoly. Therefore, the correct answer is that technopolies are self-sustained centers of high-tech manufacturing and R&D.

Final Answer: High-tech manufacturing and R&D hub

Answer: (B)

Q49.

Solution

Concept: Intensive mining and industrialization often create severe environmental problems such as land degradation, deforestation, water pollution, and soil contamination. Mining activities release waste materials and heavy metals into the environment, affecting ecosystems and groundwater quality in mineral-rich industrial regions.

Solution: The question asks which environmental challenge is directly linked to mining and industrialization in the Chotanagpur Plateau. Desertification due to low rainfall is not the main issue in this humid plateau region. Snowfall-related disruptions and over-grazing are also unrelated. The Chotanagpur Plateau, rich in coal and minerals, has experienced extensive mining and industrial growth, leading to land degradation, deforestation, and groundwater contamination by heavy metals and industrial waste. These environmental problems significantly affect local ecosystems and human health. Therefore, the correct answer is land degradation and groundwater contamination.

Final Answer: Land degradation and the contamination of groundwater with heavy metals

Answer: (B)

Q50.

Solution

Concept: Economic development in advanced industrial regions increasingly emphasizes knowledge, innovation, and specialized services rather than traditional manufacturing. Blue-collar jobs involve manual industrial labor, while gold-collar jobs require highly specialized technical and professional expertise in fields such as information technology, engineering, research, and management.

Solution: The assertion states that the shift from blue-collar to gold-collar jobs indicates movement toward a knowledge-based economy. This is true because modern economies increasingly depend on research, information technology, and advanced services. The reason claims that secondary activities are becoming more profitable than quaternary and quinary activities in developed regions. This is false because advanced economies now derive greater importance and profitability from knowledge-intensive quaternary and quinary sectors rather than traditional manufacturing alone. Therefore, the assertion is true but the reason is false.

Final Answer: A is true but R is false

Answer: (C)

Answer Key

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