CUET-UG Geography Sample Paper-19

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 concept of "Stop and Go Determinism" serves as a middle path between total environmental control and absolute human freedom. Who coined this term to reflect a modification of Environmental Determinism?

(A) Ellen Churchill Semple

(B) Griffith Taylor

(C) Paul Vidal de la Blache

(D) Lucian Febvre

Q2. Which of the following approaches in human geography emerged last in the chronological evolution of the discipline?

(A) Spatial Organization (Quantitative Revolution)

(B) Regional Analysis (Areal Differentiation)

(C) Post-modernism in Geography

(D) Humanistic and Radical Schools

Q3. Assertion (A): Possibilism emphasizes that the physical environment provides opportunities for human development. Reason (R): Human beings have been able to overcome all natural constraints through technology without any ecological consequences.

(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.

Q4. In a "Stationary Population" pyramid, such as that of Australia, the shape of the age-sex pyramid is typically:

(A) Triangular with a wide base.

(B) Bell-shaped and tapered towards the top.

(C) Urn-shaped with a narrow base.

(D) Rectangular with a sudden bulge in the middle.

Q5. Which of the following sets of countries is currently in the "Late Expanding" stage (Stage 3) of the Demographic Transition Model?

(A) Bangladesh and Mexico

(B) Japan and Germany

(C) Canada and USA

(D) Peru and Sri Lanka

Q6. The "Human Poverty Index" (HPI) is used to measure the shortfalls in human development. Which of the following is NOT a component of HPI?

(A) The probability at birth of not surviving to age 40.

(B) The adult illiteracy rate.

(C) The percentage of people without access to safe water.

(D) The Gross National Product per capita.

Q7. Which region of the world has the highest density of population despite being in a non-monsoon climatic zone?

(A) South-East Asia

(B) North-Western Europe

(C) North-Eastern USA

(D) Nile River Valley in Egypt

Q8. According to the UNDP Human Development Report, a score of 0.750 on the HDI scale would categorize a country as:

(A) Very High Human Development

(B) High Human Development

(C) Medium Human Development

(D) Low Human Development

Q9. If the "Crude Birth Rate" (CBR) is 25 per 1000 and the "Crude Death Rate" (CDR) is 10 per 1000, what is the annual growth rate of the population (ignoring migration)?

(A) 1.5%

(B) 15%

(C) 0.15%

(D) 3.5%

Q10. In "Market Gardening," the distance of the farm from the city is often determined by the distance a truck can cover overnight. This has led to the term:

(A) Mixed Farming

(B) Truck Farming

(C) Factory Farming

(D) Peri-urban Ranching

Q11. Which specific type of agriculture is characterized by "Viticulture" and is unique for its "winter rain" dependence?

(A) Plantation Agriculture

(B) Mediterranean Agriculture

(C) Extensive Commercial Grain Cultivation

(D) Collective Farming

Q12. Which of the following is the most significant "Locational Factor" for the development of high-tech industries in the Silicon Valley of California?

(A) Proximity to iron ore mines.

(B) Availability of cheap unskilled labor.

(C) Agglomeration economies and proximity to research universities.

(D) Direct access to the Atlantic sea routes.

Q13. "Outsourcing" or Off-shoring is a major part of the Global Economy. When outsourcing involves highly specialized tasks like R&D or legal services, it is categorized as:

(A) Secondary Activity

(B) Tertiary Activity

(C) Quaternary Activity

(D) Quinary Activity

Q14. The "Great Lakes" region of North America is a major industrial hub. Which factor primarily supported the growth of the Iron and Steel industry here?

(A) The "Soo Canal" connecting Lake Superior and Lake Huron for cheap ore transport.

(B) High local demand from the fashion industry.

(C) Discovery of massive gold reserves in the Appalachian mountains.

(D) Tropical climate suitable for labor efficiency.

Q15. Which of the following is a "Footloose Industry"?

(A) Sugar Industry

(B) Iron and Steel Industry

(C) Diamond Cutting and Computer Chips

(D) Cement Industry

(E)

Q16. In the context of primary activities, "Gathering" is most likely to be practiced in which of the following regions?

(A) The Steppes of Eurasia

(B) The Amazon Basin

(C) The Prairies of North America

(D) The Canterbury Plains of New Zealand

Q17. Which international shipping canal uses a "Lock System" to overcome the difference in water levels between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans?

(A) Suez Canal

(B) Panama Canal

(C) Kiel Canal

(D) Corinth Canal

Q18. The "Australian Trans-Continental Railway" runs between which two cities?

(A) Sydney and Darwin

(B) Perth and Sydney

(C) Melbourne and Brisbane

(D) Adelaide and Alice Springs

Q19. The "Big Trunk Route" (North Atlantic Route) is considered the most important maritime route because:

(A) It is the shortest route between the North and South Poles.

(B) It connects the two most industrially developed regions of the world.

(C) It is the only route that is ice-free throughout the year.

(D) It carries 90% of the world's crude oil.

Q20. What is the primary objective of "Dumping" in international trade, which the WTO seeks to regulate?

(A) Exporting goods at a price lower than the cost of production to eliminate competition.

(B) Managing urban waste by shipping it to developing nations.

(C) Increasing the tariff rates on imported luxury items.

(D) Promoting environmental sustainability in shipping.

Q21. Identify the major "Oceanic Route" that was largely bypassed after the construction of the Suez Canal in 1869.

(A) The Panama Route

(B) The Cape of Good Hope Route

(C) The North Atlantic Route

(D) The South Pacific Route

Q22. In which of the following countries is "Extensive Commercial Grain Farming" NOT practiced?

(A) Argentina (Pampas)

(B) USA (Prairies)

(C) Brazil (Amazon Basin)

(D) South Africa (Veldts)

Q23. The "Rhine Waterway" serves as a vital artery for which industrial heartland?

(A) The Rust Belt (USA)

(B) The Ruhr Region (Germany)

(C) The Kuzbas Region (Russia)

(D) The Yokohama Region (Japan)

Q24. Which major port is located at the southern tip of the Malay Peninsula and acts as a "Port of Call" between the East and the West?

(A) Aden

(B) Singapore

(C) Colombo

(D) Honolulu

Q25. The "Trans-Canadian Railway" connects Halifax on the Atlantic coast to which city on the Pacific coast?

(A) Montreal

(B) Ottawa

(C) Vancouver

(D) Winnipeg

Q26. The 1921 Census is often referred to as the "Great Divide" in India's demographic history. Which of the following conditions best describes this specific period?

(A) A sharp decline in birth rates due to early urbanization.

(B) A negative growth rate (-0.31%) caused by widespread epidemics and food shortages.

(C) The first time the urban population exceeded the rural population.

(D) A sudden surge in the dependency ratio due to high fertility.

Q27. Assertion (A): States like West Bengal and Bihar have significantly higher physiological densities compared to their arithmetic densities.
Reason (R): Physiological density is calculated by dividing the total population by the net cultivated area, reflecting the actual pressure on agricultural land.

(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.

Q28. According to the 2011 Census, which of the following linguistic groups is the smallest in India and is primarily concentrated in the Himalayan and North-Eastern regions?

