CUET UG Geography Sample Paper -18

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. Which of the following statements best reflects the concept of 'Neodeterminism' as proposed by Griffith Taylor, distinct from the radical environmentalism of the past?

(A) It emphasizes the absolute dictates of the physical environment on human action without any room for maneuver.

(B) It advocates for a "Stop and Go" approach, where humans can accelerate, slow, or stop growth but cannot change the direction of nature's development.

(C) It suggests that human beings are completely free agents who can create possibilities from the environment at will.

(D) It focuses on the radical transformation of the environment through advanced technology as the only way to progress.

Q2. The transition from Stage II to Stage III in the Demographic Transition Theory is primarily characterized by which of the following demographic shifts?

(A) A rise in birth rates accompanied by a sudden, sharp decline in death rates due to medical advances.

(B) A decline in birth rates as a result of urbanization and increased female literacy, while death rates remain low and stable.

(C) High birth rates and high death rates leading to a stagnant population growth.

(D) A negative growth rate where death rates exceed birth rates due to an aging population.

Q3. In the context of the 'Human Development Index' (HDI), which of the following scenarios would most likely lead to a high HDI score even if the country's Gross National Income (GNI) is relatively low?

(A) Rapid industrialization focusing on heavy machinery exports.

(B) Sustained long-term investment in social sectors like universal primary education and public health.

(C) Discovery of large oil reserves leading to a sudden spike in the national treasury.

(D) Implementation of strict environmental laws that limit all forms of urban expansion.

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding 'Extensive Commercial Grain Cultivation' in the mid-latitude steppes and select the correct observation:

(A) It is characterized by high total production but very low yield per acre due to the vastness of the land.

(B) It is mostly practiced in the tropical regions of Monsoon Asia to meet local food demands.

(C) The size of the farm is small, and the entire process relies on manual labor and animal power.

(D) The yield per person is very low because of the high density of workers per hectare of land.

Q5. Match List-I (Industrial Region) with List-II (Dominant Economic Characteristic) and select the correct option:

No.	List-I (Industrial Region)	ID	List-II (Economic Characteristic)
(I)	Ruhr Region	(1)	Transition from 'Rust Bowl' to high-tech
(II)	Silicon Valley	(2)	Traditional heavy coal and iron heartland
(III)	Kwanto Plain	(3)	Knowledge-based microelectronics industry
(IV)	Great Lakes (USA)	(4)	Largest urban-industrial cluster in Japan

(A) I-2, II-3, III-4, IV-1

(B) I-4, II-2, III-1, IV-3

(C) I-1, II-4, III-3, IV-2

(D) I-2, II-1, III-4, IV-3

Q6. The 'Rhine Waterway' is considered the world's most heavily used inland waterway primarily because:

(A) It is the only waterway in the world that does not require any dredging.

(B) It flows through a highly industrialized region and connects the Swiss Alps to the North Sea.

(C) It is the longest river in the world, stretching across three continents.

(D) It is used exclusively for the transport of agricultural products from Southern Europe.

Q7. Assertion (A): The Panama Canal is a sea-level canal that allows for faster transit than the Suez Canal.
Reason (R): It utilizes a series of six locks to lift and lower ships across the Isthmus of Panama.

(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 false but (R) is true.

(D) (A) is true but (R) is false.

Q8. Which of the following best describes the role of 'Quinary' activities in a modern globalized economy?

(A) They involve the extraction of high-value minerals from deep-sea beds.

(B) They focus on high-level decision-making and policy formulation by "gold collar" professionals.

(C) They are primarily concerned with the large-scale manufacturing of consumer electronics.

(D) They refer to the transport services that move raw materials to industrial zones.

Q9. Identify the correct demographic trend in India during the period of 1951-1981, often referred to as the 'Period of Population Explosion':

(A) Both birth rates and death rates remained extremely high, leading to stagnant growth.

(B) A high birth rate and a sharp decline in the death rate due to improved health facilities and developmental activities.

(C) A significant decline in birth rates while death rates increased due to large-scale epidemics.

(D) A negative growth rate caused by mass emigration to Western countries.

Q10. The 'Integrated Tribal Development Project' (ITDP) in the Bharmaur region of Himachal Pradesh was an example of:

(A) Multi-national corporate investment in mountainous regions.

(B) Area-based planning aimed at improving the socio-economic conditions of a specific marginalized community.

(C) A strictly environmental conservation project with no focus on human settlements.

(D) Urban renewal planning for the shifting of tribal populations to Delhi and Mumbai.

Q11. Which of the following settlement patterns is typically found in the rugged terrain of the Himalayas or the forested tracts of Northeast India?

(A) Compact or Clustered settlements.

(B) Dispersed or Isolated settlements.

(C) Linear settlements along the river banks only.

(D) Circular settlements around a central marketplace.

Q12. The 'Golden Quadrilateral' Super Highway project is strategically important for India because it:

(A) Connects all the state capitals of India through an eight-lane highway.

(B) Reduces the time and distance between the four major metropolitan hubs: Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, and Kolkata.

(C) Is the first highway in Asia to be built entirely through private international funding.

(D) Connects the Himalayan borders to the coastal ports of Kerala.

Q13. In the context of 'Resources and Development' in India, which of the following is a primary characteristic of 'Sustainable Development'?

(A) Maximizing the extraction of minerals today to pay off national debts.

(B) Meeting the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

(C) Diverting all river water to industrial zones to ensure 24/7 manufacturing growth.

(D) Replacing all traditional agriculture with high-yield variety seeds regardless of soil health.

Q14. The 'National Water Policy, 2012' emphasizes which of the following as the top priority for water allocation?

(A) Industrial cooling and manufacturing.

(B) Hydroelectric power generation.

(C) Drinking water for humans and livestock.

(D) Inland navigation and recreational tourism.

Q15. Which of the following is a major geographical factor contributing to the high level of air pollution in the Indo-Gangetic plain during winter?

(A) High wind speeds that carry pollutants toward the Himalayas.

(B) Temperature inversion that traps pollutants near the ground level.

(C) Excessive rainfall that washes away all the protective ozone layer.

(D) Lack of any industrial activity in the North Indian states.

Q16. Which of the following describes a 'Transhumance' pattern of movement commonly observed in the Himalayan Gaddis?

(A) Permanent migration from rural villages to urban industrial centers for work.

(B) Seasonal movement of people with their livestock between mountains and plains.

(C) Daily commuting of laborers from the outskirts to the central business district.

(D) Forced displacement of populations due to environmental degradation and floods.

Q17. Match List-I (World Region) with List-II (Type of Commercial Agriculture) and select the correct option:

No.	List-I (World Region)	ID	List-II (Type of Agriculture)
(I)	Pampas of Argentina	(1)	Dairy Farming
(II)	Velds of South Africa	(2)	Mediterranean Agriculture
(III)	North Western Europe	(3)	Commercial Grain Cultivation
(IV)	Southern Italy	(4)	Extensive Livestock Rearing

(A) I-3, II-4, III-1, IV-2

(B) I-2, II-1, III-4, IV-3

(C) I-3, II-1, III-2, IV-4

(D) I-4, II-3, III-1, IV-2

Q18. Which of the following is a key reason why the 'Big Trunk Route' (North Atlantic Sea Route) is the busiest oceanic route in the world?

