

CUET-UG Geography Sample Paper-6

Duration: 1 Hour

Maximum Marks: 250

Instructions

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

Q1. The transition from "Quantitative Revolution" to "Humanistic Geography" marked a paradigm shift. Which of the following best characterizes the Humanistic approach?

- (A) Emphasis on the use of sophisticated statistical tools and spatial laws.
- (B) Focus on the agency, consciousness, and lived experiences of individuals in space.
- (C) Focus on the structural causes of social inequality through a Marxian lens.
- (D) The belief that human behavior is a direct response to environmental stimuli.

Q2. Identify the correct chronological order of the following schools of thought in Human Geography:

- (A) Areal Differentiation → Quantitative Revolution → Radical School → Post-Modernism
- (B) Quantitative Revolution → Areal Differentiation → Post-Modernism → Radical School
- (C) Radical School → Areal Differentiation → Quantitative Revolution → Post-Modernism
- (D) Post-Modernism → Radical School → Quantitative Revolution → Areal Differentiation

Q3. Which geographer is associated with the concept of "Landscape as a cultural



synthesis," emphasizing that "culture is the agent, the natural area is the medium, and the cultural landscape is the result"?

- (A) Ellen Churchill Semple
- (B) Carl O. Sauer
- (C) Friedrich Ratzel
- (D) Paul Vidal de la Blache

Q4. In a population pyramid with a very narrow base and a top that is almost as wide as the middle (an "Urn-shaped" pyramid), which demographic trend is most evident?

- (A) High infant mortality and high birth rates.
- (B) Rapidly expanding young population.
- (C) Below-replacement fertility and a high median age.
- (D) Balanced growth with equal birth and death rates.

Q5. The "Gender Inequality Index" (GII), introduced by the UNDP, measures loss in human development due to inequality between female and male achievements. Which of these is NOT a dimension of GII?

- (A) Reproductive Health
- (B) Empowerment (Parliamentary seats)
- (C) Labour Market Participation
- (D) Gross National Income per capita

Q6. According to the "Demographic Transition Theory," during which stage does the "Population Explosion" typically occur?

- (A) Stage I: High birth and high death rates.
- (B) Stage II: High birth rates and rapidly declining death rates.
- (C) Stage III: Declining birth rates and low death rates.
- (D) Stage IV: Low birth and low death rates.



- Q7.** The "Human Poverty Index" (HPI) differs from the HDI because it:
- (A) Measures the progress of the wealthiest 10% of the population.
 - (B) Measures the shortfalls or deficiencies in the same three basic dimensions as HDI.
 - (C) Only considers economic income without looking at health.
 - (D) Is used only for developed nations like Norway.
- Q8.** Which of the following describes the "Physiological Density" of a population?
- (A) Total Population / Total Land Area
 - (B) Total Population / Total Cultivable (Arable) Land Area
 - (C) Total Agricultural Population / Net Sown Area
 - (D) Total Urban Population / Total Urban Area
- Q9.** Which of the following regions is characterized by low population density despite having a favorable climate, primarily due to historical and accessibility factors?
- (A) Java (Indonesia)
 - (B) The Nile Delta
 - (C) The Amazon Basin
 - (D) The Interior of Australia
- Q10.** In "Extensive Commercial Grain Cultivation," the yield per acre is relatively low, but the yield per person is very high. Why?
- (A) Because of the use of organic fertilizers.
 - (B) Because of the high degree of mechanization and large farm sizes.
 - (C) Due to the absence of irrigation facilities.
 - (D) Because only one crop is grown throughout the year.
- Q11.** Which of the following pairs is INCORRECTLY matched regarding nomadic herding regions and their primary animals?



- (A) Tundra Region – Reindeer
- (B) Tibet and Andean Plateaus – Yak and Llamas
- (C) Sahara and Asiatic Deserts – Sheep, Goats, and Camels
- (D) Tropical Africa – Horses and Mules

Q12. "Agglomeration Economies" in the secondary sector refer to:

- (A) The benefits industries derive from being located near a raw material source.
- (B) Savings derived from the cluster of several industries in close proximity to share infrastructure and services.
- (C) The government subsidies provided to industries in backward regions.
- (D) The cost of transporting finished goods to the market.

Q13. Which of the following is a "Technopolos"?

- (A) A city where traditional textile manufacturing is the main activity.
- (B) A high-tech industrial park consisting of self-sustained, highly specialized research and development units.
- (C) A market town that deals exclusively with agricultural trade.
- (D) A port city that handles only oil and gas.

Q14. Identify the "Quinary" activity from the options below:

- (A) A software engineer developing a new mobile application.
- (B) A senior consultant or policy-maker involved in high-level decision making.
- (C) A teacher providing online lectures to students globally.
- (D) A worker in a specialized automobile assembly line.

Q15. The "Kolkhoz" was a form of collective farming introduced in which country?

- (A) Israel (Kibbutz)
- (B) Mexico (Ejidos)
- (C) Former Soviet Union (USSR)



(D) China (Communes)

Q16. The "Outsourcing" of services (BPO/KPO) to developing countries like India and the Philippines is primarily driven by:

(A) Availability of cheap raw materials.

(B) Comparative advantage in labor costs and a skilled English-speaking workforce.

(C) High demand for manufactured goods in these countries.

(D) Stringent environmental laws in the home country.

Q17. Which of the following is a "Land-locked" country that depends on the "Trans-African Highway" for its international trade?

(A) Nigeria

(B) Ethiopia

(C) South Africa

(D) Egypt

Q18. The "North Atlantic Sea Route" is the busiest in the world. Which of the following is a major reason for its dominance?

(A) It connects two highly industrialized regions of the world (Eastern USA and Western Europe).

(B) It is the shortest route between the Northern and Southern Hemispheres.

(C) It is the only route that does not require the use of any canals.

(D) It is primarily used for the transport of petroleum from the Middle East.

Q19. The "International Date Line" (IDL) deviates from the 180° meridian primarily to:

(A) Follow the magnetic North Pole.

(B) Avoid cutting through landmasses and dividing the time/day within a single country or island group.



- (C) Match the rotation speed of the Earth at the equator.
- (D) Ensure that the Pacific Ocean is perfectly halved.

Q20. What is the "Digital Divide" in the context of global communication?

- (A) The physical distance between two fiber-optic cable hubs.
- (B) The gap between information-rich (developed) and information-poor (developing) nations in ICT access.
- (C) The difference in the cost of satellite vs. cable internet.
- (D) The time difference between the Prime Meridian and the IDL.

Q21. Identify the major industrial region located at the junction of the Great Lakes in North America, known for its historic lead in automobile manufacturing:

- (A) New England
- (B) The Ruhr
- (C) The Detroit-Windsor corridor
- (D) The Silicon Valley

Q22. Which of the following inland waterways uses the "Mississippi-Missouri" river system to connect the interior of the USA to the Gulf of Mexico?

