

2019



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# CURRENT AFFAIRS

**WEEKLY PRACTICE QUESTIONS**

2<sup>nd</sup> December- 7<sup>th</sup> December



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1. Consider the following pairs:

Name of Tropical Cyclones	Region
1. Typhoons	Indian Ocean
2. Hurricanes	North Atlantic
3. Cyclones	Eastern Pacific

Which of the above pair(s) is/are correctly matched?

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

**Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- **‘Hurricanes’** in the **North Atlantic** and **Eastern Pacific**.
- **‘Typhoons’** in **South-East Asia** and **China**.
- **‘Tropical Cyclones’** in the **South West Pacific** and **Indian Ocean Region**.

**Hence, Option (b) is correct.**

2. With reference to ‘The India-based Neutrino Observatory’, consider the following statements:

- 1. Indian Institute of Science is the nodal institution for its implementation.
- 2. It is located in North India due to proximity to the Equator.

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

**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

- **India-based Neutrino Observatory** is being built jointly by the Department of Atomic Energy and the Department of Science and Technology.

- Its primary goal is to study the properties and interactions of weakly interacting, naturally occurring particles, called neutrinos.
- The observatory will be **located underground** so as to provide adequate **shielding to the neutrino detector from cosmic background radiation**.
- The **Tata Institute of Fundamental Research** is the nodal institution. **Hence, Statement 1 is not correct.**
- It is **located in South India** due to proximity to the Equator. **Hence, Statement 2 is not correct.**

3. Consider the following statements about White Dwarf Star:

1. It helps understand the infant stage of a star.
2. The nearest known white dwarf is Sirius B.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- A white dwarf is a star which is formed after stars such as the **Sun exhaust their nuclear fuel** (hydrogen). **Hence, Statement 1 is not correct.**
- The nearest known white dwarf is Sirius B. **Hence, Statement 2 is correct.**

4. Which of the following nation(s) has/have joined INSTEX?

1. Belgium
2. Denmark
3. Estonia
4. Netherlands
5. India
6. Sweden

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

- **INSTEX** - a barter mechanism came into existence in the wake of the Trump administration's unilateral exit last year from the 2015 Iran nuclear deal.
- **Belgium, Denmark, Finland, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden** have joined INSTEX. **Hence, Option (d) is correct.**

5. Operation 'Clean Art' has been launched:

- a) To promote art at primary school level under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan.
- b) To check the illegal factories that are making paint brushes with mongoose hair.
- c) To promote open defecation in villages using graffiti art.
- d) To give state patronage for artists for promoting Madhubani painting.

**Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- The Uttar Pradesh Police launched **Operation Clean Art** to check the **illegal factories** that were **making paint brushes with mongoose hair**. **Hence, Option (b) is correct.**

6. With reference to 'Sattriya Dance', consider the following statements:

1. It was introduced in the 15<sup>th</sup> century A.D for propagation of the Shaivite faith.
2. It is influenced by the Devadasi dance.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- The Sattriya dance form was introduced in the 15<sup>th</sup> century A.D by the Vaishnava saint Mahapurusha Sankaradeva in Assam for **propagation of the Vaishnava faith**. **Hence, Statement 1 is not correct.**
- It consists of dhemali, drum playing, known as gayan bayan, where several men play drums, in various talas and also use hand gestures.
- It is influenced by the Devadasi dance and Assamese folk dances namely Bihu, Bodos etc. **Hence, Statement 2 is correct.**

7. Which of the following is/are application(s) of Extra Neutral Alcohol?

1. It is an essential ingredient of cosmetics.
2. It is used in pharmaceutical products such as antiseptics, drugs, syrups, medicated sprays.
3. It is the primary raw material for making alcoholic beverages.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

- **Extra Neutral Alcohol** is a byproduct of the sugar industry, and is formed from molasses which are residue of sugarcane processing.
- It serves as an **essential ingredient** in the manufacture of **cosmetics** and personal care products. **Hence, Statement 1 is correct.**
- It is a good solvent and is used in industries like **pharmaceutical products** such as antiseptics, drugs, syrups, medicated sprays. **Hence, Statement 2 is correct.**
- It is the **primary raw material** for making **alcoholic beverages**. **Hence, Statement 3 is correct.**

8. Consider the following pairs:

Wildlife Sanctuary	State/Location
1. Dnyanganga Sanctuary	Maharashtra
2. Bhadra Wildlife Sanctuary	Kerala
3. Chinnar Wildlife Sanctuary	Karnataka

Which of the above pair(s) is/are correctly matched?

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

**Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:**

Wildlife Sanctuary	State
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- |                               |             |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Dnyanganga Sanctuary       | Maharashtra |
| 2. Bhadra Wildlife Sanctuary  | Karnataka   |
| 3. Chinnar Wildlife Sanctuary | Kerala      |

**Hence, Option (a) is correct.**

9. Atal New India Challenges aims:

- a) To foster product innovations and aligning them to the needs of various sectors/ministries.
- b) To promote innovation and research in the MSME industry.
- c) To provide tax incentives for sun-rise industries.
- d) To promote Yoga at school level for holistic development of children.

**Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:**

- **Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)** is a flagship **national innovation initiative** of the Government of India under the NITI Aayog.
- The initiative aims to promote a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship in the country.
- Atal New India Challenges aims to foster product innovations and aligning them to the needs of various sectors/ministries.

**Hence, Option (a) is correct.**

10. Consider the following statements about Great Hornbill:

- 1. Hornbills are found in temperate zone.
- 2. It is listed as endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.
- 3. The bird is the state bird of Kerala and Arunachal Pradesh.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:**

**Great Hornbill**

- Hornbills are found in **tropical and subtropical** Asia, Africa and Melanesia. **Hence, Statement 1 is not correct.**

- The bird is closely identified with the social and cultural life of the Nagas, as reflected in various tribal dances, songs and folklores.
- **IUCN status: Vulnerable** (uplisted from Near Threatened in 2018). **Hence, Statement 2 is not correct.**
- It is also listed in **Appendix I** of the **Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)**.
- The bird is the state bird of Kerala and Arunachal Pradesh. **Hence, Statement 3 is correct.**

### Mains Questions:

Q1. Without a transparent mechanism, carbon trading will only be a way for companies or countries to escape their carbon responsibility. In the light of this statement, explain the significance of carbon market in combating climate change. *(250 words)*

Q2. What is the Bharat Bond ETF? Discuss its features and its significance for Central Public Sector Enterprises. *(150 words)*

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