(A) It is the only route that remains ice-free throughout the entire year.

(B) It connects two of the most industrially developed regions: North America and Western Europe.

(C) It is the shortest route connecting the Indian Ocean to the Arctic Ocean.

(D) It is used primarily for the transport of indigenous crafts from developing nations.

Q19. Identify the correct statement regarding 'Cyberspace' and the Internet in the context of modern communication:

(A) It is a physical territory that belongs to a specific country with defined borders.

(B) It is an electronic digital world for communicating or accessing information over computer networks.

(C) It is a form of communication that does not require the use of satellites or cables.

(D) It is accessible only to people living in developed urban centers of the global north.

Q20. Observe a world map in your mind. Which of the following major international ports is located on the Western coast of North America?

(A) New York

(B) Vancouver

(C) New Orleans

(D) Rotterdam

Q21. Which of the following factors is primarily responsible for the high density of population in the Nile River Valley of Egypt?

(A) Presence of large-scale diamond and gold mines.

(B) Availability of water for intensive agriculture in an otherwise arid region.

(C) High altitude and cool climate suitable for European settlement.

(D) Development of advanced software technology parks in the desert.

Q22. In the classification of Indian towns based on functions, which of the following is correctly matched?

(A) Pataliputra (Patna) — Administrative Town

(B) Jamshedpur — Educational Town

(C) Varanasi — Mining Town

(D) Roorkee — Religious Town

Q23. The 'National Highways' in India are constructed and maintained by which of the following organizations?

(A) State Public Works Department (SPWD)

(B) Border Roads Organization (BRO)

(C) Central Public Works Department (CPWD)

(D) National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)

Q24. Assertion (A): The share of agriculture in India's total Gross Value Added (GVA) has been declining over the years.
Reason (R): The secondary and tertiary sectors are growing at a faster rate compared to the primary sector.

(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.

Q25. Which of the following minerals is known as 'Brown Coal' and is primarily found in Neyveli, Tamil Nadu?

(A) Anthracite

(B) Bituminous

(C) Lignite

(D) Peat

Q26. The 'Konkan Railway' is a marvel of Indian engineering because it traverses through which geographical feature?

(A) The Great Thar Desert

(B) The rugged terrain of the Western Ghats

(C) The flat plains of the Sundarbans

(D) The coral islands of Lakshadweep

Q27. Which of the following is NOT a consequence of increasing urbanization and the development of slums in Indian metropolises?

(A) Over-exploitation of groundwater resources.

(B) Efficient and equitable distribution of social infrastructure.

(C) Increase in environmental pollution and waste generation.

(D) Pressure on existing transport and housing facilities.

Q28. The 'Khetri' belt in Rajasthan is famous for the mining of which of the following minerals?

(A) Iron Ore

(B) Manganese

(C) Copper

(D) Bauxite

Q29. The concept of 'Watershed Management' in India, like the 'Haryali' project, primarily focuses on:

(A) Construction of large dams for hydro-power only.

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

(C) Promoting large-scale deforestation for industrial expansion.

(D) Increasing the use of chemical fertilizers in arid zones.

Q30. Which of the following is the most significant source of 'Marine Pollution' along the Indian coastline near major ports?

(A) Runoff from organic tea plantations in the hills.

(B) Oil spills and discharge of industrial effluents from coastal refineries.

(C) Naturally occurring salt deposits in the sea.

(D) Release of oxygen by marine phytoplankton.

Q31. Match List-I (Irrigation Project) with List-II (State) and select the correct option:

No.	List-I (Irrigation Project)	ID	List-II (State)
(I)	Indira Gandhi Canal	(1)	Punjab
(II)	Bhakra Nangal Project	(2)	Rajasthan
(III)	Hirakud Dam	(3)	Odisha
(IV)	Nagarjuna Sagar	(4)	Andhra Pradesh / Telangana

(A) I-2, II-1, III-3, IV-4

(B) I-1, II-2, III-3, IV-4

(C) I-3, II-4, III-1, IV-2

(D) I-2, II-3, III-4, IV-1

Q32. Which of the following world regions is characterized by 'Mediterranean Agriculture' known for Viticulture (grape cultivation)?

(A) Central Chile

(B) Northern Canada

(C) Central Russia

(D) Amazon Basin

Q33. The 'Digital Divide' refers to the inequality between nations or individuals in terms of:

(A) The amount of natural resources like gold and oil they possess.

(B) Access to Information and Communication Technology (ICT).

(C) The number of military personnel in their standing armies.

(D) The physical distance between the rural and urban areas.

Q34. Observe the 'Map of India'. Which of the following is a major 'Landlocked Port' in India?

(A) Mumbai

(B) Vishakhapatnam

(C) Kandla

(D) Chennai

Q35. In the context of Human Settlements, a 'Megalopolis' is formed by:

(A) The union of several distinct rural villages into a single farming cooperative.

(B) The coalescence of several large cities and conurbations into a massive urban chain.

(C) The planned development of a small town for retired government employees.

(D) The abandonment of urban areas in favor of moving back to the forest.

Passage I

Read the following passage and answer the questions 36 to 40:

The 'Jhabua' district in Madhya Pradesh is one of the most backward districts in India, characterized by high poverty and severe environmental degradation. The district is primarily inhabited by the Bhil community. Years of deforestation and intensive grazing led to massive soil erosion and depletion of water resources. However, through the 'Rajiv Gandhi Mission for Watershed Management,' the community participated in the treatment of land. By building contour trenches, check dams, and social forestry, the local people successfully recharged the groundwater. The once barren hills are now covered in green, and the migration of the Bhils to cities has reduced significantly as agriculture became viable again.

Q36. What was the primary cause of environmental degradation in the Jhabua district before the intervention?

(A) Excessive industrialization and chemical waste.

(B) Deforestation and overgrazing by livestock.

(C) High levels of noise pollution from airports.

(D) Natural volcanic activity in the region.

Q37. The successful restoration of Jhabua's landscape was achieved through which management approach?

(A) Large-scale inter-state river linking.

(B) Watershed management with community participation.

(C) Privatization of all forest lands to foreign companies.

(D) Construction of nuclear power plants for energy.

Q38. What was the direct impact of the groundwater recharge on the local Bhil community?

(A) Increased forced migration to urban slums in Mumbai.

(B) Agriculture became more viable, leading to reduced distress migration.

(C) Total abandonment of the farming profession.

(D) A shift from traditional culture to a completely industrial lifestyle.

Q39. Which of the following techniques was NOT mentioned in the passage for the treatment of land in Jhabua?

(A) Contour trenches

(B) Check dams

(C) Deep-sea mining

(D) Social forestry

Q40. The Jhabua case study serves as a global example for which of the following concepts?

(A) Environmental Determinism

(B) Sustainable Development and Resource Conservation

(C) Urban Sprawl and Slum Formation

(D) Globalization of the Manufacturing Sector

Q41. Which of the following describes the 'Hinterland' of a sea port?

(A) The area of the sea where ships are parked before entering the docks.

(B) The land area that is served by the port for its exports and imports.

(C) The specific building where the customs officials are located.

(D) The international boundary line in the middle of the ocean.

Q42. The 'North-South Corridor' of the Golden Quadrilateral project aims to connect which two extreme points of India?