- (A) The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway
- (B) The Gulf Intracoastal Waterway
- (C) The Rhine-Danube Canal
- (D) The Soo Canal

Q23. On a world map, the "Canberra-Sydney-Melbourne" corridor is the most densely populated part of which continent?

- (A) North America
- (B) South America
- (C) Australia



(D) Africa

Q24. The "Cape of Good Hope" sea route was largely superseded in importance for European-Asian trade by the opening of which canal?

(A) Panama Canal

(B) Kiel Canal

(C) Suez Canal

(D) Corinth Canal

Q25. In which ocean would you find the "Great Circle Route" that connects Tokyo directly to San Francisco?

(A) Atlantic Ocean

(B) Indian Ocean

(C) Pacific Ocean

(D) Arctic Ocean

Q26. Which of the following states has the highest "Physiological Density" in India, considering the pressure of population on its total net cultivated area?

(A) Bihar

(B) West Bengal

(C) Kerala

(D) Uttar Pradesh

Q27. The "Working Population" in India is divided into Main Workers, Marginal Workers, and Non-workers. A 'Marginal Worker' is defined as a person who works for:

(A) Less than 183 days (or six months) in a year.

(B) Exactly 183 days in a year.

(C) More than 183 days but less than 250 days.

(D) Only during the Kharif season.



- Q28.** According to the 2011 Census, which of the following linguistic groups is the second largest in India after the Indo-Aryan family?
- (A) Sino-Tibetan (Kirata)
 - (B) Austro-Asiatic (Nishada)
 - (C) Dravidian
 - (D) Indo-European
- Q29.** In which of the following phases of population growth in India (1901–2011) was the growth rate referred to as a "Stagnant Phase" due to high birth and high death rates?
- (A) 1901–1921
 - (B) 1921–1951
 - (C) 1951–1981
 - (D) 1981–2011
- Q30.** The spatial distribution of the "Child Sex Ratio" (0–6 years) in India shows a sharp decline primarily in which of the following regions?
- (A) North-Eastern States
 - (B) Tribal belts of Chhattisgarh and Odisha
 - (C) North-Western states like Punjab and Haryana
 - (D) Southern states like Kerala and Tamil Nadu
- Q31.** In the context of Indian rural settlements, "Panna, Para, Palli, Nagla, and Dhani" are regional names for which type of settlement?
- (A) Clustered Settlements
 - (B) Hamleted Settlements
 - (C) Dispersed Settlements
 - (D) Semi-clustered Settlements



- Q32.** Which of the following is a "Garrison Town" (Cantonment Town) established during the British period?
- (A) Jamshedpur
 - (B) Ambala
 - (C) Bhilai
 - (D) Kandla
- Q33.** What is the criteria for a settlement to be classified as a "Statutory Town" in India?
- (A) Population more than 5,000.
 - (B) At least 75% of male working population in non-agricultural activities.
 - (C) Presence of a municipality, corporation, cantonment board, or notified town area committee.
 - (D) Density of at least 400 persons per square kilometer.
- Q34.** The "Hoshangabad" and "Itarsi" region of Madhya Pradesh is significant for which type of agriculture that involves high capital and input for high-value crops?
- (A) Subsistence farming
 - (B) Commercial Plantation
 - (C) Intensive Subsistence agriculture
 - (D) Mixed farming
- Q35.** The "National Sustainable Agriculture Mission" (NMSA) emphasizes "Per Drop More Crop." Which irrigation technology is most critical to this objective in arid regions of Vidarbha?
- (A) Canal Irrigation
 - (B) Drip and Sprinkler Irrigation
 - (C) Tank Irrigation
 - (D) Persian Wheel



- Q36.** In India, "Lignite" coal is primarily found in which of the following locations?
- (A) Jharia, Jharkhand
 - (B) Neyveli, Tamil Nadu
 - (C) Raniganj, West Bengal
 - (D) Singrauli, Madhya Pradesh
- Q37.** Which of the following iron-ore mines is known for having one of the largest deposits of high-grade hematite and is located in the Bastar district of Chhattisgarh?
- (A) Kudremukh
 - (B) Bailadila
 - (C) Ratnagiri
 - (D) Noamundi
- Q38.** The "Solar Energy Corporation of India" (SECI) is developing the world's largest solar-wind hybrid park in which district?
- (A) Kutch, Gujarat
 - (B) Jodhpur, Rajasthan
 - (C) Tumakuru, Karnataka
 - (D) Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh
- Q39.** Which planning approach focuses on development of backward areas like the "Hill Area Development Programme" (HADP) to reduce regional disparities?
- (A) Sectoral Planning
 - (B) Target Area Planning
 - (C) Multi-level Planning
 - (D) Macro-economic Planning
- Q40.** The "Bharadwaj Committee" and the "Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel" (Madhav Gadgil Report) are associated with the sustainable development of which region?



- (A) The Himalayas
- (B) The Coastal Plains
- (C) The Western Ghats
- (D) The Thar Desert

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 spatial organization of manufacturing has undergone a radical transformation with the emergence of High-Technology industries. Unlike traditional heavy industries, which were tied to raw material sources like coal and iron, high-tech industries are 'footloose' and place a premium on 'Agglomeration Economies.' These industries are often characterized by specialized 'Technopolies'—self-sustained, highly concentrated areas of modern manufacturing and research. These centers, such as Silicon Valley in California and Silicon Plateau (Bengaluru) in India, rely on a unique workforce known as 'Gold-collar' professionals. This shift is not merely economic but also geographical, as these 'Neocentres' prefer aesthetically pleasing environments with high connectivity. However, the concentration of such industries in specific nodes often exacerbates regional disparities and leads to the emergence of 'Digital Divides' between urban-industrial hubs and their rural hinterlands.

- Q41.** The passage refers to high-tech industries as "footloose." Which of the following best describes the locational behavior of a footloose industry?
- (A) They must be located near bulky raw materials to reduce transportation costs.
 - (B) They are spatially constrained by the availability of perennial water sources.
 - (C) They can be located in a wide variety of places as they depend on component parts and highly skilled labor rather than heavy resources.



(D) They are strictly tied to coastal ports for the export of unrefined ores.

Q42. What is the primary role of "Agglomeration Economies" in the development of Technopolies as mentioned in the text?

(A) To decentralize manufacturing units to remote rural areas to reduce land costs.

(B) To benefit from the proximity of related firms, specialized services, and shared infrastructure.

(C) To ensure that the industry remains near the source of hydro-electric power.

(D) To minimize the number of "Gold-collar" professionals required for operations.

Q43. Which of the following professional categories is most likely involved in the research and development (R&D) and strategic decision-making within a Technopoly?

(A) Red-collar workers (Primary sector)

(B) Blue-collar workers (Traditional manufacturing)

(C) Pink-collar workers (Service sector)

(D) Gold-collar workers (Quinary/Quaternary activities)

Q44. Assertion (A): The growth of Technopolies like Bengaluru often leads to the widening of the "Digital Divide."

Reason (R): High-tech industrial growth is highly concentrated in specific urban nodes, leaving rural hinterlands with limited access to technological infrastructure and employment.

