



Distance Learning Programme

UPSC Prelims

CSE (Pre) GS Papers (2011-2018)





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CSE (PRE) GS PAPERS (2011-2018)


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CONTENTS

1. UPSC (Pre) Question Paper – 2018	1-31
• Paper-I	1
• Paper-II	17
2. UPSC (Pre) Question Paper – 2017	32-60
• Paper-I	32
• Paper-II	46
3. UPSC (Pre) Question Paper – 2016	61-88
• Paper-I	61
• Paper-II	75
4. UPSC (Pre) Question Paper – 2015	89-116
• Paper-I	89
• Paper-II	101
5. UPSC (Pre) Question Paper – 2014	117-145
• Paper-I	117
• Paper-II	131
6. UPSC (Pre) Question Paper – 2013	146-174
• Paper-I	146
• Paper-II	159
7. UPSC (Pre) Question Paper – 2012	175-206
• Paper-I	175
• Paper-II	191
8. UPSC (Pre) Question Paper – 2011	207-208
• Paper-I	207
• Paper-II	235

UPSC (Pre) QUESTION PAPER – 2018

PAPER - I

1. Consider the following events:

1. The first democratically elected communist party government formed in a State in India.
2. India's then largest bank, 'Imperial Bank of India', was renamed 'State Bank of India'.
3. Air India was nationalised and became the national carrier.
4. Goa became a part of independent India.

Which of the following is the correct chronological sequence of the above events?

- (a) 4 - 1 - 2 - 3
- (b) 3 - 2 - 1 - 4
- (c) 4 - 2 - 1 - 3
- (d) 3 - 1 - 2 - 4

2. Right to Privacy is protected as an intrinsic part of Right to Life and Personal Liberty. Which of the following in the Constitution of India correctly and appropriately imply the above statement?

- (a) Article 14 and the provisions under the 42nd Amendment to the Constitution.
- (b) Article 17 and the Directive Principles of State Policy in Part IV.
- (c) Article 21 and the freedoms guaranteed in Part III.
- (d) Article 24 and the provisions under the 44th Amendment to the Constitution.

3. Consider the following:

1. Areca nut
2. Barley
3. Coffee
4. Finger millet

5. Groundnut
6. Sesamum
7. Turmeric

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has announced the Minimum Support Price for which of the above?

- (a) 1, 2, 3 and 7 only
- (b) 2, 4, 5 and 6 only
- (c) 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7

4. In which one of the following States is Pakhui Wildlife Sanctuary located?

- (a) Arunachal Pradesh
- (b) Manipur
- (c) Meghalaya
- (d) Nagaland

5. With reference to India's satellite launch vehicles, consider the following statements:

1. PSLVs launch the satellites useful for Earth resources monitoring whereas GSLVs are designed mainly to launch communication satellites.
2. Satellites launched by PSLV appear to remain permanently fixed in the same position in the sky, as viewed from a particular location on Earth.
3. GSLV Mk III is a four-staged launch vehicle with the first and third stages using solid rocket motors; and the second and fourth stages using liquid rocket engines.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 and 3
- (c) 1 and 2
- (d) 3 only