(A) Srinagar and Kanyakumari

(B) Delhi and Chennai

(C) Porbandar and Silchar

(D) Amritsar and Tuticorin

Q43. In the context of international trade, the 'World Trade Organization' (WTO) succeeded which of the following international agreements?

(A) GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade)

(B) IMF (International Monetary Fund)

(C) UNESCO

(D) SAARC

Q44. Identify the correct 'Oil Refinery' located in the state of Assam from the following list:

(A) Jamnagar

(B) Numaligarh

(C) Mathura

(D) Kochi

Q45. Which of the following is the primary reason for the occurrence of 'Acid Rain' in industrial urban areas?

(A) Excessive release of Oxygen by green belts in cities.

(B) Reaction of atmospheric water with oxides of Nitrogen and Sulphur.

(C) High concentration of Carbon Monoxide from cooking stoves.

(D) Release of CFCs from air conditioning units.

Passage 2

Read the following passage and answer the questions 46 to 50:

Towns and cities are classified on the basis of their dominant functions. Some towns specialize in certain functions and they are known for them. For example, Ambala and Jalandhar are 'Garrison Towns' or Cantonment towns. Varanasi and Jerusalem are 'Religious Towns'. Towns like Roorkee and Varanasi (BHU) are 'Educational Towns'. Some towns perform multiple functions and are called multi-functional towns. As a town grows, it becomes more specialized and its functions become more diverse.

Q46. Towns like Ambala and Jalandhar are classified as:

(A) Industrial Towns

(B) Garrison (Cantonment) Towns

(C) Mining Towns

(D) Transport Towns

Q47. Varanasi is an example of which type of town?

(A) Religious and Educational Town

(B) Port Town

(C) Administrative Town

(D) Commercial Town

Q48. What happens to a town's functions as it grows?

(A) They become limited to one activity.

(B) They become more diverse and specialized.

(C) The town eventually disappears.

(D) The population moves to villages.

Q49. Roorkee is specifically known for being an:

(A) Industrial hub

(B) Educational town

(C) Mining center

(D) Tourist resort

Q50. Jerusalem is classified as a:

(A) Port town

(B) Religious town

(C) Garrison town

(D) Administrative town

Detailed Solutions

Q1.

Solution

Concept:

Neodeterminism, a concept introduced by geographer Griffith Taylor, acts as a "middle path" between the extremes of Environmental Determinism (where nature dictates human life) and Possibilism (where humans are masters of nature). It is often called 'Stop and Go Determinism'.

Solution:

1. Neodeterminism suggests that while the environment does not provide a "fixed" path, it does set limits that cannot be ignored without consequences. 2. Taylor used the analogy of a traffic controller: a man can accelerate, slow, or stop the speed of a country's development (the "Stop and Go"). 3. However, just like a traffic controller cannot change the direction of the road, humans cannot change the fundamental laws of nature. 4. It emphasizes that "conquering nature" is only possible by "obeying nature." 5. Therefore, it rejects the absolute freedom of humans (Possibilism) and the absolute slavery of humans to nature (Determinism).

Final Answer: It advocates for a "Stop and Go" approach, where humans can accelerate, slow, or stop growth but cannot change the direction of nature's development.

Answer: (B)

Q2.

Solution

Concept:

The Demographic Transition Model (DTM) explains the transformation of countries from high birth and death rates to low birth and death rates as they develop. The transition from Stage II (Population Explosion) to Stage III (Late Transition) is a crucial turning point.

Solution:

1. In Stage II, death rates drop rapidly due to better sanitation and medicine, but birth rates remain high, leading to a massive population surge. 2. The transition to Stage III begins when the birth rate finally starts to decline significantly. 3. This decline is driven by urbanization, which changes the economic value of children (from "assets" in farms to "investments" in cities). 4. Additionally, increased female literacy and access to family planning lead to smaller family sizes. 5. In this stage, death rates remain low and stable, meaning the population still grows but at a much slower rate than in Stage II.

Final Answer: A decline in birth rates as a result of urbanization and increased female literacy, while death rates remain low and stable.

Answer: (B)

Q3.

Solution

Concept:

The Human Development Index (HDI) measures development through three dimensions: health (life expectancy), education (years of schooling), and standard of living (GNI per capita). It is a composite index where social indicators can outweigh economic ones.

Solution:

1. HDI is not merely a measure of wealth (GDP/GNI). A country can be wealthy but have poor health and education systems (low HDI). 2. Conversely, a country with a modest economy can achieve a high HDI by prioritizing the "social well-being" of its citizens. 3. For example, countries like Sri Lanka and Cuba have historically maintained higher HDI ranks than many larger, wealthier economies because they invested heavily in literacy and public health. 4. Long-term investment in universal education increases the "Mean Years of Schooling," and public health initiatives increase "Life Expectancy at Birth." 5. Thus, social investment is the most effective way to raise HDI scores independent of pure economic growth.

Final Answer: Sustained long-term investment in social sectors like universal primary education and public health.

Answer: (B)

Q4.

Solution

Concept:

Extensive Commercial Grain Cultivation is a high-tech, large-scale farming system practiced in the interior parts of semi-arid lands in the mid-latitudes, such as the Prairies (North America), Steppes (Eurasia), and Pampas (Argentina).

Solution:

1. The farm sizes are enormous, often covering hundreds or thousands of hectares. 2. Because of the vast scale and low population density in these areas, the entire process—from sowing to harvesting—is highly mechanized. 3. Due to the limited use of fertilizers and irrigation on such large scales, the yield per acre (productivity of the land) is relatively low. 4. However, because there are very few workers involved in the process, the total production is huge, leading to a very high yield per person. 5. This is the opposite of "Intensive Subsistence Agriculture" (like in India), where yield per acre is high but yield per person is low.

Final Answer: It is characterized by high total production but very low yield per acre due to the vastness of the land.

Answer: (A)

Q5.

Solution

Concept:

Industrial regions evolve based on their resource base and technological shifts. Understanding the specific characteristics of these global heartlands is essential for analyzing spatial economic patterns.

Solution:

1. The **Ruhr Region** in Germany is a classic "heavy industrial" heartland based on local coal and iron ore. 2. **Silicon Valley** in California, USA, is the premier example of a knowledge-based, high-tech industrial cluster specializing in software and microelectronics. 3. The **Kwanto Plain** is the largest urban-industrial region in Japan, centered around Tokyo and Yokohama. 4. The **Great Lakes** region (USA), specifically the Pittsburgh-Chicago belt, was the traditional "Rust Bowl" of heavy steel manufacturing but is now transitioning into specialized high-tech and service-oriented manufacturing. 5. Matching these: I-2, II-3, III-4, IV-1.

Final Answer: I-2, II-3, III-4, IV-1.

Answer: (A)

Q6.

Solution

Concept:

The Rhine Waterway is the most important inland waterway in Europe and the world's most heavily used. Its significance lies in its geographical location, connecting the industrial heartland of Europe to the global maritime trade routes via the North Sea.

Solution:

1. The Rhine flows through several highly industrialized nations, including Switzerland, Germany, France, and the Netherlands. 2. It serves the Ruhr region of Germany, which is one of the world's largest industrial clusters for coal, iron, and steel. 3. The river is navigable for about 700 km from its mouth at Rotterdam (Netherlands) to Basel (Switzerland). 4. It acts as a vital artery for the transport of bulky raw materials like coal, iron ore, and chemicals, as well as finished industrial products. 5. Its connection to the North Sea allows for a seamless transition between inland barge transport and ocean-going vessels, making it a pivot of international trade.

