CUET-UG Geography Sample Paper - 20

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. Who among the following geographers is associated with the concept of 'Neo-Determinism' (Stop and Go Determinism)?

(A) Griffith Taylor

(B) Friedrich Ratzel

(C) Vidal de la Blache

(D) Richard Hartshorne

Q2. The 'Welfare School' of thought in Human Geography emphasizes on:

(A) Quantitative mapping of resources.

(B) Social well-being of the people like housing, health, and education.

(C) The absolute control of nature over humans.

(D) Mathematical models of urban growth.

Q3. The 'Age-Sex Pyramid' of a country with a very high birth rate and high death rate would look like:

(A) Bell-shaped

(B) Narrow base and tapered top

(C) Triangular with a wide base

(D) Rectangular

Q4. Identify the most populous country in the world as per current demographic trends (2023-2024).

(A) China

(B) India

(C) USA

(D) Indonesia

Q5. Which of the following is an example of a 'Pull Factor' for migration to a specific city?

(A) Epidemics and poor health facilities.

(B) Political turmoil and war.

(C) Availability of regular work and higher wages.

(D) Frequent natural disasters.

Q6. In which type of agriculture are 'Citrus Fruits' (like grapes, olives, and oranges) highly significant?

(A) Mediterranean Agriculture

(B) Viticulture

(C) Market Gardening

(D) Mixed Farming

Q7. The 'Transhumance' practice is commonly associated with:

(A) Commercial Grain Farming

(B) Nomadic Herding

(C) Plantation Agriculture

(D) Collective Farming

Q8. Which of the following industries is classified as 'Agro-based'?

(A) Iron and Steel

(B) Aluminum Smelting

(C) Sugar Industry

(D) Petrochemicals

Q9. The term 'Blue-Collar Workers' is used for people engaged in:

(A) Primary activities

(B) Secondary activities (manufacturing)

(C) Tertiary activities

(D) Quaternary activities

Q10. Silicon Valley, near San Francisco, is a world-renowned 'Technopol' for which industry?

(A) Iron and Steel

(B) Textile

(C) Information Technology (IT)

(D) Petrochemicals

Q11. The 'Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway' is a major inland waterway in:

(A) Europe

(B) North America

(C) Asia

(D) South America

Q12. The 'Rhine Waterway' serves as the industrial lifeline for which of the following countries?

(A) UK and France

(B) Germany and Netherlands

(C) Russia and Ukraine

(D) USA and Canada

Q13. The 'Cyber Space' or Internet is an example of:

(A) Tangible communication

(B) Intangible/Electronic communication

(C) Mass print media

(D) Personal post

Q14. What is the primary function of the 'OPEC' organization?

(A) To promote global peace.

(B) To regulate the production and pricing of petroleum.

(C) To provide loans to developing nations.

(D) To protect endangered wildlife.

Q15. Which of the following is a 'Land-locked' port in India?

(A) Mumbai

(B) Vishakhapatnam

(C) Chennai

(D) Kandla

Q16. As per Census 2011, which state in India has the highest 'Sex Ratio' (females per 1000 males)?

(A) Haryana

(B) Kerala

(C) Tamil Nadu

(D) Punjab

Q17. The 'Main Workers' in India are those who work for at least _____ days in a year.

(A) 100

(B) 150

(C) 183

(D) 210

Q18. Which of the following states is the most populous in India as per Census 2011?

(A) Maharashtra

(B) West Bengal

(C) Uttar Pradesh

(D) Bihar

Q19. Which union territory of India has the highest population density?

(A) Lakshadweep

(B) Delhi

(C) Puducherry

(D) Chandigarh

Q20. The 'National Youth Policy' (NYP-2014) defines 'Youth' as persons in the age group of:

(A) 15-29 years

(B) 18-35 years

(C) 10-19 years

(D) 15-59 years

Q21. 'Panna', 'Para', and 'Nagla' are local names for which type of settlement?

(A) Clustered

(B) Dispersed

(C) Hamleted

(D) Semi-clustered

Q22. Which of the following is an example of an 'Administrative Town' in India?

(A) Varanasi

(B) Gandhinagar

(C) Jharia

(D) Modinagar

Q23. Identify the city that is a major 'Educational Town' in Rajasthan.

(A) Jaipur

(B) Udaipur

(C) Kota

(D) Jaisalmer

Q24. Which of the following is a non-renewable (exhaustible) source of energy?

(A) Solar energy

(B) Wind energy

(C) Natural Gas

(D) Tidal energy

Q25. The 'Bhakra Nangal' project is built across which river?

(A) Ganga

(B) Sutlej

(C) Mahanadi

(D) Krishna

Q26. Identify the 'Cottonopolis' of India due to its massive concentration of textile mills.

(A) Mumbai

(B) Ahmedabad

(C) Surat

(D) Kanpur

Q27. The 'Hiraud Dam' is located in which state?

(A) Odisha

(B) West Bengal

(C) Bihar

(D) Jharkhand

Q28. Which of the following is a major Iron-Ore mine in Karnataka?