(A) Austric (Nishada)

(B) Dravidian (Dravida)

(C) Sino-Tibetan (Kirata)

(D) Indo-European (Aryan)

Q29. The "Work Participation Rate" in India is relatively higher in areas with lower levels of economic development. Which of the following best explains this paradox?

(A) High wages in rural areas attract more workers.

(B) Poverty forces a large number of women and children to engage in low-productivity manual labor.

(C) Advanced mechanization in developed states requires more manual oversight.

(D) Better educational facilities in developed states lead to higher employment.

Q30. In terms of "Rural-Urban Migration" in India, which specific stream is dominated by females, primarily due to social reasons?

(A) Rural to Urban

(B) Urban to Urban

(C) Rural to Rural

(D) Urban to Rural

Q31. In the context of rural settlements, "Hamleted Settlements" (locally known as Panna, Para, or Nagla) are most frequently found in which of the following regions?

(A) The lower Ganga plains and Chhattisgarh.

(B) The arid regions of Rajasthan.

(C) The high altitudes of the Himalayas.

(D) The plateau regions of Karnataka.

Q32. Which of the following is a classic example of a "Garrison (Cantonment) Town" that evolved during the British period in India?

(A) Jamshedpur

(B) Ambala

(C) Varanasi

(D) Chandigarh

Q33. Which functional category best describes cities like Bhilai, Salem, and Rourkela?

(A) Transport Towns

(B) Commercial Towns

(C) Industrial Towns

(D) Mining Towns

Q34. In the context of "Land Use Categories" in India, land which is left uncultivated for more than five years is classified as:

(A) Current Fallow

(B) Fallow other than current fallow

(C) Culturable Wasteland

(D) Barren and Wasteland

Q35. The "National Water Policy (2002)" identifies which of the following as the priority sector for water allocation?

(A) Irrigation

(B) Drinking Water

(C) Hydro-power

(D) Industrial cooling

Q36. Which of the following "Iron-Ore" mines is famous for its "Bailadila" range, which exports high-grade ore to Japan via Visakhapatnam port?

(A) Mayurbhanj in Odisha

(B) Bastar in Chhattisgarh

(C) Bellary in Karnataka

(D) Ratnagiri in Maharashtra

Q37. "Aman, AuS, and Boro" are three distinct varieties of which major crop grown in the states of West Bengal and Assam?

(A) Wheat

(B) Rice

(C) Cotton

(D) Sugarcane

Q38. Which of the following mineral belts is known for having the highest concentration of coal and iron ore, often referred to as the "Ruhr of India"?

(A) The North-Eastern Plateau Region

(B) The South-Western Plateau Region

(C) The North-Western Region

(D) The Himalayan Belt

Q39. The "Bharmour Tribal Development Project" was specifically designed to promote the socio-economic development of which community?

(A) The Bhils of Madhya Pradesh

(B) The Gaddis of Himachal Pradesh

(C) The Santhals of Jharkhand

(D) The Nagas of Nagaland

Q40. In "Sustainable Development," the Brundtland Commission Report (1987) emphasized:

(A) Maximizing industrial output regardless of resource depletion.

(B) Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations.

(C) Immediate cessation of all mining activities globally.

(D) Shifting all populations from rural to urban centers.

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 construction of the Indira Gandhi Canal, originally known as the Rajasthan Canal, has transformed the ecology, economy, and society of Western Rajasthan. While it brought the "Green Revolution" to the desert, it also introduced severe environmental challenges. In Stage I of the command area, intensive irrigation has led to a significant increase in agricultural productivity. However, in Stage II, the soil is highly susceptible to salinity. The sustainability of this project is now being questioned due to the rise in waterlogging and the depletion of traditional water-harvesting systems. Planners are now emphasizing "Ecological Sustainability" by promoting social forestry, pasture development, and the cultivation of less water-intensive crops.

Q41. Based on the passage, what is the primary geographical paradox associated with the Indira Gandhi Canal project?

(A) It increased the livestock population but decreased the availability of fodder.

(B) It provided economic prosperity through irrigation but triggered long-term environmental degradation like soil salinization.

(C) It was designed for drinking water but is used exclusively for industrial cooling.

(D) It reduced the temperature of the Thar Desert but increased the frequency of dust storms.

Q42. Which specific process, mentioned as a threat in Stage II of the command area, occurs when excessive irrigation causes salts to rise to the surface via capillary action?

(A) Leaching

(B) Humification

(C) Salinization

(D) Podzolization

Q43. The passage suggests a shift toward "Ecological Sustainability." Which of the following crop patterns would be most consistent with this new planning priority?

(A) Increasing the acreage of Sugarcane and Rice.

(B) Switching from Wheat to water-intensive Cotton.

(C) Promoting the cultivation of Citrus fruits, Millets, and Pulses.

(D) Expansion of Eucalyptus plantations to lower the water table.

Q44. Assertion (A): The sustainability of the Indira Gandhi Canal project is under threat.
Reason (R): Intensive irrigation in an arid ecosystem without proper drainage leads to waterlogging and soil alkalinity.

(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. What socio-economic impact of the canal can be inferred from the mention of the "depletion of traditional water-harvesting systems"?

(A) A total reliance on modern piped water, leading to the loss of indigenous community knowledge like 'Kunds' or 'Taankas'.

(B) An increase in communal harmony due to the abundance of water.

(C) The migration of the population from the canal command area back to the deep desert.

(D) The complete eradication of poverty in the Jaisalmer and Bikaner districts.

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 Bharmaur tribal area in Himachal Pradesh is inhabited by the 'Gaddi' tribal community, who practice transhumance. Historically, this region was one of the most backward in India due to its harsh climate, low resource base, and fragile environment. In the 1970s, it was designated for Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP). The planning process aimed at improving the quality of life and narrowing the gap between Bharmaur and other parts of Himachal Pradesh. However, the development has been dualistic: while literacy rates and health infrastructure improved significantly, the traditional pastoral economy remains under pressure from modern environmental regulations and a shifting social structure towards sedentary agriculture.

Q46. The 'Gaddi' community of Bharmaur is known for "Transhumance." This practice is a classic example of which geographical concept discussed in the 'Nature and Scope' of Human Geography?

(A) Neo-determinism, as they have completely overcome the mountain climate.

(B) Environmental Determinism, as their seasonal movement is a direct response to the physical constraints of the Himalayan winter.

(C) Welfare Geography, as it focuses on the spatial distribution of social well-being.

(D) Areal Differentiation, as it only describes the unique physical features of the Ravi River basin.

Q47. What was the primary objective of the "Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP)" in the context of regional planning in India?

(A) To encourage the Gaddi tribe to migrate to urban centers like Shimla and Delhi for industrial labor.

(B) To promote the commercial exploitation of Himalayan timber for national markets.

(C) To reduce regional disparities by improving social and physical infrastructure specifically tailored for tribal needs.

(D) To convert the entire mountain ecosystem into a protected biosphere reserve where human activity is prohibited.

Q48. The passage mentions that the development in Bharmaur has been "dualistic." Which of the following observations supports this claim?

(A) Both birth rates and death rates increased simultaneously.

(B) Literacy rates improved, but the traditional pastoral economy faced decline and environmental pressure.

(C) The region became highly industrialized while remaining entirely rural.