Final Answer: It flows through a highly industrialized region and connects the Swiss Alps to the North Sea.

Answer: (B)

Q7.

Solution

Concept:

The Panama Canal is a crucial artificial waterway in Central America. Unlike the Suez Canal, which is a sea-level canal, the Panama Canal navigates a mountainous isthmus, necessitating a complex engineering solution to move ships across varying elevations.

Solution:

1. The Panama Canal connects the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, drastically reducing the sailing distance between the East and West coasts of the Americas. 2. However, it is NOT a sea-level canal. The central part of the canal (Gatun Lake) is about 26 meters above sea level. 3. To overcome this elevation, the canal uses a "lock system." There are three sets of locks (Gatun, Pedro Miguel, and Miraflores) that act as "water elevators." 4. These locks lift ships up to the level of the lake and then lower them back down to sea level on the other side. 5. Therefore, while the Reason (R) correctly explains the mechanism of the canal, the Assertion (A) is partially false because it incorrectly labels it a "sea-level" canal (which is a characteristic of the Suez Canal).

Final Answer: (A) is false but (R) is true.

Answer: (C)

Q8.

Solution

Concept:

The economy is divided into sectors based on the nature of activity. Quinary activities represent the highest level of the hierarchy, distinct even from Quaternary (knowledge-based) activities.

Solution:

1. Quinary activities focus on the interpretation, creation, and evaluation of new and existing ideas. 2. They involve "gold collar" professionals, such as top-level government officials, research scientists, and senior business executives. 3. These individuals are responsible for high-level decision-making and the formulation of global and national policies. 4. While Quaternary activities involve information processing and RD, Quinary activities are about the ultimate "action" or "decision" taken based on that information. 5. In modern globalized economies, these roles have a disproportionate impact on the economic direction of nations.

Final Answer: They focus on high-level decision-making and policy formulation by "gold collar" professionals.

Answer: (B)

Q9.

Solution

Concept:

India's demographic history since 1901 is divided into four distinct phases. The period from 1951 to 1981 is known as the phase of "Population Explosion" due to a massive gap between birth and death rates.

Solution:

1. After independence in 1947, India focused on centralized planning and improving public health. 2. This period saw a significant decline in the death rate (mortality) due to the control of epidemics like cholera and smallpox, and better nutritional intake. 3. However, the birth rate (fertility) remained very high during this time, partly due to socio-cultural factors and improved living conditions. 4. The high birth rate combined with a falling death rate resulted in a very high natural rate of increase. 5. This resulted in the population nearly doubling in just three decades, making it the most intense growth period in Indian history.

Final Answer: A high birth rate and a sharp decline in the death rate due to improved health facilities and developmental activities.

Answer: (B)

Q10.

Solution

Concept:

Planning in India includes both "Sectoral planning" and "Regional planning." Regional planning is further divided into "Target Area Planning," which focuses on the development of backward or marginalized regions.

Solution:

1. The Bharmaur region in Himachal Pradesh is a harsh, mountainous terrain inhabited by the Gaddi tribal community. 2. Under the Fifth Five Year Plan, the Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP) was launched to reduce the regional disparity. 3. This was an example of "Area-based planning," where the goal was to provide basic infrastructure like schools, hospitals, roads, and electricity specifically to this geography. 4. The focus was on improving the quality of life of the Gaddis by providing them with alternative livelihoods and modern amenities while respecting their culture. 5. It serves as a case study in geography for how targeted government intervention can bring development to remote, marginalized community areas.

Final Answer: Area-based planning aimed at improving the socio-economic conditions of a specific marginalized community.

Answer: (B)

Q11.

Solution

Concept:

Rural settlements in India are classified into four types based on their shape and the degree of dispersion: Clustered (nucleated), Semi-clustered (fragmented), Hamleted, and Dispersed (isolated). The type of settlement is heavily influenced by the fertility of the land and the availability of water.

Solution:

1. Clustered or nucleated settlements consist of a compact or closely built-up area of houses. In this design, the living area is distinct and separated from the surrounding farms, barns, and pastures. 2. These settlements are most common in the fertile alluvial plains, such as the Ganga Plains, and in the northeastern states of India. 3. The high fertility of the soil in the Ganga Plain supports intensive agriculture, which requires a large labor force to live close together. 4. Additionally, security or defense reasons often drive people to live in compact communities in these flat, open landscapes. 5. In contrast, dispersed settlements are found in the rugged terrain of the Himalayas where resources are scattered and the land is less productive.

Final Answer: Dispersed or Isolated settlements.

Answer: (B)

Q12.

Solution

Concept:

The Golden Quadrilateral (GQ) is a major highway network in India managed by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI). It is the largest highway project in India and the fifth-longest in the world.

Solution:

1. The project was launched to establish faster transport links between the major industrial, agricultural, and cultural centers of India. 2. It forms a quadrilateral connecting the four major "metro" cities: Delhi (North), Mumbai (West), Chennai (South), and Kolkata (East). 3. The total length of the GQ is approximately 5,846 kilometers, consisting of four-to-six-lane expressways. 4. By connecting these four hubs, the GQ facilitates the movement of goods and people, reduces vehicle operating costs, and decreases the transit time between the major ports and the hinterland. 5. While other projects like the North-South and East-West corridors connect the extremities of the country (like Srinagar to Kanyakumari), the GQ specifically targets the central economic core.

Final Answer: Reduces the time and distance between the four major metropolitan hubs: Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, and Kolkata.

Answer: (B)

Q13.

Solution

Concept:

Sustainable development is a broad concept in geography that emerged as a critique of traditional, resource-depleting economic growth models. It was popularized by the Brundtland Commission's report 'Our Common Future' in 1987.

Solution:

1. Traditional development often focused on immediate economic gains through the rapid extraction of natural resources, which often led to environmental degradation and resource exhaustion. 2. Sustainable development shifts the focus toward "inter-generational equity." 3. It emphasizes that the current generation has a moral obligation to use resources in a way that does not deplete them for the people who will live in the future. 4. It involves balancing three pillars: Economic growth, Social equity, and Environmental protection. 5. In the context of India's resources, this means promoting renewable energy, water conservation, and soil health rather than just maximizing short-term industrial output.

Final Answer: Meeting the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Answer: (B)

Q14.

Solution

Concept:

The National Water Policy (NWP) provides the framework for the planning and management of water resources in India. Given that India is a water-stressed nation, the policy establishes a clear hierarchy for water usage during periods of scarcity.

Solution:

1. The NWP 2012 recognizes water as a scarce natural resource fundamental to life, livelihood, food security, and sustainable development. 2. It stipulates that water is a "common pool community resource" held by the state under a public trust doctrine. 3. According to the policy's priorities, "Drinking Water" for both humans and livestock is given the highest priority over all other uses. 4. Following drinking water, the priority generally flows toward Irrigation, Hydro-power, and then Industrial requirements. 5. This hierarchy ensures that the most basic biological needs of the population are met before the resource is diverted for commercial or industrial profit.