(A) Bailadila

(B) Kudremukh

(C) Mayurbhanj

(D) Noamundi

Q29. The first 'Hydroelectric Power Station' in India was established at:

(A) Shivanasamudra

(B) Bhakra

(C) Tehri

(D) Koyna

Q30. The 'North-South Corridor' connects Srinagar to:

(A) Silchar

(B) Kanyakumari

(C) Chennai

(D) Kochi

Q31. The headquarters of the 'Northern Railway' zone is located in:

(A) Delhi

(B) Lucknow

(C) Allahabad

(D) Gorakhpur

Q32. Which port is known as the 'Gateway to the East' in India?

(A) Kolkata

(B) Paradip

(C) Vishakhapatnam

(D) Chennai

Q33. The 'Konkan Railway' connects which of the following states?

(A) Maharashtra, Goa, and Karnataka

(B) Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Goa

(C) Kerala and Tamil Nadu

(D) Andhra Pradesh and Odisha

Q34. The 'Golden Quadrilateral' project was launched during the tenure of which Prime Minister?

(A) Indira Gandhi

(B) Rajiv Gandhi

(C) Atal Bihari Vajpayee

(D) Manmohan Singh

Q35. What does 'GIS' stand for in Geography?

(A) Global Information System

(B) Geographic Information System

(C) Geological Indian Survey

(D) General International Standard

Q36. 'Noise Pollution' is measured in which of the following units?

(A) Hertz

(B) Decibel (dB)

(C) Joule

(D) Watt

Q37. The main cause of 'Acid Rain' is the emission of which gases into the atmosphere?

(A) Oxygen and Nitrogen

(B) Sulphur Dioxide and Nitrogen Oxides

(C) Carbon Dioxide and Methane

(D) Argon and Helium

Q38. Which of the following is a major source of 'Marine Pollution'?

(A) Agricultural organic farming.

(B) Oil spills from tankers and offshore drilling.

(C) Using solar energy for ships.

(D) Planting mangroves.

Q39. Identify the program launched to clean the Yamuna river.

(A) GAP (Ganga Action Plan)

(B) YAP (Yamuna Action Plan)

(C) NAMAMI GANGE

(D) SWACHH BHARAT

Q40. 'Slums' in urban areas are characterized by:

(A) High standard of living and spacious housing.

(B) Overcrowding, lack of sanitation, and poor housing.

(C) Abundant green spaces and parks.

(D) Planned infrastructure and wide roads.

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.

"Modern large-scale manufacturing is characterized by several distinct features that separate it from primitive cottage industries. The most significant of these is the use of 'Power-driven Machinery'. Unlike the past, where human or animal labor was the primary input, the contemporary industrial system relies on electricity and mechanical energy to perform complex tasks. Another key feature is 'Standardization'—the production of goods in large quantities with uniform quality. This requires a high degree of 'Specialization' of labor, where a worker performs a single task repeatedly within an assembly line. Furthermore, industrial location is no longer accidental; it is a calculated decision based on the 'Least Cost Theory'. Geographer Alfred Weber suggested that industries will be located where the total cost of production and transport is minimized. Factors such as proximity to raw materials, access to power supply, availability of skilled labor, and proximity to markets are evaluated. In recent years, 'High-Technology' industries have emerged, where Research and Development (R And D) are more important than the actual assembly of products. These industries often cluster in 'Science Parks' or 'Technopols' to benefit from shared knowledge and infrastructure."

Q41. According to the passage, what has replaced human and animal labor in modern manufacturing?

(A) Traditional hand-tools.

(B) Power-driven machinery.

(C) Better seeds and fertilizers.

(D) Artisanal craftsmanship.

Q42. What is 'Standardization' in the context of industrial production?

(A) Making every product unique.

(B) Producing goods in large quantities with uniform quality.

(C) Selling goods at different prices.

(D) Using only local raw materials.

Q43. Who proposed the 'Least Cost Theory' of industrial location?

(A) Griffith Taylor

(B) Alfred Weber

(C) Von Thunen

(D) Christaller

Q44. What are 'Technopols' as described in the text?

(A) Large agricultural fields.

(B) Clusters of high-technology industries.

(C) Centers for religious gatherings.

(D) Rural transport hubs.

Q45. What is the primary focus of 'High-Technology' industries?

(A) Manual assembly of low-value goods.

(B) Research and Development (R And D).

(C) Extraction of raw minerals.

(D) Subsistence level production.

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.

"Water resources in India are facing a dual challenge of availability and quality. Despite being a river-linked civilization, many regions suffer from acute 'Water Scarcity'. This is not only because of seasonal rainfall (monsoon) but also due to 'Over-exploitation' of groundwater for irrigation. In states like Punjab, Haryana, and Western Uttar Pradesh, the water table has depleted significantly. Beyond quantity, the 'Degradation of Water Quality' is a severe threat. Water quality refers to the purity of water or water without unwanted foreign substances. Water gets polluted by foreign matters such as microorganisms, chemicals, industrial and other wastes. Such matters deteriorate the quality of water and render it unfit for human use. When toxic substances enter lakes, streams, rivers, and other water bodies, they get dissolved or lie suspended in water. This results in 'Pollution of Water' whereby quality of water deteriorates affecting aquatic systems. Sometimes, these pollutants also seep down and pollute groundwater. The Ganga and the Yamuna are the two most polluted rivers in India. The government has initiated several programs like 'Water Act' and 'Cess Act' to prevent pollution, but the lack of public awareness and weak enforcement remain hurdles."