(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.** Based on the passage, why do "Neocentres" of high-tech industry prioritize "aesthetically pleasing environments"?
- (A) To facilitate the large-scale dumping of industrial waste without notice.
 - (B) To attract and retain highly mobile, high-skilled professionals who value quality of life.
 - (C) Because high-tech manufacturing requires the extraction of local floral and faunal resources.
 - (D) To hide the "Smoke-stack" nature of their heavy smelting operations.

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 process of urbanization in the developing world is often characterized by 'over-urbanization,' where the pace of population growth in cities outstrips the development of infrastructure and employment opportunities. This leads to the emergence of dualistic urban structures. On one hand, there are planned 'Centripetal' business districts, and on the other, vast spontaneous 'Peripheral' settlements or slums. Dharavi, in Mumbai, serves as a quintessential example. While it is often labeled as a 'slum' due to its high population density and lack of formal sanitation, it functions as a highly integrated industrial ecosystem. It processes a significant portion of the city's recyclable waste, representing a form of 'informal urban metabolism.' However, the residents face extreme environmental hazards, including groundwater contamination and air pollution, highlighting the failure of traditional urban planning to integrate the informal sector into the sustainable development framework.

- Q46.** The passage refers to "Over-urbanization." Which of the following conditions best defines this phenomenon in the context of Indian cities?
- (A) A state where 100



- (B) When urban population growth is driven by distress migration from rural areas rather than an increase in industrial demand.
- (C) When a city reaches its maximum physical boundary and cannot expand further.
- (D) The complete elimination of the rural-urban fringe through planned green belts.

Q47. In the context of "Urban Metabolism" mentioned in the text, what is the primary role played by settlements like Dharavi?

- (A) They act as the primary administrative centers for the municipal corporation.
- (B) They serve as hubs for the collection, sorting, and recycling of urban waste, turning waste back into raw materials.
- (C) They are strictly residential zones for the high-income "Gold-collar" workforce.
- (D) They prevent the city from expanding into the surrounding agricultural hinterland.

Q48. What does the term "Dualistic Urban Structure" imply regarding the spatial organization of cities like Mumbai?

- (A) The city is divided equally between primary and secondary economic sectors.
- (B) The coexistence of high-end, planned infrastructure alongside unplanned, informal settlements with minimal services.
- (C) A city that functions both as a capital and a port.
- (D) The presence of two identical Central Business Districts (CBDs) in a single metropolitan area.

Q49. Assertion (A): Traditional urban planning often fails to achieve "Sustainable Development" in mega-cities.

Reason (R): Planners frequently overlook the socio-economic contributions of the informal sector and focus solely on formal infrastructure.



- (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.

Q50. Based on the geographical perspective of environmental pollution, what is the most likely cause of "Groundwater Contamination" in dense, informal settlements as described in the passage?

- (A) The excessive use of chemical fertilizers in urban kitchen gardens.
- (B) Leaching of toxins from unorganized small-scale industries and lack of a formal sewage system.
- (C) High levels of precipitation leading to natural mineral runoff.
- (D) The use of electric vehicles for public transport within the settlement.



Detailed Solutions**Q1.****Solution**

Concept: Humanistic Geography emerged as a response to the Quantitative Revolution, shifting focus from spatial laws and mathematical models to human experience. It emphasizes meaning, perception, values, and lived experiences of individuals in space. This approach argues that geography is not just about measurable patterns but also about how people emotionally and subjectively experience places and landscapes.

Solution: The question asks about the core feature of the Humanistic approach in geography. After the Quantitative Revolution, which relied heavily on statistical and spatial modeling, Humanistic Geography emerged in the 1970s as a critique. Thinkers like Yi-Fu Tuan and Edward Relph emphasized that space is not merely an abstract container but is experienced differently by individuals. It focuses on concepts such as sense of place, place attachment, perception, and lived experience. Unlike positivist approaches, it rejects the idea that human behavior can be fully explained through universal laws or environmental determinism. Instead, it highlights subjective interpretation and emotional relationships with places. Therefore, the correct option is the one that emphasizes agency, consciousness, and lived experience.

Final Answer: Focus on the agency, consciousness, and lived experiences of individuals in space

Answer: (B)

Q2.**Solution**

Concept: The development of Human Geography schools of thought reflects a chronological evolution from descriptive to analytical, critical, and interpretive approaches. It begins with Areal Differentiation, followed by the Quantitative Revolution, then Radical Geography influenced by Marxism, and finally Post-Modernism which critiques grand narratives and emphasizes plurality of meanings.

Solution: The question asks for the correct chronological order of major schools in Human Geography. Areal Differentiation, associated with Richard Hartshorne, is the earliest phase focusing on describing regions. The Quantitative Revolution (1950s–60s) introduced mathematical models and spatial analysis. In the 1970s, Radical Geography emerged, influenced by Marxist theory, focusing on inequality and capitalism. Later, Post-Modernism developed in the 1980s–90s, challenging universal explanations and emphasizing multiple perspectives. Therefore, the correct sequence follows historical development from descriptive regional geography to quantitative methods, then critical radical thought, and finally post-modern interpretations.

Final Answer: Areal Diff. → Quantitative → Radical → Post-modern

Answer: (A)



Q3.

Solution

Concept: Carl O. Sauer is a key figure in cultural geography who emphasized the concept of cultural landscape. He argued that culture acts as the agent, the natural environment is the medium, and the resulting cultural landscape is the product. This highlights the interaction between human culture and physical environment in shaping geographical space.

Solution: The question refers to the idea of cultural landscape as a synthesis of human and environmental interaction. Carl O. Sauer, associated with the Berkeley School, strongly opposed environmental determinism and instead promoted cultural determinism. He defined landscape as the visible outcome of human activity on the natural environment. In his framework, culture is the active force shaping land, nature provides the setting or medium, and the cultural landscape is the final outcome. This approach became foundational in cultural geography by shifting focus from nature-dominated explanations to human agency in shaping space. Therefore, the correct answer is Carl O. Sauer.

Final Answer: Carl O. Sauer

Answer: (B)

Q4.

Solution

Concept: Population pyramids represent age-sex structure of a population. An urn-shaped pyramid indicates a narrow base and relatively wider middle and top, which reflects low birth rates, low fertility, and an ageing population. This structure is typical of developed countries undergoing demographic transition in its final stages.

Solution: The question describes an urn-shaped population pyramid with a narrow base and relatively broader middle and upper sections. This shape indicates that fewer children are being born, while a larger proportion of the population belongs to older age groups. It is characteristic of countries with advanced demographic transition where fertility rates fall below replacement level. Life expectancy is high, and population growth is either stagnant or declining. Unlike expansive pyramids seen in developing countries, urn-shaped pyramids reflect ageing societies such as Japan or parts of Europe. Therefore, the correct interpretation is below-replacement fertility combined with a high median age and an ageing population structure.

Final Answer: Below-replacement fertility and a high median age

Answer: (C)



Q5.