Final Answer: Drinking water for humans and livestock.

Answer: (C)

Q15.

Solution

Concept:

Air pollution in North India, especially the Indo-Gangetic Plain (IGP), becomes severe during the winter months. While human activities (like stubble burning and vehicle emissions) provide the pollutants, geographical and meteorological factors determine their concentration.

Solution:

1. During winter, the ground cools down rapidly at night. This cools the air immediately above it, while the air in the upper atmosphere remains relatively warmer. 2. This phenomenon is called "Temperature Inversion." Normally, air temperature decreases with height, allowing pollutants to rise and disperse. 3. In an inversion, the layer of warm air acts like a "lid" over the cold air below, trapping smoke, dust, and chemicals near the ground level where people breathe. 4. The IGP is also a "low-lying" plain bounded by the Himalayas to the north, which prevents the horizontal movement of these trapped pollutants. 5. Consequently, even a moderate amount of emissions results in a thick "smog" that persists for days due to the lack of vertical and horizontal air movement.

Final Answer: Temperature inversion that traps pollutants near the ground level.

Answer: (B)

Q16.

Solution

Concept:

Transhumance is a specific form of pastoralism or nomadism. It is a seasonal movement practiced by communities that depend on livestock for their livelihood, particularly in regions with extreme seasonal climatic variations.

Solution:

1. In the Himalayan region, tribal communities like the Gaddis, Bakarwals, and Gujjars practice transhumance. 2. During the summer, when the snow melts on the high-altitude pastures (called 'Bugyals' in some regions), the herders move their sheep and goats upwards to utilize the fresh grass. 3. During the winter, as the high mountains become covered in thick snow and the temperature drops below freezing, they migrate down to the warmer foothills or plains. 4. This movement is a cyclical, seasonal response to the environment to ensure the survival and health of their livestock. 5. Unlike permanent migration, this is a temporary and repetitive shift based on the climatic calendar.

Final Answer: Seasonal movement of people with their livestock between mountains and plains.

Answer: (B)

Q17.

Solution

Concept:

Global agricultural patterns are determined by climate, soil, and historical development. Understanding which type of commercial farming dominates specific temperate or Mediterranean grasslands is key to economic geography.

Solution:

1. **Pampas of Argentina:** These are temperate grasslands ideal for **Commercial Grain Cultivation** (specifically wheat). 2. **Velds of South Africa:** These regions are traditionally known for **Extensive Livestock Rearing**, particularly sheep (Merino) for wool. 3. **North Western Europe:** Due to high urban demand and a cool, moist climate, this region is the world leader in intensive **Dairy Farming**. 4. **Southern Italy:** This is part of the Mediterranean climatic zone, which is the world's heartland for **Mediterranean Agriculture**, focusing on citrus fruits, olives, and grapes. 5. Matching these: I-3, II-4, III-1, IV-2.

Final Answer: I-3, II-4, III-1, IV-2.

Answer: (A)

Q18.

Solution

Concept:

Ocean routes act as the highways of international trade. The North Atlantic Route, nicknamed the 'Big Trunk Route', handles the highest volume of trade and cargo movement globally.

Solution:

1. The North Atlantic route connects the eastern coast of North America (USA and Canada) with the western coast of Europe. 2. These two regions are the most technologically advanced and industrially developed parts of the world. 3. They have high purchasing power and trade massive quantities of high-value manufactured goods, machinery, and raw materials with each other. 4. Approximately one-fourth of the world's foreign trade moves along this single oceanic corridor. 5. While other routes like the Suez or Panama are strategically important, the sheer volume of "industrial-to-industrial" exchange makes the North Atlantic the busiest.

Final Answer: It connects two of the most industrially developed regions: North America and Western Europe.

Answer: (B)

Q19.

Solution

Concept:

Cyberspace is a modern geographical concept referring to the virtual space created by computer networks. It has redefined the meaning of 'distance' and 'territory' in the 21st century.

Solution:

1. Cyberspace is the "electronic digital world." It is a non-physical space where information is stored, shared, and accessed via the Internet. 2. Unlike traditional geography, it is not bounded by physical mountains, rivers, or national borders, although it is regulated by national laws. 3. It encompasses everything from the World Wide Web (WWW) to private networks and communication signals. 4. It allows for "real-time" interaction regardless of the physical distance between the users. 5. It is supported by physical infrastructure like undersea fiber-optic cables and satellites, but the "space" itself where the interaction happens is virtual.

Final Answer: It is an electronic digital world for communicating or accessing information over computer networks.

Answer: (B)

Q20.

Solution

Concept:

Spatial awareness of major world ports is essential. Ports are classified by their geographical location (coastal, inland, landlocked) and their specific function.

Solution:

1. **New York** and **New Orleans** are major ports of the USA, but they are located on the Eastern (Atlantic) and Southern (Gulf of Mexico) coasts, respectively. 2. **Rotterdam** is one of the world's largest ports, but it is located in the Netherlands (Europe), at the mouth of the Rhine. 3. **Vancouver** is the largest and most important port in Canada and is situated on the **Western (Pacific) coast** of North America. 4. It serves as a major gateway for trade between North America and the growing economies of Asia (the Pacific Rim).

Final Answer: Vancouver.

Answer: (B)

Q21.

Solution

Concept:

Population density is not just about total land area; it is about the "carrying capacity" of the land. In arid regions like Egypt, the distribution of population is extremely uneven, concentrated almost entirely where water is available.

Solution:

1. Egypt is predominantly a desert country (the Sahara), where most of the land is uninhabitable due to a lack of water. 2. The Nile River provides a perennial source of water in this desert, creating a narrow, fertile strip of land. 3. This availability of water allows for intensive agriculture, supporting multiple crops a year, which in turn can feed a large population. 4. Historically, the Nile Valley has been one of the cradles of civilization because the predictable flooding of the river deposited nutrient-rich silt, making it the most productive agricultural land in the region. 5. Consequently, while the average density of Egypt might seem moderate, the "physiological density" (population per unit of arable land) in the Nile Valley is among the highest in the world.

Final Answer: Availability of water for intensive agriculture in an otherwise arid region.

Answer: (B)

Q22.

Solution

Concept:

In Indian geography, towns are often classified based on their dominant economic activity or historical evolution. This is known as the "functional classification of towns."

Solution:

1. **Pataliputra (modern-day Patna)** has been a seat of power since the Maurya and Gupta empires. It continues to be the capital of Bihar, making its primary function **Administrative**. 2. **Jamshedpur** was developed specifically around the Tata Iron and Steel Company (TISCO), making it a classic **Industrial Town**, not an educational one. 3. **Varanasi** is one of the oldest continually inhabited cities and is a major center for pilgrimage and spirituality, classifying it as a **Religious/Cultural Town**, not a mining town. 4. **Roorkee** is famous for the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) and other research centers, making it an **Educational Town**, not a religious one. 5. Therefore, only Pataliputra is correctly matched with its primary function.

Final Answer: Pataliputra (Patna) — Administrative Town.

Answer: (A)

Q23.

Solution

Concept:

The governance of the transport sector in India is divided between various bodies depending on the category of the road (National Highways, State Highways, District Roads, or Border Roads).