Q46. What is the primary cause of groundwater depletion in states like Punjab and Haryana?

(A) Lack of rainfall.

(B) Over-exploitation for irrigation.

(C) Industrial use only.

(D) Domestic water consumption.

Q47. According to the passage, what is 'Water Quality'?

(A) The amount of water in a river.

(B) The speed at which water flows.

(C) The purity of water or water without unwanted substances.

(D) The temperature of water bodies.

Q48. Which two rivers are mentioned as the most polluted in India?

(A) Krishna and Kaveri.

(B) Narmada and Tapti.

(C) Ganga and Yamuna.

(D) Indus and Brahmaputra.

Q49. How do pollutants affect 'Groundwater' according to the text?

(A) They increase the groundwater level.

(B) They seep down and pollute the groundwater.

(C) They have no effect on groundwater.

(D) They turn groundwater into ice.

Q50. What are the hurdles in preventing water pollution mentioned in the passage?

(A) Lack of rivers.

(B) Lack of technology.

(C) Lack of public awareness and weak enforcement.

(D) Too much rainfall.

Detailed Solutions

Q1.

Solution

Concept: The philosophy of 'Neo-Determinism' (Stop and Go Determinism) acts as a middle path between Environmental Determinism and Possibilism.

Solution:

1. This concept was introduced by the Australian geographer **Griffith Taylor**.
2. It suggests that while nature provides possibilities and sets the limits, humans can accelerate, slow down, or stop the speed of their development.
3. He used the analogy of a traffic controller in a city: nature is the signal that indicates 'go', 'stop', or 'caution', but it doesn't tell us the destination.
4. Friedrich Ratzel is associated with Determinism, while Vidal de la Blache is the father of Possibilism.
5. Thus, Griffith Taylor is the correct authority for this concept.

Final Answer: (A) Griffith Taylor

Answer: (A)

Q2.

Solution

Concept: Schools of Thought in Human Geography — The Welfare or Humanistic School.

Solution:

1. The **Welfare School** emerged as a reaction against the purely mathematical and economic models of the 1950s.
2. Its primary focus is on the "who gets what, where, and how."
3. It emphasizes the **social well-being** of people, focusing specifically on basic needs such as housing, healthcare, and education.
4. It treats geography as a tool to address social inequality and improve the quality of human life.
5. Quantitative mapping and deterministic views are associated with other geographical paradigms.

Final Answer: (B) Social well-being of the people like housing, health, and education.

Answer: (B)

Q3.

Solution

Concept: Demographic Transition and Age-Sex Structure (Population Pyramids).

Solution:

1. A population pyramid reflects the birth and death history of a population.
2. A **Triangular pyramid with a wide base** indicates that a large proportion of the population is in the younger age groups due to a **high birth rate**.
3. If the pyramid narrows rapidly towards the top, it reflects a **high death rate** across all age groups.
4. This is typical of developing or least developed countries (e.g., Nigeria or Bangladesh in the past).
5. Bell-shaped pyramids indicate constant growth, while a narrow base reflects declining birth rates.

Final Answer: (C) Triangular with a wide base

Answer: (C)

Q4.

Solution

Concept: Global Population Trends and Current Demographic Rankings.

Solution:

1. For decades, China held the title of the world's most populous nation.
2. However, according to data from the United Nations and the 2023-2024 demographic estimates, **India** has officially surpassed China to become the most populous country.
3. This is due to India's higher fertility rate compared to China's aging and shrinking population.
4. As of mid-2023, India's population was estimated to be around 1.428 billion.
5. Understanding these shifts is crucial for analyzing global resource demand and economic trends.

Final Answer: (B) India

Answer: (B)

Q5.

Solution

Concept: Migration Dynamics — Differentiating between Push and Pull Factors.

Solution:

1. **Pull factors** are the positive attributes of a destination that attract migrants from other places.
2. **Regular work and higher wages** are classic pull factors because they promise a better economic standard of living.
3. Epidemics, political turmoil, and natural disasters are all **Push factors** because they force people to leave their homes.
4. People move toward urban centers specifically because of the "pull" of industrial and service sector opportunities.
5. Therefore, option (C) is the only attraction factor listed.

Final Answer: (C) Availability of regular work and higher wages.

Answer: (C)

Q6.

Solution

Concept: World Agricultural Systems — Mediterranean Agriculture.

Solution:

1. **Mediterranean Agriculture** is a highly specialized commercial agriculture practiced in lands bordering the Mediterranean Sea, California, Central Chile, and South Africa.
2. It is particularly famous for **Viticulture** (grape cultivation) and the production of high-quality citrus fruits.
3. Olives, figs, and oranges are the staple high-value crops of this region.
4. Market gardening focuses on vegetables, and mixed farming focuses on both crops and livestock.
5. The specific mention of citrus and olives points directly to the Mediterranean system.

Final Answer: (A) Mediterranean Agriculture

Answer: (A)

Q7.

Solution

Concept: Nomadic Herding and Seasonal Migration (Transhumance).