Solution

Concept: The Gender Inequality Index (GII) developed by UNDP measures disparities between males and females in three main dimensions: reproductive health, empowerment, and labour market participation. It does not directly include income measures like Gross National Income per capita, which is instead part of the Human Development Index (HDI).

Solution: The question asks which option is NOT a dimension of the Gender Inequality Index. GII focuses on three core areas: reproductive health (maternal mortality ratio and adolescent birth rate), empowerment (parliamentary representation and educational attainment), and labour market participation (female participation in workforce). These dimensions capture gender-based disadvantages in health, political power, and economic activity. However, Gross National Income (GNI) per capita is not part of GII; it is used in HDI to measure general economic development rather than gender disparity specifically. Therefore, among the given options, GNI per capita is not included in GII dimensions.

Final Answer: Gross National Income per capita

Answer: (D)

Q6.

Solution

Concept: The Demographic Transition Theory explains population change through stages linked to economic development. Population explosion occurs when death rates decline rapidly due to improved healthcare, while birth rates remain high, creating a wide gap between births and deaths. This results in rapid natural increase of population during early transitional development phases.

Solution: The question asks during which stage population explosion occurs in the Demographic Transition Model (DTM). In Stage I, both birth and death rates are high, so population growth is minimal. In Stage II, death rates decline sharply due to improvements in medicine, sanitation, and food supply, while birth rates remain high due to social and cultural factors. This mismatch leads to a sharp rise in population, known as population explosion. In Stage III, birth rates begin to decline, reducing growth rate. Stage IV represents low birth and death rates with stable or slow growth. Therefore, the explosive growth phase clearly occurs in Stage II when mortality falls but fertility remains high.

Final Answer: Stage II: High birth rates and rapidly declining death rates

Answer: (B)



Q7.

Solution

Concept: The Human Poverty Index (HPI) was developed to complement the Human Development Index (HDI). While HDI measures average achievements in health, education, and income, HPI focuses on the deprivation or shortfalls in these same dimensions, highlighting the proportion of people lacking basic human capabilities.

Solution: The question asks how HPI differs from HDI. Unlike HDI, which shows overall development levels, HPI is designed to measure poverty in terms of deprivation. It captures lack of longevity (probability of not surviving to a certain age), lack of knowledge (illiteracy), and lack of decent living standards (access to basic services). It does not focus on the wealthy population but rather on those deprived of basic needs. It is not limited to developed nations and does not ignore non-economic dimensions like health and education. Therefore, the correct statement is that HPI measures shortfalls in the same core dimensions as HDI, but from a deprivation perspective.

Final Answer: Measures the shortfalls or deficiencies in the same three basic dimensions as HDI

Answer: (B)

Q8.

Solution

Concept: Physiological density is a refined measure of population pressure on land resources. It is defined as the total population divided by the area of arable or cultivable land. This indicator better reflects the real burden on productive land compared to crude density, which considers total land area regardless of usability.

Solution: The question asks for the correct definition of physiological density. Crude density is total population divided by total land area, which does not account for land suitability. Physiological density improves this by considering only cultivable land, showing how many people depend on agricultural resources. Agricultural density refers to farmers per unit of arable land, which is different. Urban density measures population concentration in cities. Therefore, physiological density is correctly defined as total population divided by total cultivable (arable) land area, making option B correct.

Final Answer: $\text{Total Population} / \text{Total Cultivable (Arable) Land Area}$

Answer: (B)



Q9.

Solution

Concept: Population distribution is influenced not only by climate but also by historical development, accessibility, political factors, and economic opportunities. Some regions with favorable physical conditions remain sparsely populated due to isolation, lack of infrastructure, or historical underdevelopment.

Solution: The question asks for a region with low population density despite favorable climatic conditions due to historical and accessibility constraints. The Amazon Basin has a warm and humid climate suitable for vegetation, but it remains sparsely populated because of dense forests, poor accessibility, limited infrastructure, and historical underdevelopment. In contrast, Java and the Nile Delta are densely populated due to fertile land and long settlement history. Interior Australia is sparsely populated, but largely due to arid climate rather than favorable conditions. Therefore, the best match for favorable climate but low density due to accessibility and historical reasons is the Amazon Basin.

Final Answer: The Amazon Basin

Answer: (C)

Q10.

Solution

Concept: Extensive commercial grain cultivation is practiced in regions with large landholdings, low population density, and high mechanization. It focuses on maximizing output per worker rather than per unit area, using advanced machinery to cultivate vast tracts of land with minimal labour input.

Solution: The question asks why yield per acre is low but yield per person is high in extensive commercial grain farming. In this system, large farms are cultivated using modern machinery such as tractors and combine harvesters. Because mechanization reduces the need for labour, each worker manages a large area of land. As a result, productivity per worker is very high, even though land productivity per acre may be relatively low compared to intensive farming systems. Irrigation absence or single cropping are not defining reasons for high labour productivity. The key factor is large-scale mechanization and extensive farm size, which increases output per person significantly.

Final Answer: Because of the high degree of mechanization and large farm sizes

Answer: (B)

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Q11.

Solution

Concept: Nomadic herding is practiced in different ecological regions based on climate and available fodder resources. Each region supports specific animals adapted to local environmental conditions such as cold tundra, high plateaus, arid deserts, or savanna grasslands. Incorrect pairing indicates mismatch between region and domesticated animals.

Solution: The question asks to identify the incorrectly matched pair. In the Tundra region, reindeer herding is common due to adaptation to cold climates. In Tibet and Andean plateaus, yak and llamas are well-suited to high altitude conditions. In Sahara and Asiatic deserts, camels, sheep, and goats are commonly reared due to their drought resistance. However, in Tropical Africa, nomadic pastoralism is mainly associated with cattle such as zebu, not horses and mules, which are not primary pastoral animals in this region. Therefore, this pairing is incorrect.

Final Answer: Tropical Africa – Horses and Mules

Answer: (D)

Q12.

Solution

Concept: Agglomeration economies refer to the advantages that firms and industries gain by locating close to each other. These benefits arise from shared infrastructure, skilled labour pools, transportation facilities, suppliers, and knowledge spillovers, reducing overall production and operational costs.

Solution: The question asks for the meaning of agglomeration economies in the secondary sector. When industries cluster together in an area, they benefit from reduced costs due to shared services such as electricity, transport, banking, communication, and access to a common labour market. This proximity also encourages innovation and efficiency through interaction among firms. It is not directly related to raw material location, government subsidies, or transport costs of finished goods. Instead, it focuses on collective efficiency and cost-saving advantages due to industrial concentration. Therefore, the correct definition is savings derived from clustering industries in close proximity to share infrastructure and services.

Final Answer: Cost savings from industrial clustering

Answer: (B)



Q13.

Solution

Concept: A technopole (technopolos) refers to a planned high-technology industrial region where research, innovation, and advanced production activities are concentrated. These areas integrate universities, research institutions, and high-tech industries to promote innovation-led economic growth.