Solution:

1. **National Highways (NH)** are the primary road systems of the country, connecting states and major ports. 2. The **National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)**, an autonomous body under the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, is responsible for the development, maintenance, and management of these highways. 3. In contrast, the **State PWD** looks after State Highways and district roads within a specific state. 4. The **Border Roads Organization (BRO)** focuses on roads in strategically sensitive border areas and high-altitude terrains. 5. The **CPWD** primarily focuses on the construction of government buildings and other public infrastructure, while NHAI is the specialized body for the "Golden Quadrilateral" and other NH projects.

Final Answer: National Highways Authority of India (NHAI).

Answer: (D)

Q24.

Solution

Concept:

As an economy matures, it typically undergoes a structural shift. This transition is usually from a primary-sector dominated economy to one dominated by the secondary (manufacturing) and tertiary (services) sectors.

Solution:

1. The "share" of a sector refers to its percentage contribution to the total Gross Value Added (GVA) or GDP. 2. In India, while the absolute production in agriculture has increased due to the Green Revolution, its *relative* share has dropped from over 503. This decline happens because the service sector (IT, finance, trade) and the industrial sector grow at much higher percentage rates compared to the biological and seasonal growth limits of agriculture. 4. Therefore, the growth in services and industry "outpaces" agriculture, causing the agricultural share to shrink in comparison to the total economy. 5. Thus, both the Assertion and Reason are true, and the Reason correctly explains why the share is declining.

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

Answer: (A)

Q25.

Solution

Concept:

Coal in India is found in two main geological sequences: Gondwana coal and Tertiary coal. The quality of coal depends on its carbon content, which determines its heating value.

Solution:

1. **Anthracite** is the highest quality coal (80-952. **Bituminous** is the most common commercial coal in India, found in the Gondwana fields of Jharkhand and West Bengal. 3. **Lignite** is known as **'Brown Coal'**. It has a lower carbon content (40-554. The largest deposits of Lignite in India are found in **Neyveli** in the state of Tamil Nadu. 5. This coal is primarily used for thermal power generation in the southern region of India due to the absence of higher-grade coal deposits in that area.

Final Answer: Lignite.

Answer: (C)

Q26.

Solution

Concept:

The Konkan Railway is one of the most challenging and significant infrastructure projects undertaken by Indian Railways after independence. It connects Roha in Maharashtra to Mangaluru in Karnataka, spanning a distance of 760 km.

Solution:

1. The railway line runs along the western coast of India, cutting through the **Western Ghats** (Sahyadri), which is a region characterized by rugged mountains, deep valleys, and numerous rivers. 2. Engineering this route required the construction of 92 tunnels and over 2,000 bridges, including the massive Panvalnadi viaduct. 3. Before this project, the mountainous terrain made rail travel between the western ports and the southern states nearly impossible, forcing a long detour through the central plateau. 4. The project is a "marvel" because it was completed through a region with heavy monsoon rainfall and unstable geological conditions. 5. It has significantly reduced the travel time between Mumbai and cities like Kochi and Mangaluru, boosting the economy of the Konkan coast.

Final Answer: The rugged terrain of the Western Ghats.

Answer: (B)

Q27.

Solution

Concept:

Urbanization in developing countries like India often leads to the growth of slums (informal settlements) due to the "push" factors from rural areas and the inability of the urban economy to provide formal housing and infrastructure for all migrants.

Solution:

1. Slums are characterized by overcrowded, dilapidated housing, lack of basic amenities like clean water and toilets, and poor ventilation. 2. The concentration of population in these areas leads to the **over-exploitation of groundwater** and enormous **pressure on transport and housing**. 3. It also results in **environmental pollution** due to the lack of proper sewage and waste disposal systems. 4. However, the **efficient and equitable distribution of social infrastructure** (like schools and hospitals) is precisely what is **NOT** found in these areas. 5. Instead, slums are marked by "social exclusion," where residents have the least access to the very benefits that the city offers to its wealthier citizens.

Final Answer: Efficient and equitable distribution of social infrastructure.

Answer: (B)

Q28.

Solution

Concept:

Copper is a vital non-ferrous metal used extensively in the electrical industry because of its excellent conductivity and ductility. In India, copper deposits are limited and found in specific geological belts.

Solution:

1. The **Khetri copper belt** is located in the Jhunjhunu district of **Rajasthan**. 2. It is managed by the public sector undertaking, Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL). 3. The mining at Khetri dates back to ancient times, but modern industrial extraction helps meet India's industrial demand for electrical wires, transformers, and electronics. 4. Other major copper-producing areas in India include the Singhbhum district in Jharkhand and the Malanjkhand belt in Madhya Pradesh. 5. While India is rich in Iron Ore and Bauxite, it is deficient in Copper and depends partly on imports to meet its domestic needs.

Final Answer: Copper.

Answer: (C)

Q29.

Solution

Concept:

Watershed management involves the rational utilization and conservation of all natural resources (especially land and water) within a watershed—a geographical area that drains into a common point (like a river or lake).

Solution:

1. Projects like **'Haryali'** are central government-sponsored programs aimed at enabling the rural population to conserve water for drinking, irrigation, fisheries, and afforestation. 2. The primary focus is on **efficient conservation and management of surface and groundwater**. 3. It involves techniques like rainwater harvesting, recharging of underground aquifers, and preventing soil erosion through plantations. 4. Community participation is the backbone of these projects, as seen in examples like Ralegan Siddhi or Jhabua. 5. Successful watershed management leads to "sustainable development" by ensuring that the local ecology is restored while providing livelihoods to the people.

Final Answer: Efficient conservation and management of surface and groundwater.

Answer: (B)

Q30.

Solution

Concept:

Marine pollution refers to the contamination of the ocean by harmful substances. In the context of a developing nation with a long coastline like India, the concentration of pollution is highest near economic hubs.

Solution:

1. Major ports like Mumbai, Vishakhapatnam, and Kandla are the gateways for India's international trade, especially for energy resources. 2. The most significant source of pollution near these ports is the **discharge of industrial effluents** from coastal refineries and factories. 3. Additionally, **oil spills** from tankers and the cleaning of ships (bilge pumping) create an oil film on the water surface. 4. This film prevents oxygen from dissolving in the water, suffocating marine life and damaging coral reefs and mangroves. 5. While plastic waste and agricultural runoff are concerns, the high-density chemical and oil toxicity near ports represents the most acute environmental threat to the "Blue Economy."

Final Answer: Oil spills and discharge of industrial effluents from coastal refineries.

Answer: (B)

Q31.

Solution

Concept:

Multi-purpose river valley projects in India are designed to address multiple needs simultaneously, including irrigation, flood control, and hydroelectric power generation. These projects are usually specific to the geography of the river basins they occupy.

Solution:

1. The **Indira Gandhi Canal** (formerly Rajasthan Canal) is one of the largest canal projects in India, designed to bring water from the Harike Barrage in **Punjab** to the arid regions of **Rajasthan**. 2. The **Bhakra Nangal Project** is a joint venture of **Punjab**, Haryana, and Rajasthan, involving a massive dam on the Sutlej River. 3. The **Hirakud Dam** is built across the Mahanadi River in the state of **Odisha** and is known for being one of the longest earthen dams in the world. 4. The **Nagarjuna Sagar Dam** is built across the Krishna River and serves the states of **Andhra Pradesh** and Telangana for irrigation and power. 5. Matching these: I-2, II-1, III-3, IV-4.