6. With reference to the governance of public sector banking in India, consider the following statements:
1. Capital infusion into public sector banks by the Government of India has steadily increased in the last decade.
 2. To put the public sector banks in order, the merger of associate banks with the parent State Bank of India has been affected.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
7. Consider the following items:
1. Cereal grains hulled
 2. Chicken eggs cooked
 3. Fish processed and canned
 4. Newspapers containing advertising material
- Which of the above items is/are exempted under GST (Good and Services Tax)?
- (a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4
8. Consider the following statements:
1. The definition of "Critical Wildlife Habitat" is incorporated in the Forest Rights Act, 2006.
 2. For the first time in India, Baigas have been given Habitat Rights.
 3. Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change officially decides and declares Habitat Rights for Primitive and Vulnerable Tribal Groups in any part of India.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3
9. Consider the following:
1. Birds
 2. Dust blowing
 3. Rain
 4. Wind blowing
- Which of the above spread plant diseases?
- (a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 2 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4
10. With references to organic farming in India, consider the following statements:
1. 'The National Programme for Organic Production' (NPOP) is operated under the guidelines and directions of the Union Ministry of Rural Development.
 2. 'The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority' (APEDA) functions as the Secretariat for the implementation of NPOP.
 3. Sikkim has become India's first fully organic State.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3
11. Regarding Money Bill, which of the following statements is not correct?
- (a) A bill shall be deemed to be a Money Bill if it contains only provisions relating to imposition, abolition, remission, alteration or regulation of any tax.
 - (b) A Money Bill has provisions for the custody of the Consolidated Fund of India or the Contingency Fund of India.
 - (c) A Money Bill is concerned with the appropriation of moneys out of the Contingency Fund of India.
 - (d) A Money Bill deals with the regulation of borrowing of money or giving of any guarantee by the Government of India.



12. With reference to the election of the President of India, consider the following statements:
1. The value of the vote of each MLA varies from State to State.
 2. The value of the vote of MPs of the Lok Sabha is more than the value of the vote of MPs of the Rajya Sabha.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
13. In the Indian context, what is the implication of ratifying the 'Additional Protocol' with the 'International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)'?
- (a) The civilian nuclear reactors come under IAEA safeguards.
 - (b) The military nuclear installations come under the inspection of IAEA.
 - (c) The country will have the privilege to buy uranium from the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG).
 - (d) The country automatically becomes a member of the NSG.
14. Consider the following countries:
- | | |
|--------------|-----------|
| 1. Australia | 2. Canada |
| 3. China | 4. India |
| 5. Japan | 6. USA |
- Which of the above are among the 'free-trade partners' of ASEAN?
- (a) 1, 2, 4 and 5
(b) 3, 4, 5 and 6
(c) 1, 3, 4 and 5
(d) 2, 3, 4 and 6
15. With reference to the 'Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture (GACSA)', which of the following statements is/are correct?
1. GACSA is an outcome of the Climate Summit held in Paris in 2015.
 2. Membership of GACSA does not create any binding obligations.
 3. India was instrumental in the creation of GACSA.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- (a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3
16. Which of the following is/are the aim/aims of "Digital India" Plan of the Government of India?
1. Formation of India's own Internet companies like China did.
 2. Establish a policy framework to encourage overseas multinational corporations that collect Big Data to build their large data centres within our national geographical boundaries.
 3. Connect many of our villages to the Internet and bring Wi-Fi to many of our schools, public places and major tourist centres.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
17. Consider the following pairs:
- | Towns sometimes mentioned in news | | Country |
|--|---|----------------|
| 1. Aleppo | — | Syria |
| 2. Kirkuk | — | Yemen |
| 3. Mosul | — | Palestine |
| 4. Mazar-i-sharif | — | Afghanistan |
- Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?
- (a) 1 and 2 (b) 1 and 4
(c) 2 and 3 (d) 3 and 4
18. In the Federation established by The Government of India Act of 1935, residuary powers were given to the
- (a) Federal Legislature
 - (b) Governor General
 - (c) Provincial Legislature
 - (d) Provincial Governors