Solution:

1. **Transhumance** is the seasonal movement of people and their livestock between pastures.
2. In mountainous regions (like the Himalayas), herders move to high-altitude summer pastures and return to low-altitude valleys in winter.
3. This is a characteristic feature of **Nomadic Herding** (Pastoral Nomadism).
4. Tribes like the Bakarwals, Gaddis, and Bhotiyas in India practice this traditional movement.
5. It is not practiced in commercial grain farming or plantation systems where the location is fixed.

Final Answer: (B) Nomadic Herding

Answer: (B)

Q8.

Solution

Concept: Classification of Industries based on the source of Raw Materials.

Solution:

1. **Agro-based industries** use agricultural products as their primary raw materials.
2. The **Sugar Industry** is purely agro-based because it relies on sugarcane, which is an agricultural crop.
3. Iron and Steel and Aluminum are mineral-based industries.
4. Petrochemicals are chemical-based industries derived from petroleum refining.
5. Other examples of agro-based industries include cotton textiles and jute manufacturing.

Final Answer: (C) Sugar Industry

Answer: (C)

Q9.

Solution

Concept: Classification of the Labor Force in Economic Sectors.

Solution:

1. The term **'Blue-Collar Workers'** refers to people who perform manual labor, particularly in the manufacturing and construction industries.
2. These workers are associated with the **Secondary sector** (manufacturing).
3. Red-collar workers are in the primary sector, White-collar workers are in the tertiary (office/service) sector, and Gold-collar workers are in the quaternary/quinary sectors.
4. This color-coding helps economists categorize the nature of the work performed.

Final Answer: (B) Secondary activities (manufacturing)

Answer: (B)

Q10.

Solution

Concept: High-Technology Industry and the creation of Technopols.

Solution:

1. A **Technopol** is a center of high-tech manufacturing and information-based services.
2. **Silicon Valley** is the world's most famous technopol, specializing in **Information Technology (IT)**, software, and semiconductors.
3. It grew due to the proximity of Stanford University and a high concentration of venture capital and skilled researchers.
4. It represents the "High-Tech" era where R and D is the primary driver of the economy.
5. Traditional heavy industries like Steel or Textiles do not define Silicon Valley's geography.

Final Answer: (C) Information Technology (IT)

Answer: (C)

Q11.

Solution

Concept: Major Inland Waterways of the World — The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence System.

Solution:

1. The **Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway** is one of the most important inland transport systems in **North America**.
2. It consists of the five Great Lakes (Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, and Ontario) and the St. Lawrence River.
3. This system allows large ocean-going vessels to travel from the Atlantic Ocean deep into the heart of the North American continent.
4. It serves the industrial heartlands of both the USA and Canada, transporting iron ore, grain, and coal.
5. It is a prime example of international cooperation in waterway management.

Final Answer: (B) North America

Answer: (B)

Q12.

Solution

Concept: Waterways as Industrial Lifelines — The Rhine River.

Solution:

1. The **Rhine** is the world's most heavily used waterway, flowing through several European countries.
2. It is considered the industrial lifeline specifically for **Germany** and the **Netherlands**.
3. The river connects the massive industrial Ruhr region of Germany to the port of Rotterdam in the Netherlands.
4. It facilitates the transport of coal, iron ore, and petrochemical products, making it vital for the European economy.
5. It flows into the North Sea, providing a direct link between Central Europe and global maritime trade.

Final Answer: (B) Germany and Netherlands

Answer: (B)

Q13.

Solution

Concept: Modern Communication Technologies — Cyber Space.

Solution:

1. **Cyber Space** is the world of electronic computer networks and the internet.
2. It is an example of **Intangible/Electronic communication** because information travels as data packets through wires, fiber optics, or satellite signals.
3. Unlike a letter (tangible) or a newspaper (print), the internet allows for the near-instantaneous exchange of information globally.
4. It is often described as the "World Wide Web," creating a virtual space that transcends physical boundaries.
5. It has transformed the way people interact, conduct business, and access information.

Final Answer: (B) Intangible/Electronic communication

Answer: (B)

Q14.

Solution

Concept: International Organizations and Global Trade — OPEC.

Solution:

1. **OPEC** stands for the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries.
2. Its primary function is to **coordinate and unify the petroleum policies** of its member countries.
3. This involves regulating the **production and pricing of petroleum** to ensure a steady income for member states and a stable supply for consumers.
4. By controlling a large portion of the world's oil reserves, OPEC exerts significant influence on the global economy.
5. It is not a military, peace-keeping, or environmental protection organization.

Final Answer: (B) To regulate the production and pricing of petroleum.

Answer: (B)

Q15.

Solution

Concept: Major Seaports of India — Physical characteristics.

Solution:

1. A **Land-locked port** is a port that is protected from the direct action of the sea by a surrounding landmass, often with a narrow entrance.
2. **Vishakhapatnam** is a premier example of a land-locked, deep-water port in India.
3. It is situated on the East Coast in Andhra Pradesh and is protected by a hill called 'Dolphin's Nose'.
4. Mumbai is a natural harbor, Chennai is an artificial port, and Kandla is a tidal port.
5. Vishakhapatnam is particularly important for the export of iron ore from the Bailadila mines.