Solution: The question asks to identify a technopole. Technopoles are specialized zones developed to support high-tech industries such as electronics, biotechnology, and information technology. They are characterized by strong linkages between research institutions and industries, often supported by government policies. Examples include Silicon Valley and similar innovation clusters. Unlike traditional industrial or agricultural towns, technopoles focus on advanced research and development. Therefore, the correct option is the one describing a high-tech industrial park with self-sustained and specialized RD units.

Final Answer: High-tech R&D industrial park

Answer: (B)

Q14.

Solution

Concept: Economic activities are classified into primary, secondary, tertiary, quaternary, and quinary sectors based on their complexity and nature of work. Quinary activities involve high-level decision-making, policy formulation, and executive leadership roles in society and economy.

Solution: The question asks to identify a quinary activity. Quinary activities represent the highest level of decision-making and include top executives, government officials, research leaders, and policy-makers who influence major organizational or societal decisions. These roles are beyond technical execution and focus on strategic planning and governance. Software development and teaching are quaternary activities involving knowledge work, while assembly line work is secondary. Therefore, the correct example of quinary activity is a senior consultant or policy-maker involved in high-level decision making.

Final Answer: A senior consultant or policy-maker involved in high-level decision making

Answer: (B)



Q15.

Solution

Concept: The Kolkhoz system was part of agricultural collectivization in the Soviet Union. It involved collective farming where land and resources were pooled, and production was organized under state planning to increase agricultural output and efficiency.

Solution: The question asks where the Kolkhoz system was introduced. Kolkhoz refers to collective farms established in the former Soviet Union during the early 20th century under Joseph Stalin's collectivization policies. Farmers worked collectively on shared land, and production was distributed according to state policies. This system was distinct from Kibbutz in Israel, Ejidos in Mexico, and communes in China, though all represent forms of collective agriculture. However, the historical origin of Kolkhoz is specifically linked to the USSR. Therefore, the correct answer is the former Soviet Union.

Final Answer: Former Soviet Union (USSR)

Answer: (C)

Q16.

Solution

Concept: Outsourcing of services such as BPO (Business Process Outsourcing) and KPO (Knowledge Process Outsourcing) is a feature of globalization driven by cost efficiency and availability of skilled labour. Multinational companies shift service operations to countries where skilled human resources are available at lower wages.

Solution: The question asks the main reason for outsourcing services to countries like India and the Philippines. These countries offer a significant comparative advantage due to low labour costs combined with a large pool of educated, English-speaking professionals. This allows companies in developed nations to reduce operational costs while maintaining service quality. Raw materials are not relevant to service outsourcing, and manufacturing demand or environmental laws are unrelated to BPO/KPO location decisions. Therefore, the correct reason is the combination of low labour cost and skilled workforce.

Final Answer: Comparative advantage in labor costs and a skilled English-speaking workforce

Answer: (B)



Q17.

Solution

Concept: Landlocked countries lack direct access to the sea and depend on overland transport corridors and international highways for trade. In Africa, trans-continental highways play a crucial role in connecting inland states to coastal ports for global trade access.

Solution: The question asks which landlocked country depends on the Trans-African Highway system. Ethiopia is a landlocked country in the Horn of Africa that relies heavily on road networks through neighboring countries such as Djibouti and Kenya for access to international markets. Nigeria, South Africa, and Egypt all have direct access to the sea and are not landlocked. Therefore, among the given options, Ethiopia is the correct answer.

Final Answer: Ethiopia

Answer: (B)

Q18.

Solution

Concept: Sea routes are essential for global trade, and their importance depends on industrial development, population density, and economic interdependence between regions. The North Atlantic Sea Route is historically the most significant due to high trade volumes between major economic powers.

Solution: The question asks why the North Atlantic Sea Route is the busiest in the world. This route connects two of the most industrialized and economically advanced regions: Eastern United States and Western Europe. High levels of manufacturing, trade, finance, and population density on both sides generate massive two-way trade flows. This constant exchange of goods, services, and capital makes the route highly active throughout the year. Other options are incorrect because the route is not defined by hemispheric division, canal avoidance, or petroleum transport dominance. Therefore, its dominance is primarily due to strong economic integration between these developed regions.

Final Answer: Link between Eastern USA and Western Europe

Answer: (A)



Q19.

Solution

Concept: The International Date Line (IDL) is an imaginary line roughly along 180° longitude where the date changes by one day when crossed. It is not perfectly straight and deviates to avoid dividing countries and island groups into different calendar dates.

Solution: The question asks why the International Date Line deviates from the 180° meridian. The IDL is adjusted to ensure practical timekeeping and administrative convenience. If it followed a strict meridian line, it would split countries, islands, and territories into two different calendar days, causing confusion in governance, communication, and daily life. Therefore, it bends around political boundaries and island groups in the Pacific Ocean. It has nothing to do with Earth's rotation speed, magnetic poles, or equal division of oceans. Hence, the correct reason is to avoid dividing landmasses and maintain consistent time zones within regions.

Final Answer: Avoid dividing countries or islands across date line

Answer: (B)

Q20.

Solution

Concept: The digital divide refers to inequalities in access to information and communication technologies (ICT) between different regions, countries, or social groups. It highlights disparities in internet access, digital literacy, and technological infrastructure.

Solution: The question asks for the meaning of the digital divide in global communication. The concept describes the gap between populations or countries that have access to modern ICT tools such as computers, internet, and mobile connectivity, and those that lack such access. Developed countries are generally information-rich, while many developing countries remain information-poor due to infrastructure and affordability issues. This divide affects education, economic opportunities, and global participation. It is not related to physical distance between cables, internet pricing differences alone, or time zones. Therefore, the correct definition is the gap between information-rich and information-poor regions in ICT access.

Final Answer: ICT access gap between developed and developing regions

Answer: (B)



Q21.

Solution

Concept: Industrial regions often develop near resource-rich areas, transport hubs, and large markets. In North America, the Great Lakes region became a major industrial belt due to access to raw materials, water transport, energy resources, and proximity to large urban markets. It is especially famous for automobile manufacturing.

Solution: The question asks for the major industrial region at the junction of the Great Lakes known for automobile production. The Detroit-Windsor corridor lies along the US-Canada border near the Great Lakes and is historically known as the “Motor City” region due to Detroit’s dominance in automobile manufacturing. It benefits from transportation links, steel availability, and large consumer markets. New England is an older textile and industrial region, the Ruhr is in Germany, and Silicon Valley is a technology hub in California. Therefore, the correct answer is the Detroit-Windsor corridor.

Final Answer: The Detroit-Windsor corridor

Answer: (C)

Q22.

Solution

Concept: Inland waterways are natural or artificial navigable routes used for transportation. In the USA, the Mississippi-Missouri river system forms one of the most important inland water transport networks, connecting the interior agricultural and industrial regions to coastal export ports.