Final Answer: I-2, II-1, III-3, IV-4.

Answer: (A)

Q32.

Solution

Concept:

Mediterranean Agriculture is a highly specialized and commercialized form of agriculture found in areas with the Mediterranean climate (dry summers and mild, wet winters). It is famous for "Viticulture" or grape cultivation.

Solution:

1. This type of agriculture is found on the lands surrounding the Mediterranean Sea, but it also exists in other world regions with similar climates due to western margin locations. 2. These regions include **Central Chile**, California (USA), the southwestern tip of South Africa, and parts of Southern and Western Australia. 3. The region is the world's primary supplier of citrus fruits, olives, and high-quality grapes used for winemaking. 4. Northern Canada and Central Russia are too cold (sub-arctic/continental), and the Amazon Basin is too hot and humid (equatorial) for this type of specialized farming. 5. Therefore, Central Chile is the only correct geographical match among the options.

Final Answer: Central Chile.

Answer: (A)

Q33.

Solution

Concept:

The "Digital Divide" is a term used in social and economic geography to describe the gap between those who have ready access to modern information and communication technology (ICT) and those who do not.

Solution:

1. While the world has become more connected through globalization, the benefits of the internet and digital tools are not distributed equally. 2. Developed nations (the Global North) have near-universal access to high-speed internet, while many developing nations (the Global South) lag behind. 3. Even within a single country like India, a digital divide exists between urban areas (high connectivity) and remote rural areas (low connectivity). 4. This divide impacts education, economic opportunities, and access to government services, creating a new form of "information-based" inequality. 5. It is specifically a measure of **Access to Information and Communication Technology (ICT)**, not physical resources or military power.

Final Answer: Access to Information and Communication Technology (ICT).

Answer: (B)

Q34.

Solution

Concept:

Ports are categorized based on their physical location. A "landlocked port" (also known as a natural harbor located deep inland and connected to the sea via a channel) is protected from the direct buffeting of open sea waves.

Solution:

1. **Kandla** and **Mumbai** are coastal ports located directly on the Arabian Sea. 2. **Chennai** is an artificial coastal port on the Bay of Bengal. 3. **Vishakhapatnam** (Vizag) is a unique port on the east coast. It is a **landlocked harbor**, connected to the sea through a channel cut through solid rock and sand. 4. It is protected by a hill known as 'Dolphin's Nose', which shelters the harbor from heavy storms and cyclones common in the Bay of Bengal. 5. This makes it one of the safest and deepest natural harbors in India, ideal for handling heavy bulk cargo and iron ore exports.

Final Answer: Vishakhapatnam.

Answer: (B)

Q35.

Solution

Concept:

The hierarchy of human settlements progresses from hamlets to villages, towns, cities, conurbations, and finally, megalopolis. Each stage represents an increase in both population and spatial extent.

Solution:

1. The term 'Megalopolis' was popularized by Jean Gottmann and is derived from Greek words meaning "Great City." 2. It occurs when several large cities and conurbations (like the "BosWash" corridor from Boston to Washington D.C. in the USA) grow so much that their boundaries merge. 3. It forms a **massive urban chain** or a continuous urban landscape spanning hundreds of miles. 4. It represents the highest level of urban concentration, where multiple metropolitan areas function as a single interconnected economic unit. 5. It is distinct from a "Metropolis" (a single large city) or "Conurbation" (a merger of smaller towns).

Final Answer: The coalescence of several large cities and conurbations into a massive urban chain.

Answer: (B)

Q36.

Solution

Concept:

Environmental degradation is often a result of unsustainable land-use practices. In hilly and tribal regions, where communities depend directly on natural resources, the loss of vegetation leads to a chain reaction of ecological decline.

Solution:

1. According to the passage, the Jhabua district suffered from severe environmental degradation before any developmental intervention. 2. The primary drivers were identified as **deforestation** (removal of tree cover) and **intensive grazing** (over-utilization of pasture lands by livestock). 3. Without trees and grass to hold the soil together, heavy rains washed away the fertile topsoil (soil erosion). 4. This prevented rainwater from percolating into the ground, leading to the depletion of the water table and making the hills "barren." 5. Thus, the crisis was not caused by modern industrial waste or volcanoes, but by the collapse of the traditional ecological balance.

Final Answer: Deforestation and overgrazing by livestock.

Answer: (B)

Q37.

Solution

Concept:

Watershed management is a holistic approach to land and water conservation. Its success in India has often depended on the "Participatory Approach," where the local community is the primary stakeholder.

Solution:

1. The restoration in Jhabua was facilitated by the 'Rajiv Gandhi Mission for Watershed Management.' 2. The passage highlights that the success was achieved through **community participation**. 3. This means the local Bhil community was involved in the planning and labor—building structures like check dams and contour trenches themselves. 4. When communities "own" a project, they ensure its maintenance and long-term survival, unlike top-down government schemes. 5. This model focuses on small-scale, localized engineering rather than massive, ecologically disruptive projects like nuclear plants or inter-state river linking.

Final Answer: Watershed management with community participation.

Answer: (B)

Q38.

Solution

Concept:

Migration in geography is often classified into "push" and "pull" factors. In rural India, "distress migration" occurs when the local environment can no longer support a family's livelihood.

Solution:

1. Before the watershed project, the Bhils were forced to migrate to cities because their land was barren and they could not grow enough food. 2. The watershed management techniques (check dams, etc.) successfully **recharged the groundwater**. 3. With water available in wells and ponds, the viability of agriculture increased, allowing for better crop yields and even a second crop in the dry season. 4. As agriculture became a reliable source of income again, the "push" factor for moving to urban slums was removed. 5. Consequently, the local community could sustain themselves in their native villages, leading to a significant reduction in distress migration.

Final Answer: Agriculture became more viable, leading to reduced distress migration.

Answer: (B)

Q39.

Solution

Concept:

Watershed management involves a suite of "low-tech," site-specific engineering and biological measures designed to slow down water runoff and improve infiltration.

Solution:

1. The passage explicitly mentions **Contour Trenches**: these are ditches dug along the slope of a hill to catch rainwater. 2. It mentions **Check Dams**: small barriers built across a stream to slow water flow and allow it to seep into the ground. 3. It mentions **Social Forestry**: the management and protection of forests with the involvement of local communities to meet their own needs. 4. **Deep-sea mining** is a process of retrieving mineral deposits from the ocean floor, which has no relevance to land restoration in a landlocked tribal district like Jhabua. 5. Therefore, deep-sea mining is the technique not mentioned and not applicable to the context.

Final Answer: Deep-sea mining.

Answer: (C)

Q40.

Solution

Concept:

Geography case studies are used to illustrate theoretical concepts through real-world examples. The Jhabua story is a classic success story of restoring a broken ecosystem.

Solution:

1. The case study demonstrates how human intervention, when done correctly, can repair nature and provide a better quality of life. 2. It perfectly exemplifies **Sustainable Development**: meeting the community's needs (food and water) while conserving and restoring the resource base for the future. 3. It also relates to **Resource Conservation**, showing that even "ruined" resources like eroded soil and depleted aquifers can be brought back to health. 4. It contrasts with "Environmental Determinism" (which would suggest the Bhils were doomed by their harsh environment) and "Urban Sprawl" (which relates to city growth). 5. Hence, Jhabua is a global model for community-led ecological and social sustainability.

