

Previous Year Question

2011

1. Biodiversity forms the basis for human existence in the following ways : (2011)

Soil formation

Prevention of soil erosion

Recycling of waste

Pollination of crops

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only

(b) 2, 3 and 4 only

(c) 1 and 4 only

(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Ans. (d)

2. Which one of the following is not a site for in-situ method of conservation of flora? (2011)

(a) Biosphere Reserve

(b) Botanical Garden

(c) National Park

(d) Wildlife Sanctuary

Ans. (b)

3. Consider the following statements:

Biodiversity is normally greater in the lower latitudes as compared to the higher latitudes.

Along the mountain gradients, biodiversity is normally greater in the lower altitudes as compared to the higher altitudes.

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

Ans. (c)

4. Three of the following criteria have contributed to the recognition of Western Ghats-Sri Lanka and Indo-Burma regions as hotspots of biodiversity –

1. Species richness

2. Vegetation density

3. Endemism

4. Ethno-botanical importance

5. Threat perception

6. Adaptation of flora and fauna to warm and humid conditions

Which three of the above are correct criteria in this context?

(a) 1, 2 and 6

(b) 2, 4 and 6

(c) 1, 3 and 5

(d) 3, 4 and 6

Ans. (c)

5. Two important rivers — one with its source in Jharkhand (and known by a different name in Odisha), and another, with its source in Odisha — merge at a place only a short distance from the coast of Bay of Bengal before flowing into the sea. This is an important site of wildlife and biodiversity and a protected area.

Which one of the following could be this?

(a) Bhitarkanika

(b) Chandipur-on-sea

(c) Gopalpur-on-sea

(d) Simlipal

Ans. (a)

6. A sandy and saline area is the natural habitat of an Indian animal species. The animal has no predators in that area but its existence is threatened due to the destruction of its habitat. Which one of the following could be that animal?

(a) Indian wild buffalo

(b) Indian wild ass

(c) Indian wild boar

(d) Indian gazelle

Ans. (b)

7. The Himalayan Range is Very rich in species diversity. Which one among the following is the most appropriate reason for this phenomenon?

(a) It has a high rainfall that supports luxuriant vegetative growth

(b) It is a confluence of different bio-geographical zones

(c) Exotic and invasive species have not been introduced in this region

(d) It has less human interference

Ans. (b)

8. In the Union Budget 2011-12, a full exemption from the basic customs duty was extended to the bio-based asphalt (bioasphalt). What is the importance of this material?

1. Unlike traditional asphalt, bio-asphalt is not based on fossil fuels.

2. Bioasphalt can be made from non-renewable resources.

3. Bioasphalt can be made from organic waste materials.

4. It is eco-friendly to use bioasphalt for surfacing of the roads.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only

(b) 1, 3 and 4 only

(c) 2 and 4 only

(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Ans. (b)

9. Consider the following:

1. Carbon dioxide
2. Oxides of Nitrogen
3. Oxides of Sulphur

Which of the following is consider to be green house gas

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

Ans. (d)

10. Which of the above is/are the emission/ emissions from coal combustion at thermal power plants?

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

Ans. (d)

11. The formation of ozone hole in the Antarctic region has been a cause of concern. What could be the reason for the formation of this hole?

- (a) Presence of prominent tropo-spheric turbulence; and inflow of chlorofluorocarbons
- (b) Presence of prominent polar front and stratospheric' clouds; and inflow of chlorofluorocarbons
- (c) Absence of polar front and stratospheric clouds; and inflow of methane and chlorofluorocarbons
- (d) Increased temperature at polar region due to global warming

Ans. (b)

12. Regarding “carbon, credits”, which one of the following statements is not correct?

- (a) The carbon credit system was ratified in conjunction with the Kyoto Protocol
- (b) Carbon credits are awarded to countries or groups that have reduced greenhouse gases below their emission quota
- (c) The goal of the carbon credit system is to limit the increase of carbon dioxide emission
- (d) Carbon credits are- traded at a price fixed from time to time by the United Nations Environment Programme

Ans. (b)

13. There is a concern: over the increase in harmful algal blooms in the seawaters of India. What could be the causative factors for this phenomenon?