Solution: The question asks which inland waterway system connects the interior of the USA to the Gulf of Mexico. The Mississippi-Missouri river system is the largest river system in North America and provides a continuous navigable route from the central United States down to the Gulf of Mexico near New Orleans. This makes it a critical trade artery for agricultural and industrial goods. Other options refer to different regions: the Great Lakes–St. Lawrence Seaway connects to the Atlantic Ocean, the Rhine-Danube system is in Europe, and the Soo Canal connects Lake Superior and Lake Huron. Therefore, the correct answer is the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway conceptually linked through the Mississippi system.

Final Answer: The Gulf Intracoastal Waterway

Answer: (B)



Q23.

Solution

Concept: Population distribution in Australia is highly uneven due to its arid interior and concentration of population along coastal urban corridors. The southeastern coastal belt is the most densely populated region due to favorable climate, economic opportunities, and historical development.

Solution: The question asks which continent contains the Canberra-Sydney-Melbourne corridor, the most densely populated area in that continent. This corridor lies in Australia and represents the major urban-industrial and administrative belt of the country. It has favorable climatic conditions, strong economic activity, and major ports and cities. North America, South America, and Africa do not contain this corridor. Therefore, the correct answer is Australia.

Final Answer: Australia

Answer: (C)

Q24.

Solution

Concept: Sea routes have evolved over time due to technological and infrastructural developments. The opening of canals such as the Suez Canal significantly reduced travel distance between Europe and Asia, reducing dependence on longer routes like the Cape of Good Hope.

Solution: The question asks which canal reduced the importance of the Cape of Good Hope route. Before 1869, European-Asian maritime trade had to go around the southern tip of Africa via the Cape of Good Hope. The opening of the Suez Canal created a direct link between the Mediterranean Sea and the Red Sea, drastically shortening travel time and distance. This transformed global trade routes by making the Suez route dominant for Europe-Asia shipping. The Panama Canal connects the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, but it does not affect Europe-Asia trade significantly. Therefore, the correct answer is the Suez Canal.

Final Answer: Suez Canal

Answer: (C)



Q25.

Solution

Concept: A great circle route is the shortest path between two points on a sphere. On world maps, airlines use great circle routes to minimize distance and fuel consumption. The route between Tokyo and San Francisco lies primarily over the North Pacific Ocean.

Solution: The question asks in which ocean the great circle route between Tokyo and San Francisco is located. Since both cities are located on opposite sides of the Pacific Rim, the shortest path between them curves northward over the Earth's surface but remains within the Pacific region. This route is commonly used in aviation to reduce travel time and distance. It does not pass through the Atlantic, Indian, or Arctic Oceans as the main connecting body. Therefore, the correct answer is the Pacific Ocean.

Final Answer: Pacific Ocean

Answer: (C)

Q26.

Solution

Concept: Physiological density measures population pressure on cultivable land, calculated as total population divided by net sown area. It is highest in regions where population is high but available arable land is relatively limited, reflecting intense pressure on agricultural resources.

Solution: The question asks which Indian state has the highest physiological density. Among the options, West Bengal has a very high population density combined with a relatively small net sown area compared to its population size. Bihar and Uttar Pradesh also have high population densities, but West Bengal's intensive land use and high agricultural pressure make its physiological density particularly high. Kerala has high population density but limited dependence on agriculture reduces its physiological density compared to West Bengal. Therefore, West Bengal exhibits the highest pressure of population on cultivated land.

Final Answer: West Bengal

Answer: (B)



Q27.

Solution

Concept: The Census of India classifies workers into Main Workers and Marginal Workers based on duration of work during the reference year. This classification helps understand employment stability and economic participation in the population.

Solution: The question asks for the definition of a Marginal Worker. According to the Census of India, a Main Worker is someone who works for six months or more (183 days or more) in a year, while a Marginal Worker is someone who works for less than six months (less than 183 days) during the reference year. Marginal workers typically include seasonal workers, agricultural laborers, and part-time workers whose employment is irregular. Therefore, the correct definition is less than 183 days in a year.

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

Answer: (A)

Q28.

Solution

Concept: India's linguistic classification groups languages into major families such as Indo-Aryan, Dravidian, Austro-Asiatic, and Sino-Tibetan. These groups reflect historical migration and cultural diffusion patterns across the subcontinent.

Solution: The question asks which linguistic group is the second largest in India after the Indo-Aryan family. Indo-Aryan languages dominate in terms of speakers, especially across northern and central India. The Dravidian language family, primarily spoken in southern India (Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana), forms the second largest linguistic group. Sino-Tibetan and Austro-Asiatic groups have comparatively smaller populations concentrated in the northeast and tribal regions respectively. Therefore, the correct answer is the Dravidian family.

Final Answer: Dravidian

Answer: (C)

Q29.

Solution

Concept: India's population growth phases reflect changing birth and death rates over time. The early 20th century is characterized by very high birth and death rates, resulting in minimal net population growth, often termed the stagnant or stationary phase.

Solution: The question asks during which phase India experienced stagnant population growth. Between 1901 and 1921, India had high birth rates and equally high death rates due to epidemics, famines, and poor healthcare conditions. As a result, population growth was very slow and nearly stagnant. After 1921, death rates began to decline gradually, leading to higher growth. Therefore, the stagnant phase corresponds to 1901–1921.

Final Answer: 1901–1921

Answer: (A)



Q30.

Solution

Concept: The Child Sex Ratio (CSR) measures the number of females per 1000 males in the age group 0–6 years. A declining CSR indicates gender bias, sex-selective practices, and socio-cultural preferences affecting female child survival.

Solution: The question asks which region shows a sharp decline in child sex ratio. In India, the North-Western states such as Punjab and Haryana have historically shown the lowest child sex ratios due to strong son preference, socio-cultural practices, and misuse of prenatal sex determination technologies. In contrast, northeastern and southern states generally have better sex ratios, while tribal regions often show relatively balanced ratios. Therefore, the sharpest decline is observed in North-Western India.

Final Answer: North-Western states like Punjab and Haryana

Answer: (C)

Q31.

Solution

Concept: Indian rural settlements show strong regional variation in naming and spatial patterns. Hamleted settlements consist of a main village divided into several small units or hamlets, often separated by caste, occupation, or physical features, and are known by different regional names across India.

Solution: The question asks which type of settlement is locally known as Panna, Para, Palli, Nagla, and Dhani. These terms are used in different parts of India to describe hamleted settlements where a village is divided into small clustered units rather than forming a single compact settlement. This pattern is common in regions with social stratification or uneven terrain. Clustered settlements are compact and continuous, dispersed settlements are widely scattered, and semi-clustered represent a transition form. Therefore, the correct classification is hamleted settlements.

Final Answer: Hamleted Settlements

Answer: (B)



Q32.

Solution

Concept: Garrison or cantonment towns are settlements established during colonial rule primarily for military purposes. These towns developed around army bases and continue to serve as important defence settlements in India.

Solution: The question asks which option is a garrison town. Ambala is a well-known cantonment town established by the British due to its strategic location in northern India. It continues to serve as a major military base even today. Jamshedpur is an industrial town developed by Tata Steel, Bhilai is a steel industrial town, and Kandla is a port town. Therefore, the correct answer is Ambala.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)

Q33.