Final Answer: Sustainable Development and Resource Conservation.

Answer: (B)

Q41.

Solution

Concept:

The efficiency and importance of a port are not determined just by its docks, but by the land area it serves. This terrestrial area is known as the 'Hinterland'.

Solution:

1. A port acts as a gateway between the sea and the land. 2. The 'Hinterland' refers to the land area that sends its export goods to the port and receives its imported goods through that same port. 3. The size and economic richness of the hinterland determine the volume of traffic a port handles. 4. For example, the Mumbai port has a vast hinterland covering Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, and parts of North India. 5. A well-connected hinterland (via rail and road) is essential for a port to be successful in international trade.

Final Answer: The land area that is served by the port for its exports and imports.

Answer: (B)

Q42.

Solution

Concept:

The National Highways Development Project (NHDP) includes the North-South and East-West corridors, which are designed to connect the four corners of India.

Solution:

1. The North-South corridor is the largest ongoing highway project in India. 2. It is designed to connect the northernmost point of the national highway network to the southernmost tip of the mainland. 3. The corridor starts at **Srinagar** (Jammu and Kashmir) in the north and ends at **Kanyakumari** (Tamil Nadu) in the south. 4. It covers a distance of approximately 4,000 km. 5. In contrast, the East-West corridor connects Silchar (Assam) to Porbandar (Gujarat).

Final Answer: Srinagar and Kanyakumari.

Answer: (A)

Q43.

Solution

Concept:

The institutional framework for global trade has evolved to ensure "free and fair" trade among nations. The WTO is the current global body governing these rules.

Solution:

1. After World War II, the **GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade)** was established in 1948 to reduce trade barriers. 2. GATT was an agreement, not a formal international organization. 3. Following the Uruguay Round of negotiations (1986–1994), it was decided to create a more permanent and powerful body. 4. The **World Trade Organization (WTO)** was established on January 1, 1995, as the successor to GATT. 5. While GATT dealt only with trade in goods, the WTO also covers trade in services and intellectual property rights.

Final Answer: GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade).

Answer: (A)

Q44.

Solution

Concept:

Oil refineries in India are located either near the source of crude oil (field-based) or near the market/ports (market-based). Assam is home to some of the oldest field-based refineries.

Solution:

1. **Jamnagar** is a private-sector refinery located in Gujarat. 2. **Mathura** is a market-based refinery located in Uttar Pradesh. 3. **Kochi** is a port-based refinery located in Kerala. 4. **Numaligarh** is a major refinery located in the Golaghat district of **Assam**. It was established as part of the Assam Accord to boost the local economy. 5. Other refineries in Assam include Digboi (the oldest), Guwahati, and Bongaigaon.

Final Answer: Numaligarh.

Answer: (B)

Q45.

Solution

Concept:

Air pollution in industrial areas can lead to secondary environmental effects. Acid rain is a significant consequence of the chemical transformation of primary pollutants in the atmosphere.

Solution:

1. Industrial activities and the burning of fossil fuels release large amounts of **Sulphur Dioxide (SO_2)** and **Nitrogen Oxides (NO_x)**. 2. These gases rise into the atmosphere and react with water vapor, oxygen, and other chemicals. 3. This reaction forms mild solutions of **Sulphuric acid** and **Nitric acid**. 4. When it rains, these acids mix with the water droplets and fall to the earth as "Acid Rain." 5. Acid rain damages buildings (like the Taj Mahal), acidifies soil, and harms aquatic life in lakes and rivers.

Final Answer: Reaction of atmospheric water with oxides of Nitrogen and Sulphur.

Answer: (B)

Q46.

Solution

Concept:

Towns are often classified as "Garrison" or "Cantonment" towns if their primary function is to house military troops, training facilities, and defense infrastructure. Many of these towns were established during the British era.

Solution:

1. **Ambala** and **Jalandhar** are classic examples of **Garrison (Cantonment) towns** in India. 2. These towns developed primarily as military bases to provide security and serve as strategic hubs for the army. 3. Other prominent examples of this category include Mhow, Babina, and Udhampur. 4. While these towns may have developed industrial or commercial sectors over time, their historical origin and core administrative identity remain tied to the defense establishment. 5. They are characterized by a distinct "Cantonment Area" which is governed by a Cantonment Board rather than a standard municipality.

Final Answer: Garrison (Cantonment) Towns.

Answer: (B)

Q47.

Solution

Concept:

Some of the oldest cities in the world have evolved as centers of spirituality, pilgrimage, and learning. Their cultural identity defines their functional classification in human geography.

Solution:

1. **Varanasi** (also known as Kashi or Banaras) is primarily a **Religious and Cultural town**. 2. It is one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities and serves as a major center for pilgrimage, attracting devotees and scholars from across the globe. 3. In addition to its religious significance, it has historically been a major center for **Educational** activities and traditional Sanskrit learning. 4. While it may have commercial markets (like the famous Banarasi silk trade), these activities are secondary to its identity as a spiritual and academic hub. 5. Other cities in this category include Ajmer, Amritsar, Madurai, and Tirupati.

Final Answer: Religious and Educational Town.

Answer: (A)

Q48.

Solution

Concept:

The functional character of a city is dynamic. As a settlement grows from a small town into a large metropolis, it undergoes a process of "Functional Specialization."

Solution:

1. As a town grows in size and population, it rarely remains limited to its original single function (e.g., a simple market town). 2. The functions of the town **become more diverse and specialized**. 3. A large city like Mumbai or Delhi simultaneously serves as an administrative, industrial, commercial, and transport hub. 4. Different sectors of the city may specialize in different activities (e.g., a specific "Institutional Area" or an "Industrial Estate"). 5. This complexity is a hallmark of urban development, where the city provides a vast range of services to support its large and diverse population.

Final Answer: They become more diverse and specialized.

Answer: (B)

Q49.

Solution

Concept:

Educational towns are those where the primary driver of the local economy and urban landscape is the presence of major schools, universities, and research institutes.

Solution:

1. **Roorkee** is a well-known **Educational town** in Uttarakhand, India. 2. Its identity is almost entirely defined by the presence of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee (formerly the Thomason College of Civil Engineering, established in 1847). 3. The town serves as a major center for engineering, research, and technical training. 4. In such towns, a large portion of the resident population consists of students, faculty, and administrative staff associated with the institutions. 5. Other examples of educational towns in India include Pilani, Aligarh, and Shantiniketan.

Final Answer: Educational town.

Answer: (B)

Q50.

Solution

Concept:

Religious towns are centers where the main attraction and economic driver are religious institutions like temples, mosques, churches, or synagogues.

Solution:

1. **Jerusalem** is a world-renowned **Religious town**, considered sacred by three major world religions: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. 2. The city's landscape is dominated by religious monuments like the Western Wall, the Dome of the Rock, and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. 3. Its global importance and the majority of its tourism and economic activity stem from its religious and historical heritage. 4. While it also serves as an administrative capital, its primary classification in human geography is based on its profound spiritual and cultural status. 5. It is categorized alongside other global religious centers like Mecca or the Vatican City.

Final Answer: Religious town.

Answer: (B)

Answer Key

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