19. Consider the following statements:
1. The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly shall vacate his/her office if he/she ceases to be a member of the Assembly.
 2. Whenever the Legislative Assembly is dissolved, the Speaker shall vacate his/her office immediately.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) Both 1 and 2
 - (d) Neither 1 nor 2
20. Which one of the following reflects the most appropriate relationship between law and liberty?
- (a) If there are more laws, there is less liberty.
 - (b) If there are no laws, there is no liberty.
 - (c) If there is liberty, laws have to be made by the people.
 - (d) If laws are changed too often, liberty is in danger.
21. Consider the following statements:
1. No criminal proceedings shall be instituted against the Governor of a State in any court during his term of office.
 2. The emoluments and allowances of the Governor of a State shall not be diminished during his term of office.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) Both 1 and 2
 - (d) Neither 1 nor 2
22. The well-known painting "Bani Thani" belongs to the
- (a) Bundi school
 - (b) Jaipur school
 - (c) Kangra school
 - (d) Kishangarh school
23. What is "Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD)", sometimes seen in the news?
- (a) An Israeli radar system
 - (b) India's indigenous anti-missile programme
 - (c) An American anti-missile system
 - (d) A defence collaboration between Japan and South Korea.
24. With reference to cultural history of India, consider the following statements:
1. Most of the Tyagaraja Kritis are devotional songs in praise of Lord Krishna.
 2. Tyagaraja created several new ragas.
 3. Annamacharya and Tyagaraja are contemporaries.
 4. Annamacharya kirtanas are devotional songs in praise of Lord Venkateshwara.
- Which of the statements given above are correct?
- (a) 1 and 3 only
 - (b) 2 and 4 only
 - (c) 1, 2 and 3
 - (d) 2, 3 and 4
25. Which of the following are regarded as the main features of the "Rule of Law"?
1. Limitation of powers
 2. Equality before law
 3. People's responsibility to the Government
 4. Liberty and civil rights
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- (a) 1 and 3 only
 - (b) 2 and 4 only
 - (c) 1, 2 and 4 only
 - (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4
26. Which of the following led to the introduction of English Education in India?
1. Charter Act of 1813
 2. General Committee of Public Instruction, 1823



3. Orientalist and Anglicist Controversy
Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
27. Which one of the following is an artificial lake?
(a) Kodaikanal (Tamil Nadu)
(b) Kolleru (Andhra Pradesh)
(c) Nainital (Uttarakhand)
(d) Renuka (Himachal Pradesh)
28. With reference to Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana, consider the following statements:
1. It is the flagship scheme of the Ministry of Labour and Employment.
2. It, among other things will also impart training in soft skills, entrepreneurship, financial and digital literacy.
3. It aims to align the competencies of the unregulated workforce of the country to the National Skill Qualification Framework.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 3 only (b) 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2, and 3
29. In 1920, which of the following changed its name to "Swarajya Sabha"?
(a) All India Home Rule League
(b) Hindu Mahasabha
(c) South Indian Liberal Federation
(d) The Servants of India Society
30. Which among the following events happened earliest?
(a) Swami Dayanand established Arya Samaj.
(b) Dinabandhu Mitra wrote *Neeldarpan*.
(c) Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay wrote *Anandmath*.
(d) Satyendranath Tagore became the first Indian to succeed in the Indian Civil Services Examination.
31. Which of the following is/are the possible consequence/s of heavy sand mining in riverbeds?
1. Decreased salinity in the river
2. Pollution of groundwater
3. Lowering of the water-table
Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
32. With reference to agricultural soils, consider the following statements:
1. A high content of organic matter in soil drastically reduces its water holding capacity.
2. Soil does not play any role in the sulphur cycle.
3. Irrigation over a period of time can contribute to the salinization of some agricultural lands.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
33. The Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE), a UN mechanism to assist countries transition towards greener and more inclusive economies, emerged at
(a) The Earth Summit on Sustainable Development 2002, Johannesburg.
(b) The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development 2012, Rio de Janeiro.
(c) The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change 2015, Paris.
(d) The World Sustainable Development Summit 2016, New Delhi.
34. "3D printing" has applications in which of the following?
1. Preparation of confectionery items
2. Manufacture of bionic ears
3. Automotive industry
4. Reconstructive surgeries