Final Answer: (B) Vishakhapatnam

Answer: (B)

Q16.

Solution

Concept: Demographic Indicators in India — Sex Ratio.

Solution:

1. The sex ratio is defined as the number of females per 1,000 males in the population.
2. According to the **Census 2011**, **Kerala** has the highest sex ratio in India, with 1,084 females per 1,000 males.
3. This is attributed to high levels of literacy, better healthcare, and social empowerment of women in the state.
4. In contrast, states like Haryana and Punjab have historically recorded very low sex ratios.
5. Kerala is the only major state in India where the female population exceeds the male population.

Final Answer: (B) Kerala

Answer: (B)

Q17.

Solution

Concept: Economic Classification of the Population in India.

Solution:

1. The Census of India classifies the population into workers and non-workers based on their economic activity.
2. **Main Workers** are defined as persons who work for at least **183 days** (or six months) in a year.
3. Those who work for less than 183 days are classified as 'Marginal Workers'.
4. This classification helps the government understand the nature of employment and underemployment in the country.
5. Non-workers include those who do not perform any economic activity, such as students or retirees.

Final Answer: (C) 183

Answer: (C)

Q18.

Solution

Concept: Population Distribution in India — Most Populous States.

Solution:

1. Population distribution in India is highly uneven due to varying physical and economic conditions.
2. According to the **Census 2011**, **Uttar Pradesh** is the most populous state in India.
3. At the time, it accounted for nearly 16.5% of India's total population.
4. Maharashtra and Bihar rank second and third respectively in terms of population size.
5. Uttar Pradesh's vast fertile plains and history of settlement have contributed to its massive population density.

Final Answer: (C) Uttar Pradesh

Answer: (C)

Q19.

Solution

Concept: Population Density in Union Territories.

Solution:

1. Population density is calculated as the number of persons per unit of land area (usually per square kilometer).
2. Among the Union Territories, **Delhi** has the highest population density by a significant margin.
3. According to Census 2011, Delhi's density was 11,320 persons per sq. km.
4. This extreme density is due to its status as the national capital and a major economic hub attracting migrants from all over India.
5. Chandigarh and Puducherry also have high densities, but they are much lower than Delhi's.

Final Answer: (B) Delhi

Answer: (B)

Q20.

Solution

Concept: Demographic Policies — National Youth Policy (NYP-2014).

Solution:

1. The National Youth Policy 2014 was launched to empower the youth of India and enable them to realize their full potential.
2. The policy specifically defines 'Youth' as persons in the age group of **15–29 years**.
3. This is a shift from previous definitions and aligns with international standards for tracking the "youth dividend."
4. This age group is critical for education, skill development, and entry into the workforce.
5. The policy focuses on areas like health, education, social values, and community engagement.

Final Answer: (A) 15-29 years

Answer: (A)

Q21.

Solution

Concept: Rural Settlement Patterns — Hamleted Settlements.

Solution:

1. In India, a clustered settlement can sometimes be fragmented into several physical units which are separated but bear a common name.
2. These units are locally referred to as **Panna, Para, Nagla, Dhani, or Palli**.
3. This type of settlement is known as a **Hamleted Settlement**.
4. This fragmentation is often motivated by social and ethnic factors, where different groups live in separate hamlets.
5. These are most commonly found in the middle and lower Ganga plains, Chhattisgarh, and lower Himalayas.

Final Answer: (C) Hamleted

Answer: (C)

Q22.

Solution

Concept: Functional Classification of Indian Towns — Administrative Towns.

Solution:

1. **Administrative Towns** are those that serve as the headquarters of the government (state or central).
2. **Gandhinagar** (Gujarat), Chandigarh, New Delhi, and Bhubaneswar are prime examples of administrative towns.
3. Varanasi is a religious/cultural town; Jharia is a mining town; and Modinagar is an industrial town.
4. These towns are often well-planned and house the offices of the legislature, executive, and judiciary.
5. Their primary economy revolves around public administration and government services.

Final Answer: (B) Gandhinagar

Answer: (B)

Q23.

Solution

Concept: Functional Classification — Educational Towns.

Solution:

1. Towns that grow around major universities or educational institutes are called educational towns.
2. In Rajasthan, **Kota** has emerged as a globally recognized educational hub, particularly for competitive exam coaching.
3. Other examples in India include Roorkee, Aligarh, and Pilani.
4. While Jaipur is the capital (Administrative), Kota's primary identity and economy are now driven by the education sector.
5. Such towns attract a large student population from across the country, leading to the growth of auxiliary services like hostels and libraries.

Final Answer: (C) Kota

Answer: (C)

Q24.

Solution

Concept: Energy Resources — Non-renewable/Exhaustible sources.

Solution:

1. **Non-renewable resources** are those that are available in limited quantities and cannot be replenished once they are consumed.
2. **Natural Gas** is a fossil fuel that takes millions of years to form and is considered exhaustible.
3. Solar, Wind, and Tidal energy are renewable (inexhaustible) sources as they are constantly replenished by natural processes.
4. The combustion of natural gas also contributes to greenhouse gas emissions, unlike most renewable sources.
5. Transitioning away from non-renewable sources is a key goal for sustainable development globally.