(D) Gender equality was achieved, but the overall population decreased.

Q49. In the context of "Human Development," which pillar of development was most directly addressed by the ITDP in Bharmaur through the provision of schools and healthcare?

(A) Sustainability

(B) Equity

(C) Productivity

(D) Empowerment

Q50. Assertion (A): The social structure of the Gaddi community is shifting from transhumance to sedentary agriculture.
Reason (R): Development of transport and communication under ITDP has increased the accessibility of the region and integrated it with the market economy.

(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: Stop and Go Determinism, also known as Neo-determinism, represents a balanced view between Environmental Determinism and Possibilism in human geography. It suggests that nature provides certain limits or "rules" within which human activities operate, but humans still have the freedom to choose actions. This idea was introduced by Griffith Taylor, who argued against extreme deterministic views. He emphasized that human development is neither fully controlled by environment nor completely independent of it.

Solution: The question asks who coined the concept of "Stop and Go Determinism." Ellen Churchill Semple was a strong environmental determinist, focusing on nature's absolute control over humans. Paul Vidal de la Blache promoted possibilism, emphasizing human freedom and adaptation to environment. Lucian Febvre also supported possibilism and rejected strict environmental control. However, Griffith Taylor introduced Neo-determinism, also called the "Stop and Go" approach. According to him, environment sets certain limits or "stop signs," but within those limits humans can proceed ("go") based on choice and technology. This makes his theory a middle path between determinism and possibilism. Therefore, Griffith Taylor is the correct answer as he uniquely formalized this moderated environmental approach.

Final Answer: Griffith Taylor

Answer: (B)

Q2.

Solution

Concept: Human geography has evolved through several intellectual phases, starting from regional analysis or areal differentiation, followed by the quantitative revolution focusing on spatial organization. Later, critical perspectives such as humanistic geography and radical geography emerged in response. The most recent phase in this evolution is post-modernism, which challenges universal theories and emphasizes subjective interpretations, diversity, and multiple realities in spatial understanding.

Solution: The question asks which approach emerged last in the chronological development of human geography. Regional analysis, associated with Vidal de la Blache, is one of the earliest approaches focusing on areal differentiation. The quantitative revolution or spatial organization approach came in the mid-20th century, emphasizing models, statistics, and spatial science. Humanistic and radical schools developed later, focusing on human experience, inequality, and social justice. However, post-modernism is the most recent development, emerging in the late 20th century, rejecting grand narratives and emphasizing pluralism, subjectivity, and multiple interpretations of space. It critiques earlier positivist and structural approaches and represents the latest intellectual shift in geography. Therefore, post-modernism in geography is the correct answer.

Final Answer: Post-modernism in Geography

Answer: (C)

Q3.

Solution

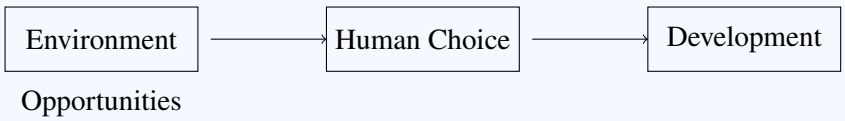
Concept: Possibilism in geography argues that while the physical environment offers various possibilities, humans have the ability to modify, adapt, and utilize these opportunities through culture and technology.

- **Assertion (A)** is correct because Possibilism recognizes that the environment provides opportunities for human development.
- **Reason (R)** is incorrect because human beings cannot overcome all natural constraints without ecological consequences; environmental impacts still exist.

Key Idea:

- Environment = provides options
- Humans = choose and modify within limits

Visual Representation:



Explanation:

- A is true: Possibilism focuses on environmental opportunities.
- R is false: Technology does not eliminate all constraints nor ecological impacts.

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

Answer: (C)

Q4.

Solution

Concept: A stationary population pyramid represents a demographic situation where birth rates and death rates are relatively balanced, leading to stable population growth. In such cases, the age-sex structure shows low fertility and low mortality, resulting in a shape that is more column-like or urn-shaped with a narrow base and relatively uniform distribution across most age groups. Countries like Australia exhibit this pattern, reflecting demographic stability and aging population characteristics.

Solution: The question asks about the typical shape of a stationary population pyramid. A triangular shape with a wide base is associated with expanding populations where birth rates are high. A bell-shaped structure is more typical of transitional populations. A rectangular shape suggests very stable populations with minimal variation across age groups, but not fully stationary in demographic terms. The most accurate representation of a stationary population pyramid is the urn-shaped structure, where the base is narrow due to low birth rates and the upper sections remain relatively stable due to higher life expectancy. This reflects low fertility, low mortality, and an aging population structure, as seen in developed countries like Australia. Therefore, the correct answer is the urn-shaped pyramid with a narrow base.

Final Answer: Urn-shaped with a narrow base

Answer: (C)

Q5.

Solution

Concept: The Demographic Transition Model (DTM) describes population change through stages based on birth and death rates. Stage 3, known as the Late Expanding Stage, is characterized by declining birth rates while death rates remain low, resulting in slowing population growth. Countries in this stage are typically developing nations undergoing urbanization, improved education, and better access to healthcare and family planning.

Solution: The question asks which countries belong to Stage 3 of the Demographic Transition Model. Japan and Germany are in Stage 4 or even Stage 5, with very low birth rates and aging populations. Canada and the USA are also advanced, with low fertility rates and stable or slow growth, placing them in late Stage 4. Peru and Sri Lanka show more mixed characteristics but are transitioning differently, with some nearing Stage 3 or beyond. Bangladesh and Mexico are classic examples of Stage 3 countries, where birth rates are declining due to development, education, and family planning, but population growth still continues due to previously high fertility levels. Hence, they best represent the Late Expanding Stage.

Final Answer: Bangladesh and Mexico

Answer: (A)

Q6.

Solution

Concept: The Human Poverty Index (HPI), developed by the UNDP, measures deprivation in basic dimensions of human life rather than income alone. It focuses on survival, knowledge, and decent standard of living. Key indicators include probability of not surviving to a certain age, adult illiteracy, and lack of access to safe water and basic services. It does not include income-based measures like Gross National Product per capita.

Solution: The question asks which option is NOT a component of the Human Poverty Index. The probability of not surviving to age 40 is a survival indicator included in HPI. Adult illiteracy rate is part of the knowledge dimension of deprivation. Lack of access to safe water is included under living standards. However, Gross National Product (GNP) per capita is not part of HPI because it is an income-based economic measure, while HPI focuses on multidimensional deprivation rather than income levels. Therefore, GNP per capita is not included in the HPI calculation.

Final Answer: Gross National Product per capita

Answer: (D)

Q7.

Solution

Concept: Population density is influenced by physical, economic, and historical factors. While monsoon regions generally support high population densities due to agriculture, some non-monsoon regions also show extremely high densities due to favorable river systems, fertile soils, and long-term urban development. River valleys, in particular, have historically supported dense human settlements even in otherwise arid environments.

Solution: The question asks which region has the highest population density despite being in a non-monsoon climatic zone. South-East Asia is a monsoon region, so it is not applicable. North-Western Europe and North-Eastern USA are temperate regions with moderate to high densities but not extreme in comparison. The Nile River Valley in Egypt, however, is located in an arid desert climate with extremely limited rainfall, yet it supports very high population density due to the availability of water and fertile land along the Nile River. Human settlements are concentrated in a narrow strip, making it one of the most densely populated regions in a non-monsoon climatic zone.