5. Data processing technologies
Select the correct answer using the code given below.
- 1, 3 and 4 only
 - 2, 3 and 5 only
 - 1 and 4 only
 - 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
35. Consider the following statements:
- The Barren Island volcano is an active volcano located in the Indian territory.
 - Barren Island lies about 140 km east of Great Nicobar.
 - The last time the Barren Island volcano erupted was in 1991 and it has remained inactive since then.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- 1 only
 - 2 and 3
 - 3 only
 - 1 and 3
36. Why is a plant called *Prosopis juliflora* often mentioned in news?
- Its extract is widely used in cosmetics.
 - It tends to reduce the biodiversity in the area in which it grows.
 - Its extract is used in the synthesis of pesticides.
 - None of the above
37. Consider the following statements:
- Most of the world's coral reefs are in tropical waters.
 - More than one-third of the world's coral reefs are located in the territories of Australia, Indonesia and Philippines.
 - Coral reefs host far more number of animal phyla than those hosted by tropical rainforests.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- 1 and 2 only
 - 3 only
 - 1 and 3 only
 - 1, 2 and 3
38. "Momentum for Change: Climate Neutral Now" is an initiative launched by
- The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
 - The UNEP Secretariat
 - The UNFCCC Secretariat
 - The World Meteorological Organisation
39. With reference to educational institutions during colonial rule in India, consider the following pairs:
- | Institution | Founder |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Sanskrit College at Benaras | — William Jones |
| 2. Calcutta Madarsa | — Warren Hastings |
| 3. Fort William College | — Arthur Wellesley |
- Which of the pairs given above is/are correct?
- 1 and 2
 - 2 only
 - 1 and 3
 - 3 only
40. Consider the following pairs:
- | Regions sometimes mentioned in news | Country |
|--|----------------|
| 1. Catalonia | — Spain |
| 2. Crimea | — Hungary |
| 3. Mindanao | — Philippines |
| 4. Oromia | — Nigeria |
- Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?
- 1, 2 and 3
 - 3 and 4 only
 - 1 and 3 only
 - 2 and 4 only
41. With reference to the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS), consider the following statements:
- IRNSS has three satellites in geostationary and four satellites in geosynchronous orbits.
 - IRNSS covers entire India and about 5500 sq. km beyond its borders.
 - India will have its own satellite navigation system with full global coverage by the middle of 2019.



Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only (d) None

42. Consider the following statements:

1. Light is affected by gravity.
2. The Universe is constantly expanding.
3. Matter warps its surrounding space-time.

Which of the above is/are the prediction/predictions of Albert Einstein's General Theory of Relativity, often discussed in media?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

43. With reference to the Genetically Modified mustard (GM mustard) developed in India, consider the following statements:

1. GM mustard has the genes of a soil bacterium that give the plant the property of pest-resistance to a wide variety of pests.
2. GM mustard has the genes that allow the plant cross-pollination and hybridization.
3. GM mustard has been developed jointly by the IARI and Punjab Agricultural University.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

44. Consider the following pairs:

Terms sometimes seen in news **Context/Topic**

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| 1. Belle II experiment | — | Artificial Intelligence |
| 2. Blockchain technology | — | Digital/Cryptocurrency |
| 3. CRISPR – Cas9 | — | Particle Physics |

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

- (a) 1 and 3 only (b) 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

45. Which of the following statements best describes "carbon fertilization"?

- (a) Increased plant growth due to increased concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.
- (b) Increased temperature of Earth due to increased concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.
- (c) Increased acidity of oceans as a result of increased concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.
- (d) Adaptation of all living beings on Earth to the climate change brought about by the increased concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

46. When the alarm of your smartphone rings in the morning, you wake up and tap it to stop the alarm which causes your geyser to be switched on automatically. The smart mirror in your bathroom shows the day's weather and also indicates the level of water in your overhead tank. After you take some groceries from your refrigerator for making breakfast, it recognises the shortage of stock in it and places an order for the supply of fresh grocery items. When you step out of your house and lock the door, all lights, fans, geysers and AC machines get switched off automatically. On your way to office, your car warns you about traffic congestion ahead and suggests an alternative route, and if you are late for a meeting, it sends a message to your office accordingly.

In the context of emerging communication technologies, which one of the following terms best applies to the above scenario?

- (a) Border Gateway Protocol
- (b) Internet of Things
- (c) Internet Protocol
- (d) Virtual Private Network