Final Answer: (C) Natural Gas

Answer: (C)

Q25.

Solution

Concept: Multipurpose River Valley Projects in India.

Solution:

1. The **Bhakra Nangal Project** is one of India's earliest and largest multipurpose projects.
2. It is built across the **Sutlej River** in the states of Himachal Pradesh and Punjab.
3. The project consists of two dams—Bhakra and Nangal—and is used for irrigation, power generation, and flood control.
4. It is the highest gravity dam in India and serves the northern states of Punjab, Haryana, and Rajasthan.
5. The reservoir formed by the dam is known as 'Gobind Sagar'.

Final Answer: (B) Sutlej

Answer: (B)

Q26.

Solution

Concept: Industrial Geography — Textile Hubs of India.

Solution:

1. **Mumbai** was historically the first and most significant center for the cotton textile industry in India.
2. Due to its early dominance and the vast number of mills, it earned the nickname **'Cottonopolis' of India**.
3. Factors like the humid climate, proximity to cotton-growing areas (Black soil), and the presence of a major port facilitated this growth.
4. Ahmedabad is often called the 'Manchester of India', but Mumbai remains the original 'Cottonopolis'.
5. While many mills have closed, the city's identity remains deeply linked to its textile heritage.

Final Answer: (A) Mumbai

Answer: (A)

Q27.

Solution

Concept: Location of Major Dams in India.

Solution:

1. The **Hirakud Dam** is built across the Mahanadi River.
2. It is located in the state of **Odisha**.
3. It is famous for being one of the longest earthen dams in the world.
4. The project was initiated to control the devastating floods caused by the Mahanadi in the coastal plains of Odisha.
5. It is also a major source of hydroelectric power and irrigation for the region.

Final Answer: (A) Odisha

Answer: (A)

Q28.

Solution

Concept: Mineral Resources — Iron Ore Deposits in India.

Solution:

1. Karnataka is home to some of the richest and largest iron ore deposits in India.
2. **Kudremukh** is a major iron ore mine located in the Western Ghats of Karnataka.
3. The name 'Kudremukh' means 'horse face', referring to the shape of the mountain peak.
4. Bailadila is in Chhattisgarh; Mayurbhanj and Noamundi are in Odisha and Jharkhand respectively.
5. Iron ore from Kudremukh was historically exported as slurry through a pipeline to the Mangalore port.

Final Answer: (B) Kudremukh

Answer: (B)

Q29.

Solution

Concept: History of Power Generation in India.

Solution:

1. Hydroelectric power is a renewable source of energy generated from falling water.
2. The first hydroelectric power station in India was established at **Shivanasamudra** in 1902.
3. It is located on the Kaveri River in the state of Karnataka.
4. This plant was initially built to supply electricity to the Kolar Gold Fields.
5. This marked the beginning of modern electricity generation in the country.

Final Answer: (A) Shivanasamudra

Answer: (A)

Q30.

Solution

Concept: National Highway Network — North-South Corridor.

Solution:

1. The **North-South Corridor** is part of the largest highway project in India.
2. It is designed to connect the northernmost and southernmost parts of the country.
3. It connects **Srinagar** (Jammu and Kashmir) in the North to **Kanyakumari** (Tamil Nadu) in the South.
4. Silchar is connected to Porbandar by the East-West Corridor.
5. The junction where these two massive corridors intersect is located at Jhansi.

Final Answer: (B) Kanyakumari

Answer: (B)

Q31.

Solution

Concept: Railway Administration and Zonal Headquarters in India.

Solution:

1. For efficient management, the Indian Railways is divided into several zones.
2. The **Northern Railway** is one of the largest and oldest zones of the Indian Railways.
3. Its headquarters is located in the national capital, **Delhi** (at Baroda House).
4. Other zones include North Eastern (Gorakhpur), North Central (Allahabad/Prayagraj), and North Western (Jaipur).
5. The Delhi division is a critical hub for passenger and freight traffic in the country.

Final Answer: (A) Delhi

Answer: (A)

Q32.

Solution

Concept: Major Seaports of India — Kolkata Port.

Solution:

1. **Kolkata Port** (officially Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port) is the only major riverine port in India.
2. It is historically known as the **'Gateway to the East'** because it serves as the primary outlet for the entire Eastern and North-eastern part of the country.
3. It manages trade for landlocked countries like Nepal and Bhutan as well.
4. While Vishakhapatnam and Paradip are major eastern ports, Kolkata's historical and geographic role as a regional gateway remains unique.
5. To handle larger vessels that cannot reach Kolkata due to siltation, the Haldia dock complex was developed.

Final Answer: (A) Kolkata

Answer: (A)

Q33.

Solution

Concept: Strategic Rail Projects — Konkan Railway.

Solution:

1. The **Konkan Railway** is a landmark engineering marvel that runs along the western coast of India.
2. It connects the states of **Maharashtra, Goa, and Karnataka**.
3. It passes through extremely difficult terrain featuring numerous tunnels, bridges (including the Panvalnadi bridge), and viaducts.
4. It has significantly reduced travel time between Mumbai and southern cities like Mangalore and Kochi.
5. This railway has been instrumental in the economic development of the ecologically sensitive Konkan coast.