Final Answer: Nile River Valley in Egypt

Answer: (D)

Q8.

Solution

Concept: The Human Development Index (HDI), published by UNDP, classifies countries into four categories based on composite scores of life expectancy, education, and income. These categories help assess overall human development levels across nations. A score of 0.750 falls within the upper range of human development but does not yet reach the threshold for very high development.

Solution: The question asks how a country with an HDI score of 0.750 is categorized. Very High Human Development typically includes countries with HDI above 0.800. High Human Development ranges from approximately 0.700 to 0.799. Medium Human Development lies between 0.550 and 0.699, while Low Human Development is below 0.550. Since 0.750 falls within the 0.700–0.799 range, it clearly belongs to the High Human Development category. It indicates relatively strong performance in health, education, and income dimensions but still below the highest global standards.

Final Answer: High Human Development

Answer: (B)

Q9.

Solution

Concept: The natural growth rate of population is calculated as:

$$\text{Growth Rate} = \frac{\text{CBR} - \text{CDR}}{10}$$

Given:

- Crude Birth Rate (CBR) = 25 per 1000
- Crude Death Rate (CDR) = 10 per 1000

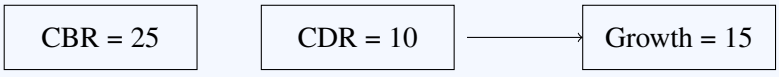
Step Calculation:

$$\text{Natural Increase} = 25 - 10 = 15 \text{ per } 1000$$

Convert per 1000 into percentage:

$$\frac{15}{1000} \times 100 = 1.5\%$$

Visual Representation:



Final Answer: 1.5%

Answer: (A)

Q10.

Solution

Concept: Market gardening is a form of commercial vegetable and horticultural farming located near urban markets. Its location is highly influenced by transportation time rather than distance alone. Farmers aim to supply fresh produce quickly to cities, often within a night's travel by truck. This creates a specialized form of agriculture closely linked to urban demand and perishable goods distribution systems.

Solution: The question asks about the term used when the distance of farms in market gardening is determined by how far a truck can travel overnight. Mixed farming involves multiple crops and livestock, factory farming refers to intensive livestock production, and peri-urban ranching relates to livestock near cities. However, the correct concept is Truck Farming, where vegetables and fruits are grown for urban markets and transported quickly by trucks over short distances, often overnight, ensuring freshness and reducing spoilage. Hence, the correct answer is truck farming.

Final Answer: Truck Farming

Answer: (B)

Q11.

Solution

Concept: Mediterranean agriculture is a specialized type of farming found in regions with a Mediterranean climate characterized by hot, dry summers and mild, wet winters. It is well known for horticultural crops such as grapes (viticulture), olives, and citrus fruits. The dependence on winter rainfall is a defining feature, making irrigation and seasonal adaptation essential for agricultural success in these regions.

Solution: The question asks which type of agriculture is associated with viticulture and winter rain dependence. Plantation agriculture focuses on single cash crops like tea and rubber in tropical regions. Extensive commercial grain cultivation involves large-scale wheat or maize farming in temperate grasslands. Collective farming is a socio-economic system rather than a climatic type. Mediterranean agriculture, however, is specifically characterized by viticulture, olive cultivation, and reliance on winter rainfall patterns. Therefore, it is the correct answer.

Final Answer: Mediterranean Agriculture

Answer: (B)

Q12.

Solution

Concept: Silicon Valley in California is one of the world's leading high-tech industrial regions. Its development is strongly influenced by knowledge-based industries, innovation ecosystems, and strong linkages between universities, research institutions, and private firms. Agglomeration economies refer to the benefits firms gain by clustering together, such as knowledge sharing, skilled labor availability, and innovation diffusion.

Solution: The question asks for the most important locational factor behind Silicon Valley's growth. The region is not based on raw materials like iron ore, nor does it rely on cheap unskilled labor. It is also not dependent on Atlantic sea routes, as it is a knowledge-driven inland coastal innovation hub. The key factor is the presence of world-class research universities such as Stanford and UC Berkeley, along with agglomeration economies that encourage innovation, startup culture, and collaboration among firms. This synergy of knowledge and clustering is the primary driver of Silicon Valley's success.

Final Answer: Agglomeration economies and proximity to research universities

Answer: (C)

Q13.

Solution

Concept: Economic activities are broadly classified into primary, secondary, tertiary, quaternary, and quinary sectors. The quaternary sector includes knowledge-based services such as research and development, information technology, consulting, and legal services. These activities involve high-level intellectual skills and specialized expertise rather than physical production or basic services.

Solution: The question asks how outsourcing of highly specialized tasks like R&D or legal services is classified. Secondary activities involve manufacturing, tertiary activities involve basic services like transport and trade, and quinary activities involve top-level decision-making roles. However, research and development, legal services, and advanced knowledge-based outsourcing fall under the quaternary sector, which represents information-driven and intellectual services in the global economy. Therefore, the correct classification is quaternary activity.

Final Answer: Quaternary Activity

Answer: (C)

Q14.

Solution

Concept: The Great Lakes region of North America became one of the world's major industrial belts due to its strategic location, availability of raw materials, transport networks, and access to water routes. Efficient transportation of iron ore and coal was crucial in supporting the growth of the iron and steel industry, especially during the industrial expansion of the United States.

Solution: The question asks which factor primarily supported the growth of the iron and steel industry in the Great Lakes region. The Soo Canal, also known as the Soo Locks, connects Lake Superior and Lake Huron, enabling the cheap and efficient transport of iron ore from the Lake Superior region to steel-producing centers. This significantly reduced transportation costs and facilitated large-scale industrial growth. Other options like fashion demand, gold reserves in Appalachians, or tropical climate are irrelevant to this industrial development. Hence, the correct answer is the Soo Canal connection.

Final Answer: Soo Canal (Lake Superior–Huron link)

Answer: (A)

Q15.

Solution

Concept: Footloose industries are those that are not strongly tied to raw materials, energy sources, or specific locations. They can be set up almost anywhere because their inputs are lightweight and easily transportable. Such industries depend more on skilled labor, technology, and connectivity rather than physical geography.

Solution: The question asks which industry is a footloose industry. Sugar, iron and steel, and cement industries are location-bound due to raw material weight and bulk. Sugar requires proximity to sugarcane farms, iron and steel depends on coal and iron ore, and cement is tied to limestone deposits. Diamond cutting and computer chip industries, however, are not tied to raw materials and rely on skilled labor and technology. They can be located flexibly, making them classic examples of footloose industries. Therefore, the correct answer is diamond cutting and computer chips.

Final Answer: Diamond Cutting and Computer Chips

Answer: (C)

Q16.

Solution

Concept: Gathering is one of the oldest primary economic activities, involving the collection of naturally available resources such as fruits, roots, nuts, honey, and medicinal plants. It is typically practiced by indigenous and tribal communities in regions where environmental conditions limit intensive agriculture. Such regions are usually dense forests or areas with rich biodiversity but low agricultural development.