Solution

Concept: In India, urban settlements are classified into statutory towns and census towns. Statutory towns are those that have an urban local body such as a municipality, corporation, cantonment board, or notified town area committee, regardless of population or occupational structure.

Solution: The question asks for the criterion of a statutory town. A statutory town is defined based on administrative status rather than demographic or occupational characteristics. If a settlement has a legally recognized urban governing body such as a municipality or corporation, it is classified as a statutory town. Population size, occupational structure, or density are not the defining criteria for this classification. Therefore, the correct answer is the presence of a municipality, corporation, cantonment board, or notified town area committee.

Final Answer:

Answer: (C)

Q34.

Solution

Concept: Commercial agriculture involves high investment, modern inputs, and production of high-value crops for market sale. It contrasts with subsistence farming and focuses on efficiency, irrigation, and mechanization to maximize output.

Solution: The question asks about the agricultural type practiced in the Hoshangabad and Itarsi region of Madhya Pradesh. This region is known for commercial agriculture with significant use of irrigation, fertilizers, and modern inputs for high-value crops like wheat and soybean. It is not purely subsistence or plantation agriculture, and it is more intensive and market-oriented than mixed farming. Therefore, it aligns with commercial farming practices characterized by high capital investment and productivity.

Final Answer:

Answer: (B)



Q35.

Solution

Concept: Sustainable agriculture focuses on efficient use of water and resources to increase productivity while conserving the environment. The principle “Per Drop More Crop” emphasizes maximizing agricultural output per unit of water used.

Solution: The question asks which irrigation technology is most important for achieving water efficiency in arid regions like Vidarbha. Drip and sprinkler irrigation systems are modern micro-irrigation techniques that deliver water directly to plant roots or in controlled spray form, minimizing water loss through evaporation and seepage. Canal, tank, and Persian wheel irrigation are traditional methods and are less efficient in water-scarce regions. Therefore, drip and sprinkler irrigation are the most suitable technologies for sustainable water use and higher productivity.

Final Answer: Drip and Sprinkler Irrigation

Answer: (B)

Q36.

Solution

Concept: Coal in India occurs in different grades such as anthracite, bituminous, and lignite. Lignite is a low-grade, brown coal with high moisture content and is mainly used for electricity generation near mining areas due to its low calorific value and high ash content.

Solution: The question asks where lignite coal is primarily found in India. Neyveli in Tamil Nadu is the most famous lignite mining region in India, known for large lignite reserves and associated thermal power generation by NLC India. Jharia, Raniganj, and Singrauli are major bituminous coalfields, not lignite deposits. Therefore, the correct answer is Neyveli in Tamil Nadu.

Final Answer: Neyveli, Tamil Nadu

Answer: (B)

Q37.

Solution

Concept: India has significant deposits of high-grade iron ore, especially hematite, which is used in steel production. The Bailadila range in Chhattisgarh is one of the richest sources of hematite iron ore in the world, known for its high purity and export quality.

Solution: The question asks which iron ore mine is located in Bastar district of Chhattisgarh and is known for high-grade hematite. The Bailadila hills are part of the Dantewada/Bastar region and contain some of the finest hematite iron ore deposits in India. These mines are extensively used for both domestic steel production and export. Kudremukh is in Karnataka and is a magnetite deposit, Noamundi is in Jharkhand, and Ratnagiri is not a major iron ore region. Therefore, the correct answer is Bailadila.

Final Answer: Bailadila

Answer: (B)



Q38.

Solution

Concept: India is promoting renewable energy through large-scale solar and wind hybrid parks to maximize energy efficiency and grid stability. These hybrid parks combine solar and wind power generation in resource-rich regions.

Solution: The question asks where SECI is developing the world's largest solar-wind hybrid park. The Kutch region in Gujarat is known for its high solar radiation and strong wind potential, making it highly suitable for hybrid renewable energy projects. SECI has been actively developing such large-scale projects in this region to enhance India's renewable energy capacity. Therefore, the correct answer is Kutch, Gujarat.

Final Answer: Kutch, Gujarat

Answer: (A)

Q39.

Solution

Concept: Planning approaches in geography aim to reduce regional disparities by focusing on specific regions that are underdeveloped or face unique challenges. Target area planning is designed specifically for such backward or ecologically sensitive regions.

Solution: The question asks which planning approach includes programs like the Hill Area Development Programme (HADP). Target area planning focuses on developing specific regions such as hills, drought-prone areas, tribal regions, and deserts. HADP is a classic example aimed at improving infrastructure, livelihoods, and ecological balance in hilly regions. Sectoral planning focuses on industries, macro-economic planning covers the entire economy, and multi-level planning integrates different administrative levels. Therefore, the correct answer is target area planning.

Final Answer: Target Area Planning

Answer: (B)



Q40.

Solution

Concept: The Western Ghats is a biodiversity hotspot in India and has been the focus of major ecological studies and policy recommendations for sustainable development due to its fragile ecosystem and high ecological value.

Solution: The question asks which region is associated with the Bharadwaj Committee and the Madhav Gadgil Report. The Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel, headed by Madhav Gadgil, studied environmental degradation and proposed conservation strategies for the Western Ghats. These reports emphasize sustainable development, biodiversity protection, and regulation of developmental activities in this ecologically sensitive mountain range. Therefore, the correct answer is the Western Ghats.

Final Answer:

Answer: (C)

Q41.

Solution

Concept: Footloose industries are industries that are not tied to specific raw material sources or markets. They can operate in a wide range of locations because they mainly depend on advanced technology, highly skilled labor, communication networks, and easily transportable component parts. High-tech industries such as electronics and software development are classic examples of footloose industries in the modern global economy.

Solution: The question asks what best describes the locational behavior of footloose industries. Industries dependent on bulky raw materials are usually tied to mining or industrial regions, making option (A) incorrect. Dependence on perennial water sources is more relevant for water-intensive industries, while coastal dependence is associated with export-oriented heavy industries. High-tech industries rely mainly on skilled professionals, advanced infrastructure, and component-based production systems. Since their raw materials are lightweight and easily transportable, these industries can be established in many different locations. Therefore, the correct answer is that they can locate in a wide variety of places due to dependence on skilled labor rather than heavy resources.

Final Answer:

Answer: (C)



Q42.

Solution

Concept: Agglomeration economies refer to the advantages industries gain when related firms and services cluster together in one region. These benefits include shared infrastructure, access to specialized labor, improved communication, innovation exchange, and reduced operational costs. Technopolies often emerge because clustering encourages collaboration between industries, research institutions, and service providers.

Solution: The question asks about the role of agglomeration economies in the growth of technopolies. Decentralizing industries to remote areas would reduce the benefits of clustering. Proximity to hydro-electric power is not the main factor for high-tech industries, and technopolies actually require highly skilled professionals rather than reducing them. The major advantage comes from locating related industries, research centers, financial services, and technological infrastructure close to one another. This creates innovation networks and operational efficiency. Therefore, the correct answer is benefiting from the proximity of related firms, specialized services, and shared infrastructure.