Final Answer: (A) Maharashtra, Goa, and Karnataka

Answer: (A)

Q34.

Solution

Concept: National Highway Projects and Political Leadership.

Solution:

1. The **Golden Quadrilateral** is a high-speed highway network connecting the four major metros: Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, and Kolkata.
2. This massive infrastructure project was launched during the tenure of Prime Minister **Atal Bihari Vajpayee** in 2001.
3. It was part of the National Highways Development Project (NHDP) to modernize India's transport infrastructure.
4. The project aimed to reduce travel time and distance between the major economic hubs of India.
5. It remains one of the largest highway projects in the world.

Final Answer: (C) Atal Bihari Vajpayee

Answer: (C)

Q35.

Solution

Concept: Modern Geographical Tools — GIS.

Solution:

1. Geography has evolved into a high-tech science using digital tools for spatial analysis.
2. **GIS** stands for **Geographic Information System**.
3. It is a computer-based system used for capturing, storing, checking, and displaying data related to positions on Earth's surface.
4. It allows geographers to layer different types of information (like population, land use, and rainfall) to analyze complex spatial relationships.
5. It is widely used today in urban planning, disaster management, and environmental monitoring.

Final Answer: (B) Geographic Information System

Answer: (B)

Q36.

Solution

Concept: Environmental Geography — Measurement of Noise Pollution.

Solution:

1. Noise pollution refers to sounds that are harmful or annoying to humans and animals.
2. The standard unit used to measure the intensity or loudness of sound is the **Decibel (dB)**.
3. Hertz is the unit for frequency (pitch), while Joules and Watts are units for energy and power respectively.
4. High decibel levels (usually above 80–90 dB) can cause hearing loss, stress, and other physiological health issues.
5. Urban areas and industrial zones are the primary hotspots for noise pollution.

Final Answer: (B) Decibel (dB)

Answer: (B)

Q37.

Solution

Concept: Atmospheric Pollution and its Chemical Effects.

Solution:

1. **Acid Rain** occurs when the pH level of rain becomes unusually low (acidic).
2. This is caused by the release of **Sulphur Dioxide (SO_2)** and **Nitrogen Oxides (NO_x)** into the atmosphere.
3. These gases, primarily from burning fossil fuels in factories and vehicles, react with water vapor to form sulphuric and nitric acids.
4. Acid rain damages buildings (like the Taj Mahal), kills aquatic life, and harms vegetation.
5. It is a cross-border environmental issue as the pollutants can travel long distances with the wind.

Final Answer: (B) Sulphur Dioxide and Nitrogen Oxides

Answer: (B)

Q38.

Solution

Concept: Sources of Marine Pollution.

Solution:

1. Oceans are becoming increasingly polluted due to human activities on land and at sea.
2. A major source of marine pollution is **Oil spills from tankers and offshore drilling**.
3. These spills create an "oil slick" on the water's surface, which prevents oxygen from entering and kills marine organisms and birds.
4. Other sources include the dumping of plastic waste and untreated industrial sewage into the sea.
5. Planting mangroves and organic farming are actually beneficial to the environment and do not cause pollution.

Final Answer: (B) Oil spills from tankers and offshore drilling.

Answer: (B)

Q39.

Solution

Concept: River Rejuvenation Projects in India.

Solution:

1. The Yamuna is one of the most polluted rivers in India, especially the stretch near Delhi.
2. To address this, the government launched the **Yamuna Action Plan (YAP)** in the early 1990s.
3. It was modeled after the Ganga Action Plan (GAP) and focused on intercepting sewage and treating it before it enters the river.
4. Namami Gange is the integrated conservation mission specifically for the Ganga.
5. Despite multiple phases of YAP, the river continues to face high levels of pollution due to untreated industrial waste.

Final Answer: (B) YAP (Yamuna Action Plan)

Answer: (B)

Q40.

Solution

Concept: Urban Geography — Characteristics of Slums.

Solution:

1. **Slums** are residential areas that are physically and socially degraded.
2. They are characterized by **overcrowding, a lack of basic sanitation, and poor-quality housing**.
3. They typically lack official titles to the land and are characterized by high poverty levels.
4. Slums like Dharavi in Mumbai reflect the inability of urban infrastructure to keep pace with rapid migration.
5. They represent a significant challenge for sustainable urban development and public health.

Final Answer: (B) Overcrowding, lack of sanitation, and poor housing.

Answer: (B)

Q41.

Solution

Concept: Technological shift in modern manufacturing systems.

Solution:

1. The passage discusses the distinct features that separate modern large-scale manufacturing from primitive cottage industries.
2. It explicitly states that the "most significant" change is the transition in the source of energy and labor.
3. According to the text, the contemporary industrial system relies on **power-driven machinery** and mechanical energy.
4. This has replaced the traditional reliance on human or animal labor that characterized the industries of the past.
5. Traditional tools and artisanal craftsmanship are hallmarks of the cottage industry, not the modern system.

Final Answer: (B) Power-driven machinery.

Answer: (B)

Q42.

Solution

Concept: Production techniques in large-scale manufacturing.