Solution: The question asks where gathering is most likely to be practiced. The Steppes of Eurasia are grasslands suitable for pastoralism, not gathering. The Prairies of North America and Canterbury Plains of New Zealand are highly developed agricultural regions dominated by commercial farming. The Amazon Basin, however, is a dense equatorial rainforest with rich biodiversity and traditional tribal populations who depend on forest resources for subsistence. This makes it the most suitable region for gathering activities. Therefore, the correct answer is the Amazon Basin.

Final Answer: The Amazon Basin

Answer: (B)

Q17.

Solution

Concept: International shipping canals are artificial waterways that connect major oceans or seas to reduce travel distance and improve global trade efficiency. Some canals, like the Suez Canal, operate at sea level, while others use a system of locks to raise and lower ships between different water levels. Lock systems are essential where there is a significant difference in elevation between connected water bodies.

Solution: The question asks which canal uses a lock system to overcome differences in water levels between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. The Suez Canal is a sea-level canal connecting the Mediterranean Sea and Red Sea without locks. The Kiel Canal connects the North Sea and Baltic Sea and uses minimal elevation control. The Corinth Canal is a narrow sea-level canal in Greece. The Panama Canal, however, connects the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans and uses an extensive system of locks to lift ships across the continental divide. Therefore, the correct answer is the Panama Canal.

Final Answer: Panama Canal

Answer: (B)

Q18.

Solution

Concept: The Australian Trans-Continental Railway is one of the most important rail networks in Australia, designed to connect the eastern and western coasts of the continent. It plays a key role in freight and passenger movement across vast arid interiors, linking major urban and economic centers across the country.

Solution: The question asks between which two cities the Australian Trans-Continental Railway runs. Sydney and Darwin represent a north-south connection, not the main transcontinental east-west line. Melbourne and Brisbane are located on the eastern side of Australia. Adelaide and Alice Springs represent a regional connection but not the full transcontinental route. The correct transcontinental railway runs between Perth on the western coast and Sydney on the eastern coast, forming the major east-west rail corridor across Australia. Therefore, the correct answer is Perth and Sydney.

Final Answer: Perth and Sydney

Answer: (B)

Q19.

Solution

Concept: The North Atlantic maritime route, also known as the Big Trunk Route, is one of the busiest and most economically significant sea routes in the world. It connects highly industrialized regions, facilitating massive trade flows of manufactured goods, raw materials, and energy resources. Its importance lies in linking major economic powerhouses of Europe and North America.

Solution: The question asks why the Big Trunk Route is considered the most important maritime route. It is not the shortest polar route, nor is it primarily defined by being ice-free year-round. While it does carry significant oil shipments, that is not its defining feature. Its importance comes from the fact that it connects the two most industrially developed regions of the world: Western Europe and North America. These regions generate and consume a large share of global trade, making this route the busiest and most economically significant. Therefore, the correct answer is that it connects the two most industrially developed regions of the world.

Final Answer: It connects the two most industrially developed regions of the world

Answer: (B)

Q20.

Solution

Concept: Dumping in international trade refers to the practice of exporting goods at a price lower than their cost of production or domestic market price. It is often used as a strategy to capture foreign markets, eliminate competition, or gain unfair trade advantages. The World Trade Organization (WTO) regulates such practices to ensure fair competition and prevent market distortion.

Solution: The question asks about the primary objective of dumping. Exporting goods below production cost is a deliberate strategy used by firms or countries to undercut competitors in foreign markets and establish monopoly or dominant market positions. It is not related to waste management, tariff increases, or environmental sustainability. Therefore, the correct answer is exporting goods at a price lower than the cost of production to eliminate competition.

Final Answer: Selling below cost to eliminate competition

Answer: (A)

Q21.

Solution

Concept: The opening of the Suez Canal in 1869 significantly transformed global maritime trade by providing a direct route between Europe and Asia. It reduced the need for ships to travel around the southern tip of Africa, known as the Cape of Good Hope route, thereby shortening travel distance and time. This led to a major shift in global shipping patterns.

Solution: The question asks which major oceanic route was largely bypassed after the construction of the Suez Canal. The Panama Route connects the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans via the Panama Canal and was not affected in the same way. The North Atlantic Route remains one of the busiest trade routes. The South Pacific Route is not historically significant in this context. The Cape of Good Hope Route, which involves sailing around the southern tip of Africa, was the primary route between Europe and Asia before 1869 but was largely bypassed after the Suez Canal provided a shorter alternative. Therefore, the correct answer is the Cape of Good Hope Route.

Final Answer: The Cape of Good Hope Route

Answer: (B)

Q22.

Solution

Concept: Extensive commercial grain farming is a large-scale, mechanized form of agriculture practiced in temperate grasslands such as the Pampas of Argentina, Prairies of the USA, and Veldts of South Africa. It is characterized by low population density, large farm sizes, and production of wheat and other grains for commercial markets. It is generally not practiced in tropical rainforest regions due to dense forests and unsuitable climatic conditions.

Solution: The question asks where extensive commercial grain farming is NOT practiced. Argentina (Pampas), USA (Prairies), and South Africa (Veldts) are classic examples of temperate grasslands where this type of farming is highly developed. These regions support mechanized wheat cultivation on large estates. Brazil's Amazon Basin, however, is a dense equatorial rainforest region with high rainfall, dense vegetation, and poor suitability for large-scale mechanized grain farming. Agriculture there is more subsistence-based or plantation-oriented rather than extensive grain farming. Therefore, the correct answer is Brazil (Amazon Basin).

Final Answer: Brazil (Amazon Basin)

Answer: (C)

Q23.

Solution

Concept: The Rhine Waterway is one of the most important inland waterways in Europe. It serves as a major transport artery for the Ruhr industrial region in Germany, which is one of the largest industrial clusters in the world. The Rhine connects industrial centers with major seaports, facilitating the movement of raw materials like coal and iron ore as well as finished goods.

Solution: The question asks which industrial heartland is served by the Rhine Waterway. The Rust Belt in the USA is served by the Great Lakes–St. Lawrence system, not the Rhine. The Kuzbas region in Russia is an inland coal mining region without direct linkage to the Rhine. The Yokohama region in Japan is a coastal industrial area but not connected to the Rhine system. The Ruhr Region in Germany, however, is directly linked to the Rhine River system and depends heavily on it for transportation of raw materials and industrial output. Therefore, the correct answer is the Ruhr Region.

Final Answer: The Ruhr Region (Germany)

Answer: (B)

Q24.

Solution

Concept: Strategic ports located along major sea routes serve as important nodes for international maritime trade. A "port of call" refers to a port where ships regularly stop for refueling, resupply, and trade exchange along major shipping routes. These ports are typically located at key chokepoints or crossroads of global sea lanes.

Solution: The question asks which port is located at the southern tip of the Malay Peninsula and functions as a major port of call between East and West. Aden is located near the Red Sea, Colombo is in Sri Lanka, and Honolulu is in the Pacific Ocean. Singapore, however, is strategically located at the southern tip of the Malay Peninsula and lies along one of the world's busiest East–West shipping routes, the Strait of Malacca. It serves as a major global transshipment hub and port of call. Therefore, the correct answer is Singapore.