Final Answer: Benefits of clustered firms and shared infrastructure

Answer: (B)

Q43.

Solution

Concept: Modern high-tech industries and technopolies depend heavily on quaternary and quinary activities such as research, innovation, strategic management, and technological development. Professionals involved in these advanced activities are often referred to as gold-collar workers because they possess highly specialized knowledge and technical expertise.

Solution: The question asks which professional category is most involved in research and development and strategic decision-making within a technopoly. Red-collar workers are generally associated with government services, blue-collar workers with manual manufacturing tasks, and pink-collar workers with service-oriented occupations. Gold-collar workers, however, include scientists, software engineers, researchers, analysts, and top-level managers who play central roles in innovation and technological advancement. Since technopolies are knowledge-driven industrial systems, the most appropriate category is gold-collar workers.

Final Answer: Gold-collar workers (Quinary/Quaternary activities)

Answer: (D)



Q44.

Solution

Concept: The digital divide refers to unequal access to technology, digital infrastructure, and information-based opportunities between different regions and social groups. Technopolies often concentrate advanced industries, skilled employment, and digital infrastructure in selected urban centers, while surrounding rural areas may remain technologically underdeveloped.

Solution: The assertion states that technopolies like Bengaluru contribute to the widening of the digital divide. This is true because high-tech growth is concentrated in major urban hubs. The reason explains that technological industries and infrastructure are largely confined to specific cities, leaving rural hinterlands with limited digital access and fewer high-skilled employment opportunities. This is also true and directly explains the assertion. The concentration of technological development in urban nodes increases inequality between advanced urban regions and less developed rural areas. Therefore, both the assertion and reason are true, and the reason correctly explains the assertion.

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

Answer: (A)

Q45.

Solution

Concept: Over-urbanization occurs when urban population growth exceeds the capacity of a city's economic and infrastructural systems. In many developing countries, including India, rapid migration from rural areas often results from poverty, unemployment, and agrarian distress rather than industrial expansion. This creates pressure on housing, employment, sanitation, and public services, leading to overcrowded informal settlements and urban poverty.

Solution: The question asks which condition best defines over-urbanization in Indian cities. It does not refer to complete dominance of quaternary activities, physical expansion limits, or the disappearance of rural-urban fringes. Over-urbanization mainly occurs when people migrate to cities because of rural distress instead of genuine urban employment opportunities. Since industrial and economic growth cannot absorb the rapidly growing urban population, problems such as slums, unemployment, and inadequate infrastructure emerge. Therefore, the correct answer is urban growth driven by distress migration rather than industrial demand.

Final Answer: Urban growth driven by rural distress migration

Answer: (B)



Q46.

Solution

Concept: Urban metabolism refers to the flow, recycling, and reuse of resources such as water, energy, and waste within urban systems. Informal settlements like Dharavi in Mumbai play a major role in recycling and waste management through small-scale industries that collect, sort, and process recyclable materials, thereby contributing significantly to the urban economy.

Solution: The question asks about the primary role played by settlements like Dharavi in urban metabolism. Dharavi is not mainly an administrative center or a residential zone for wealthy professionals. It also does not prevent urban expansion. Instead, it functions as an important recycling hub where informal workers collect, segregate, and recycle large amounts of urban waste. These activities transform discarded materials into reusable raw materials, reducing waste accumulation and supporting urban industrial processes. Therefore, the correct answer is that such settlements serve as recycling and waste-processing hubs.

Final Answer: Urban waste collection and recycling hubs

Answer: (B)

Q47.

Solution

Concept: A dualistic urban structure refers to the coexistence of two contrasting urban realities within the same city. In many developing-world cities, modern planned areas with advanced infrastructure exist alongside overcrowded informal settlements lacking adequate housing, sanitation, and public services. This reflects deep socio-economic inequality in urban spatial organization.

Solution: The question asks what is meant by a dualistic urban structure in cities like Mumbai. It does not mean equal division between economic sectors, dual administrative functions, or identical CBDs. The term specifically describes the coexistence of affluent planned spaces such as commercial districts and gated colonies alongside unplanned slums and informal settlements with poor living conditions. This contrast highlights uneven urban development and social inequality. Therefore, the correct answer is the coexistence of planned high-end infrastructure with informal settlements lacking services.

Final Answer: Coexistence of planned and informal settlements

Answer: (B)



Q48.

Solution

Concept: Sustainable urban development requires inclusive planning that considers both formal and informal sectors of the economy. In many mega-cities, informal workers contribute significantly through recycling, transport, construction, and service activities. Ignoring these contributions often leads to ineffective planning, social inequality, and environmental stress.

Solution: The assertion states that traditional urban planning often fails to achieve sustainable development in mega-cities. This is true because planning approaches frequently focus only on formal infrastructure and organized sectors. The reason explains that planners often overlook the socio-economic role of informal settlements and workers, which is also true. Informal sectors provide employment, housing, and waste management services essential to urban functioning. Ignoring them leads to exclusionary policies and unsustainable urban systems. Therefore, both the assertion and reason are true, and the reason correctly explains the assertion.

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

Answer: (A)

Q49.

Solution

Concept: Groundwater contamination in dense urban settlements often results from improper waste disposal, industrial pollutants, and lack of sanitation infrastructure. Informal settlements with unregulated small-scale industries and inadequate sewage systems allow toxic substances and untreated wastewater to seep into the soil and contaminate underground water resources.

Solution: The question asks the most likely cause of groundwater contamination in informal settlements. Urban kitchen gardens and precipitation are not major causes, while electric vehicles do not contribute to groundwater pollution. In densely populated informal areas, the absence of proper sewage systems combined with discharge from small-scale industries causes harmful chemicals and toxins to leach into groundwater. This creates serious environmental and health hazards for residents. Therefore, the correct answer is contamination caused by industrial toxins and lack of formal sewage infrastructure.

Final Answer: Industrial toxins and lack of sewage system

Answer: (B)



Q50.

Solution

Concept: Neocentres of high-tech industry are modern urban-industrial regions designed to attract highly skilled professionals and innovative firms. Such regions emphasize quality of life, environmental aesthetics, advanced infrastructure, and recreational facilities because knowledge-based industries depend heavily on attracting talented and mobile human resources.

Solution: The question asks why aesthetically pleasing environments are prioritized in neocentres. High-tech industries do not focus on waste dumping, resource extraction, or smoke-stack heavy manufacturing. Instead, these industries compete globally for skilled workers such as engineers, scientists, and software professionals. Such workers often prefer cities with clean environments, efficient infrastructure, recreational amenities, and high living standards. Therefore, creating aesthetically attractive environments helps technopolies attract and retain highly skilled professionals essential for innovation and economic growth. Hence, the correct answer is attracting and retaining mobile, high-skilled professionals.

Final Answer: To attract high-skilled professionals

Answer: (B)



Answer Key

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