Solution:

1. The passage identifies 'Standardization' as a key feature of the modern industrial system.
2. It defines standardization as the **production of goods in large quantities with uniform quality**.
3. This ensures that every unit produced on an assembly line is identical to the others in terms of size, quality, and performance.
4. This process is essential for mass consumption and the interchangeability of parts.
5. Making unique products is the opposite of standardization and is characteristic of craft production.

Final Answer: (B) Producing goods in large quantities with uniform quality.

Answer: (B)

Q43.

Solution

Concept: Theoretical foundations of Industrial Geography.

Solution:

1. The passage explains that industrial location is a calculated decision based on economic efficiency.
2. It explicitly names the geographer **Alfred Weber** as the one who suggested the 'Least Cost Theory'.
3. The theory posits that industries will be located at a point where the combined costs of raw material transport and finished product transport are at their lowest.
4. Von Thunen is known for Agricultural Location theory, and Christaller for Central Place Theory.
5. Weber's work remains the fundamental basis for classical industrial location analysis.

Final Answer: (B) Alfred Weber

Answer: (B)

Q44.

Solution

Concept: Spatial organization of High-Technology industries.

Solution:

1. The passage describes a recent trend where industries focus more on Research and Development (R and D).
2. These high-technology industries tend to cluster in specific geographic areas known as 'Science Parks' or **'Technopols'**.
3. Therefore, technopols are defined in the text as **clusters of high-technology industries**.
4. They are designed to foster innovation through the shared use of high-end infrastructure and proximity to research universities.
5. Examples include Silicon Valley in the USA and Bangalore (Whitefield) in India.

Final Answer: (B) Clusters of high-technology industries.

Answer: (B)

Q45.

Solution

Concept: The core driver of the Quaternary/High-Tech sector.

Solution:

1. According to the passage, high-technology industries represent the latest stage of industrialization.
2. It specifies that in these industries, the actual assembly of products is less important than the intellectual work behind them.
3. The primary focus and "more important" aspect identified is **Research and Development (R and D)**.
4. This involves constant innovation, software creation, and the application of advanced scientific knowledge.
5. Extracting minerals or manual assembly are features of the primary and traditional secondary sectors respectively.

Final Answer: (B) Research and Development (R and D).

Answer: (B)

Q46.

Solution

Concept: Causes of water resource stress in agricultural regions.

Solution:

1. The passage notes that India faces a challenge regarding the availability of water.
2. It highlights that the water table has "depleted significantly" in specific agricultural states like Punjab and Haryana.
3. The reason provided for this depletion is the **over-exploitation of groundwater for irrigation**.
4. High-yielding variety (HYV) crops in these regions require intensive watering, leading to the pumping of water at a rate faster than natural recharge.
5. While seasonal rainfall is a factor, the text identifies over-exploitation as the primary cause of the falling water table.

Final Answer: (B) Over-exploitation for irrigation.

Answer: (B)

Q47.

Solution

Concept: Definition of Water Quality in environmental terms.

Solution:

1. The passage provides a specific definition for 'Water Quality' to distinguish it from 'Water Quantity'.
2. It defines it as the **purity of water or water without unwanted foreign substances**.
3. These foreign substances can include microorganisms, toxic chemicals, or industrial waste.
4. When these substances exceed safe limits, the water is considered "polluted" and unfit for use.
5. The speed or temperature of water may be physical properties, but quality refers specifically to its chemical and biological purity.

Final Answer: (C) The purity of water or water without unwanted substances.

Answer: (C)

Q48.

Solution

Concept: Identifying heavily polluted water bodies in India.

Solution:

1. The passage discusses the degradation of river systems due to human and industrial waste.
2. It explicitly identifies the **Ganga and the Yamuna** as the two most polluted rivers in India.
3. The Ganga suffers from high organic pollution and coliform bacteria, while the Yamuna is severely affected by industrial discharge from Delhi and Haryana.
4. Rejuvenating these two rivers is the focus of massive government projects.
5. Other river systems like the Narmada or Indus are not mentioned as the "most polluted" in this specific text.

Final Answer: (C) Ganga and Yamuna.

Answer: (C)

Q49.

Solution

Concept: The process of Groundwater Contamination.

Solution:

1. Pollution is not limited to surface water bodies like rivers and lakes.
2. The passage explains that when toxic substances enter surface water, they can also affect the aquifers below.
3. It states that these pollutants **seep down and pollute the groundwater**.
4. This "leaching" process means that even deep wells and hand-pumps can become sources of contaminated water.
5. This makes water pollution a multi-dimensional threat to both surface and subsurface resources.

Final Answer: (B) They seep down and pollute the groundwater.

Answer: (B)

Q50.

Solution

Concept: Challenges in environmental governance.

Solution:

1. The passage mentions that the government has enacted laws like the 'Water Act' to control pollution.
2. However, it identifies specific reasons why these measures haven't been fully successful.
3. The "hurdles" mentioned in the text are the **lack of public awareness and weak enforcement** of the existing laws.
4. Without public cooperation and strict penalties for industrial violators, the quality of water continues to deteriorate.
5. Too much rainfall or a lack of rivers are not cited as the problems in the context of this passage.

Final Answer: (C) Lack of public awareness and weak enforcement.

Answer: (C)

Answer Key

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