Final Answer: Singapore

Answer: (B)

Q25.

Solution

Concept: The Trans-Canadian Railway is one of the longest railway systems in the world, connecting the eastern and western coasts of Canada. It plays a crucial role in unifying the country's economy by linking Atlantic ports with Pacific ports and facilitating the movement of goods and passengers across vast distances.

Solution: The question asks which city on the Pacific coast is connected by the Trans-Canadian Railway from Halifax on the Atlantic coast. Montreal, Ottawa, and Winnipeg are inland or eastern/central cities and not terminal points on the Pacific side. Vancouver, however, is the major Pacific coast port city in Canada and serves as the western terminus of the Trans-Canadian Railway. Therefore, the correct answer is Vancouver.

Final Answer: Vancouver

Answer: (C)

Q26.

Solution

Concept: The 1921 Census in India is a significant demographic milestone often referred to as the "Great Divide" because it marks a unique phase in population change. It reflects the impact of severe epidemics, famines, and poor health conditions that led to unusual demographic trends, including negative population growth.

Solution: The question asks what best describes the conditions of the 1921 Census period. This census recorded a rare negative growth rate of approximately -0.31%, mainly due to widespread epidemics such as influenza and cholera, along with food shortages and high mortality rates. Urbanization had not yet reached a level where urban population exceeded rural population, and there was no sudden surge in dependency ratio as the defining feature. The most accurate description is the negative growth caused by epidemics and food shortages, making it a demographic turning point in Indian population history. Therefore, the correct answer is the negative growth rate due to widespread epidemics and food shortages.

Final Answer: A negative growth rate (-0.31%) caused by widespread epidemics

Answer: (B)

Q27.

Solution

Concept: Population density can be measured in different ways:

- **Arithmetic density** = Total population / Total land area.
- **Physiological density** = Total population / Net cultivated area.

Assertion (A): True States like West Bengal and Bihar have high physiological density because a large population depends on a relatively small area of cultivable land, increasing pressure on agriculture.

Reason (R): True Physiological density correctly measures pressure on agricultural land by considering only net cultivated land.

Link between A and R:

- Since physiological density focuses only on cultivated land, it becomes significantly higher in agriculturally intensive and densely populated states.
- Therefore, R correctly explains why A is true.

Visual Representation:

Total Population → Cultivated Land → High Physiological Density

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

Answer: (A)

Q28.

Solution

Concept: India is a linguistically diverse country with four major language families: Indo-European (Aryan), Dravidian (Dravida), Austroasiatic (Austric/Nishada), and Sino-Tibetan (Kirata). Among these, the Sino-Tibetan family is relatively small in terms of population and is mainly concentrated in the Himalayan belt and North-Eastern India, reflecting its strong association with tribal and hill communities.

Solution: The question asks which linguistic group is the smallest and concentrated in the Himalayan and North-Eastern regions. Indo-European languages are the largest group, covering most of northern and central India. Dravidian languages dominate southern India. Austric languages are spoken by tribal groups in central and eastern India. Sino-Tibetan languages, however, are primarily spoken in states like Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, and parts of the Himalayan region such as Ladakh and Sikkim. This group has a relatively smaller population compared to others and is geographically concentrated in the north-eastern and Himalayan regions. Therefore, the correct answer is Sino-Tibetan (Kirata).

Final Answer: Sino-Tibetan (Kirata)

Answer: (C)

Q29.

Solution

Concept: The Work Participation Rate (WPR) measures the proportion of the working population engaged in economic activities. In less developed regions, WPR is often higher due to the predominance of subsistence agriculture, informal labor, and lack of social security systems. Poverty compels a larger share of household members, including women and children, to participate in low-productivity economic activities.

Solution: The question asks why WPR is higher in economically less developed areas. High wages are typically associated with developed regions and do not explain higher participation in poorer areas. Mechanization in developed states reduces manual labor requirements rather than increasing participation. Better education usually leads to lower immediate labor participation as individuals pursue higher studies. The most accurate explanation is that poverty forces a large number of people, including women and children, to engage in low-productivity manual or informal work to sustain household income. This increases the measured work participation rate despite lower economic efficiency. Therefore, the correct answer is poverty-driven labor participation.

Final Answer: Poverty-driven high work participation

Answer: (B)

Q30.

Solution

Concept: Migration streams in India include rural-to-urban, urban-to-urban, rural-to-rural, and urban-to-rural movements. Female-dominated migration is often influenced by social and cultural factors such as marriage, where women move from their native rural areas to their husband's place of residence.

Solution: The question asks which migration stream is dominated by females due to social reasons. Rural-to-urban migration is often driven by employment and is male-dominated. Urban-to-urban migration involves professional mobility. Rural-to-rural migration exists but is less significant in terms of female dominance. Urban-to-rural migration is minimal. The most significant female-dominated migration stream is rural-to-rural migration, primarily due to marriage customs where women move from one rural household to another rural location after marriage. Therefore, the correct answer is Rural to Rural migration.

Final Answer: Rural to Rural

Answer: (C)

Q31.

Solution

Concept: Hamleted settlements, also known as fragmented rural settlements, are characterized by a main village divided into several small hamlets locally called Panna, Para, Nagla, or Dhani. These settlements often arise due to social and caste-based divisions, where different groups live in separate clusters within the same village territory. They are common in regions with mixed agricultural and social structures.

Solution: The question asks where hamleted settlements are most frequently found. Arid regions like Rajasthan typically have scattered settlements but not necessarily hamleted structures. High-altitude Himalayan regions have dispersed settlements due to terrain constraints. Plateau regions like Karnataka also show dispersed or nucleated patterns. The lower Ganga plains and Chhattisgarh region, however, exhibit strong social stratification leading to clustered hamlets within villages, making them a classic example of hamleted settlement patterns. Therefore, the correct answer is the lower Ganga plains and Chhattisgarh.

Final Answer: The lower Ganga plains and Chhattisgarh

Answer: (A)

Q32.

Solution

Concept: During the British colonial period in India, several towns developed as garrison or cantonment towns. These were established primarily for military purposes, housing British troops, administrative offices, and supporting infrastructure. Over time, some of these cantonments evolved into permanent urban centers.

Solution: The question asks for a classic example of a garrison (cantonment) town. Jamshedpur is an industrial town developed by private enterprise (Tata Steel). Varanasi is an ancient religious and cultural city. Chandigarh is a planned capital city developed post-independence. Ambala, however, was developed as an important British cantonment due to its strategic location in northern India and continues to function as a major military base. Therefore, the correct answer is Ambala.

Final Answer: Ambala

Answer: (B)

Q33.

Solution

Concept: Cities can be classified based on their dominant economic function, such as industrial, commercial, transport, or mining towns. Industrial towns are characterized by the presence of large-scale manufacturing units and heavy industries, often forming the economic backbone of the region.

Solution: The question asks which category best describes Bhilai, Salem, and Rourkela. Bhilai is known for its steel plant, Rourkela hosts one of India's major steel plants, and Salem is also an important steel-producing center. All three cities are primarily developed around iron and steel industries, indicating strong industrial bases rather than transport, commercial, or mining dominance alone. Therefore, they are best classified as industrial towns.

Final Answer: Industrial Towns

Answer: (C)

Q34.

Solution

Concept: In India's land-use classification system, agricultural land is categorized based on its usage and period of non-cultivation. Land that is left uncultivated for a longer duration reflects degradation or planned rotation. A distinction is made between current fallow (left uncultivated for less than one year) and longer-term fallow categories used for land recovery or due to soil exhaustion.

Solution: The question asks about land left uncultivated for more than five years. Current fallow refers to land left uncultivated for one year or less. Culturable wasteland refers to land that can be brought under cultivation with effort but is not currently used. Barren and wasteland is permanently uncultivable land. Land left uncultivated for more than five years is classified as "fallow other than current fallow," indicating temporary abandonment beyond one agricultural cycle but still potentially cultivable in the future. Therefore, the correct answer is fallow other than current fallow.

Final Answer: Fallow other than current fallow

Answer: (B)

Q35.

Solution

Concept: The National Water Policy of India outlines priorities for water resource allocation to ensure sustainable and equitable usage. In a water-scarce country, domestic needs are given the highest priority, followed by other sectors like agriculture, industry, and energy production. Drinking water is considered a fundamental human necessity.

Solution: The question asks which sector has the highest priority in water allocation under the National Water Policy (2002). Irrigation is important for agriculture but is secondary in priority. Hydro-power and industrial cooling are economic uses and come after basic human needs. Drinking water is placed at the top priority because it directly relates to human survival and public health. Therefore, the correct answer is drinking water.

Final Answer: Drinking Water

Answer: (B)

Q36.

Solution

Concept: Iron ore mining in India is concentrated in several mineral-rich regions. The Bailadila range is one of the most important high-grade iron ore deposits in the country. It is known for exporting high-quality hematite ore, particularly to countries like Japan, through major ports on the east coast of India.

Solution: The question asks which iron ore mine is associated with the Bailadila range. Mayurbhanj in Odisha is another iron ore region but not associated with Bailadila. Bellary in Karnataka is a major mining area but distinct from Bailadila. Ratnagiri in Maharashtra is not a significant iron ore belt. The Bailadila range is located in Bastar district of Chhattisgarh and is famous for exporting high-grade iron ore through Visakhapatnam port. Therefore, the correct answer is Bastar in Chhattisgarh.

Final Answer: Bastar in Chhattisgarh

Answer: (B)

Q37.

Solution

Concept: Rice is a major staple crop in India with different varieties adapted to seasonal rainfall patterns. Aman, Aus, and Boro are distinct rice varieties grown in different seasons, especially in eastern India such as West Bengal and Assam. These varieties correspond to different agricultural cycles based on monsoon timing and irrigation availability.

Solution: The question asks which crop includes Aman, Aus, and Boro varieties. Wheat, cotton, and sugarcane do not have these seasonal classifications. Rice, however, is cultivated in three main seasonal varieties: Aus (pre-monsoon), Aman (monsoon), and Boro (winter irrigated crop). These are particularly important in the agricultural systems of West Bengal and Assam. Therefore, the correct answer is rice.

Final Answer: Rice

Answer: (B)

Q38.

Solution

Concept: India's mineral resources are unevenly distributed, with certain plateau regions being extremely rich in coal and iron ore. These regions support heavy industries and are often compared to industrial belts of developed countries due to their mineral concentration and industrial development.

Solution: The question asks which mineral belt is known as the "Ruhr of India." The North-Eastern Plateau Region, including Jharkhand, Odisha, and Chhattisgarh, is extremely rich in coal and iron ore and supports major industrial centers like Jamshedpur and Rourkela. The South-Western Plateau is less significant in this context, while the North-Western and Himalayan regions are not major mineral belts for coal and iron ore. Therefore, the correct answer is the North-Eastern Plateau Region.

Final Answer: The North-Eastern Plateau Region

Answer: (A)

Q39.

Solution

Concept: Tribal development projects in India are designed to improve the socio-economic conditions of indigenous communities living in remote and ecologically sensitive regions. These projects focus on improving education, healthcare, livelihood opportunities, and infrastructure while preserving cultural identity.

Solution: The question asks which community the Bharmour Tribal Development Project was designed for. The Bhils are primarily located in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, the Santhals are concentrated in Jharkhand, and the Nagas are from Nagaland. The Gaddis, however, are a tribal community living in the Bharmour region of Himachal Pradesh. The project was specifically implemented to support their socio-economic development in a mountainous and remote environment. Therefore, the correct answer is the Gaddis of Himachal Pradesh.

Final Answer: The Gaddis of Himachal Pradesh

Answer: (B)

Q40.

Solution

Concept: Sustainable development is a key environmental and developmental concept introduced and popularized by the Brundtland Commission Report (1987), officially titled *"Our Common Future"*. It defines a development pathway that balances economic growth, social equity, and environmental protection. The central idea is intergenerational equity, ensuring that present development does not harm the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Solution: The question asks what the Brundtland Commission (1987) emphasized in the context of sustainable development. Maximizing industrial output regardless of resource depletion contradicts environmental sustainability principles. Immediate cessation of mining is unrealistic and not proposed by the report. Forced rural-to-urban migration is unrelated to the concept. The correct principle highlighted by the Commission is development that balances present needs with future resource availability. It clearly defines sustainable development as meeting current needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet theirs. Therefore, the correct answer is the intergenerational equity-based definition of sustainable development.

Final Answer: Sustainable development definition (Brundtland Report)

Answer: (B)

Q41.

Solution

Concept: The Indira Gandhi Canal Project transformed the arid regions of Rajasthan by bringing irrigation, agriculture, and economic growth to desert areas. However, intensive irrigation in fragile desert ecosystems also created environmental challenges such as waterlogging, soil salinity, and ecological imbalance. This reflects a geographical paradox where development improves livelihoods in the short term but simultaneously threatens long-term environmental sustainability.

Solution: The question asks about the primary geographical paradox associated with the Indira Gandhi Canal Project. The project successfully increased agricultural productivity, settlement growth, and economic opportunities in the Thar Desert through irrigation. However, excessive and poorly managed irrigation in arid regions led to rising groundwater levels, waterlogging, and salinization of soil. These environmental problems gradually reduce soil fertility and threaten the sustainability of agriculture itself. The other options either exaggerate or misrepresent the impacts discussed in the passage. The core contradiction lies between economic prosperity generated through irrigation and the environmental degradation that emerged as a long-term consequence. Therefore, the correct answer is the paradox of development accompanied by soil salinization and ecological degradation.

Final Answer: Irrigation-led prosperity with soil salinization

Answer: (B)

Q42.

Solution

Concept: In irrigated arid regions, excessive watering can raise the groundwater table. Through capillary action, dissolved salts move upward from lower soil layers and accumulate on the surface. This process reduces soil fertility and harms crop productivity. Salinization is a major environmental issue in canal-irrigated desert regions where drainage systems are inadequate.

Solution: The question asks which process occurs when excessive irrigation causes salts to rise to the soil surface. Leaching refers to the downward removal of minerals by water, while humification is the formation of humus from organic matter. Podzolization is a soil-forming process common in cold humid climates. Salinization specifically refers to the accumulation of salts on the soil surface due to evaporation and capillary rise of saline groundwater. In the Indira Gandhi Canal command area, this process emerged because intensive irrigation in an arid climate increased evaporation and groundwater rise. Therefore, the correct answer is salinization.

Final Answer: Salinization

Answer: (C)

Q43.

Solution

Concept: Ecological sustainability in arid and semi-arid regions requires crop patterns that conserve water, maintain soil health, and adapt to local climatic conditions. Water-intensive crops increase pressure on fragile ecosystems, whereas drought-resistant crops help maintain long-term agricultural productivity while reducing environmental degradation.

Solution: The question asks which crop pattern aligns with ecological sustainability in the canal command area. Sugarcane, rice, and cotton are highly water-intensive crops that would worsen waterlogging and salinity problems. Large eucalyptus plantations may lower water tables but can also negatively affect groundwater availability and biodiversity. Crops such as citrus fruits, millets, and pulses are comparatively drought-resistant and require less water, making them more suitable for sustainable agriculture in arid Rajasthan. These crops also support soil conservation and reduce irrigation stress. Therefore, the correct answer is promoting citrus fruits, millets, and pulses.

Final Answer: Promoting the cultivation of Citrus fruits, Millets, and Pulses

Answer: (C)

Q44.

Solution

Concept: Sustainability issues in irrigation projects often arise when intensive irrigation is introduced into naturally arid ecosystems without proper drainage management. Waterlogging and soil alkalinity reduce agricultural productivity and damage fragile ecosystems. These environmental consequences directly threaten the long-term viability of irrigation-based development projects.

Solution: The assertion states that the sustainability of the Indira Gandhi Canal Project is under threat, which is true because environmental degradation is affecting agricultural productivity and ecosystem balance. The reason explains that intensive irrigation without adequate drainage causes waterlogging and soil alkalinity, which is also true. Moreover, this reason directly explains why the project's sustainability is threatened. The lack of proper drainage leads to rising groundwater levels and salt accumulation, damaging soil fertility over time. Hence, 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: Traditional water-harvesting systems in Rajasthan, such as Kunds and Taankas, were developed by local communities to survive in arid environments with scarce rainfall. Large canal projects improved water availability but also reduced dependence on these indigenous systems, leading to cultural and practical decline in traditional ecological knowledge.

Solution: The question asks what socio-economic impact can be inferred from the depletion of traditional water-harvesting systems. The passage suggests that canal irrigation reduced the use of indigenous systems like Kunds and Taankas because people became increasingly dependent on modern canal and piped water supplies. This shift weakened traditional community-based water management practices and led to the gradual loss of local ecological knowledge developed over generations. The other options either exaggerate the outcomes or are unrelated to the passage. Therefore, the correct inference is the growing reliance on modern water systems and the decline of traditional knowledge.

Final Answer: Loss of traditional water-harvesting knowledge

Answer: (A)

Q46.

Solution

Concept: Transhumance is a seasonal movement of pastoral communities and livestock between different altitudes in response to climatic conditions. In mountainous regions like the Himalayas, harsh winters force pastoral groups to migrate to lower valleys while summers allow movement to higher pastures. This demonstrates how human activities are shaped by environmental constraints, a key idea in Environmental Determinism within human geography.

Solution: The question asks which geographical concept is best represented by the transhumance practiced by the Gaddi community of Bharmaur. Neo-determinism suggests humans can modify environmental constraints, but the Gaddis still largely adapt to climatic limitations. Welfare geography focuses on social well-being, and areal differentiation studies regional uniqueness without emphasizing environmental control. The seasonal migration of the Gaddis directly reflects adaptation to harsh Himalayan winters and the availability of seasonal pastures. Their livelihood pattern is strongly influenced by the physical environment, making it a classic example of Environmental Determinism. Therefore, the correct answer is Environmental Determinism.

Final Answer: Environmental Determinism

Answer: (B)

Q47.

Solution

Concept: Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDPs) are regional planning initiatives aimed at improving the socio-economic conditions of tribal populations in India. These projects focus on reducing regional inequalities by providing education, healthcare, infrastructure, employment opportunities, and other welfare measures suited to the needs of tribal communities living in remote and underdeveloped regions.

Solution: The question asks about the primary objective of the ITDP in regional planning. Encouraging migration to cities or exploiting forest resources commercially was not the project's core aim. Similarly, creating completely protected reserves without human activity would neglect tribal livelihoods. The ITDP was specifically designed to reduce regional disparities and improve the quality of life of tribal communities through better infrastructure, schools, healthcare, and development programs suited to local conditions. In Bharmaur, the project focused on inclusive and region-specific tribal development. Therefore, the correct answer is reducing regional disparities through tailored social and physical infrastructure.

Final Answer: Reducing regional disparities through tribal development

Answer: (C)

Q48.

Solution

Concept: Dualistic development refers to a situation where modernization and socio-economic progress occur alongside the persistence or decline of traditional systems. In tribal and mountain regions, development programs often improve literacy, healthcare, and infrastructure, but these changes may simultaneously weaken traditional occupations, cultural practices, and ecological balance.

Solution: The question asks which observation supports the claim that development in Bharmaur has been "dualistic." Simultaneous increases in birth and death rates do not define dualistic development. The region did not become highly industrialized, nor did overall population decline define the process. The strongest evidence is that literacy and social indicators improved through development initiatives, while traditional pastoral activities of the Gaddi community faced decline and environmental stress. This reflects the coexistence of progress and disruption, which is the essence of dualistic development. Therefore, the correct answer is the improvement in literacy along with decline in traditional pastoral economy.

Final Answer: Improved literacy with decline of pastoral economy

Answer: (B)

Q49.

Solution

Concept: Human development is based on pillars such as equity, sustainability, productivity, and empowerment. Equity emphasizes equal access to opportunities and basic services for all sections of society. Providing schools, healthcare, and welfare facilities helps marginalized communities gain fair access to resources and improve their quality of life.

Solution: The question asks which pillar of human development was most directly addressed by ITDP initiatives like schools and healthcare in Bharmaur. Sustainability focuses on long-term resource conservation, productivity relates to economic efficiency, and empowerment emphasizes political participation and decision-making ability. The provision of educational and healthcare services primarily ensures equal opportunities and access to development benefits for tribal populations. This directly reflects the principle of equity in human development. Therefore, the correct answer is equity.

Final Answer: Equity

Answer: (B)

Q50.

Solution

Concept: The Gaddi community of Himachal Pradesh traditionally practiced **transhumance**, a seasonal movement of people and livestock between highland and lowland pastures.

- In recent decades, many Gaddis have gradually shifted towards more settled (sedentary) agriculture and other occupations.
- Improved transport, communication, education, and market access under regional development programmes such as the Integrated Tribal Development Programme (ITDP) have accelerated this transition.

Assertion (A): True The Gaddi community is increasingly adopting sedentary lifestyles and agriculture.
Reason (R): True Better roads, communication, and integration with markets have reduced dependence on traditional migratory pastoralism.
Link between A and R:

- Increased accessibility and economic integration encouraged permanent settlement and diversified occupations.
- Therefore, R correctly explains A.

Visual Representation:

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

Answer: (A)

Answer Key

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