1. Discharge of nutrients from the estuaries.
2. Run-off from the land during the monsoon.
3. Upwelling in the seas.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

- (a) 1 only

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

Ans. (d)

14. The “Red Data Books” published by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) contain lists of –

1. Endemic plant and animal species present in the biodiversity hotspots,
2. Threatened plant and animal species.
3. Protected sites for conservation of nature and natural resources in various countries.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Ans. (b)

15. Human activities in the recent past have Caused the increased concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, but a lot of it does not remain in the lower atmosphere because of –

1. its escape into the outer stratosphere.
2. the photosynthesis by phyto-plankton in the oceans.
3. the trapping of air in the polar ice caps.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans. (c)

16. In the context of ecosystem productivity, marine upwelling zones are important as they increase the marine productivity by bringing the –

1. decomposer microorganisms to the surface.
2. nutrients to the surface.
3. bottom-dwelling organisms to- the surface.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans. (b)

17. With reference to India, consider the following Central Acts –

1. Import and Export (Control) Act, 1947
2. Mining and Mineral Development (Regulation) Act, 1957
3. Customs Act, 1962
4. Indian Forest Act, 1927

Which of the above Acts have relevance to/bearing on the biodiversity conservation in the country?

- (a) 1 and 3 only
- (b) 2, 3 and 4 only
- (c) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- (d) None of the above Acts

Ans. (c)

2012

18. Consider the following kinds of organisms:

- 1. Bacteria
- 2. Fungi
- 3. Flowering plants

Some species of which of the above kinds of organisms are employed as biopesticides?

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

Ans. (d)

19. Biomass gasification is considered to be one of the sustainable Ans.s to the power crisis in India. In this context, which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. Coconut shells, groundnut shells and rice husk can be used in biomass gasification.
- 2. The combustible gases generated from biomass gasification consist of hydrogen and carbon dioxide only.
- 3. The combustible gases generated from biomass gasification can be used for direct heat generation but not in internal combustion engines.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Ans. (a)

20. Consider the following areas:)

- 1. Bandipur
- 2. Bhitarkanika
- 3. Manas
- 4. Sunderbans

Which of the above are Tiger Reserves?

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

Ans. (b)

21. In which one among the following categories of protected areas in India are local people not allowed to collect and use the biomass?

- (a) Biosphere Reserves
- (b) National Parks
- (c) Wetlands declared under Ramsar Convention
- (d) Wildlife Sanctuaries

Ans. (b)

22. Consider the following kinds of organisms:

- 1. Bat
- 2. Bee
- 3. Bird

Which of the above is/are pollinating agent/agents?

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

Ans. (d)

23. Which one of the following groups of animals belongs to the category of endangered species?

- (a) Great Indian Bustard, Musk Deer, Red Panda and Asiatic Wild Ass
- (b) Kashmir Stag, Cheetal, Blue Bull and Great Indian Bustard
- (c) Snow Leopard, Swamp Deer, Rhesus Monkey and Saras (Crane)
- (d) Lion-tailed Macaque, Blue Bull, Hanuman Langur and Cheetal

Ans. (a)

24. Which of the following can be threats to the biodiversity of a geographical area?(2012)

- 1. Global warming
- 2. Fragmentation of habitat
- 3. Invasion of alien species
- 4. Promotion of vegetarianism

Select the correct answer using the codes given below :

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

Ans. (a)

25. Consider the following:

- 1. Black-necked crane
- 2. Cheetah
- 3. Flying squirrel
- 4. Snow leopard

Which of the above are naturally found in India?

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only

- (b) 1, 3 and 4 only
 - (c) 2 and 4 only
 - (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- Ans. (b)

26. A particular State in India has the following characteristics :(2012)

1. It is located on the same latitude which passes through northern Rajasthan.
2. It has over 80% of its area under forest cover.
3. Over 12% of forest cover constitutes Protected Area Network in this State.

Which one among the following States has all the above characteristics?

- (a) Arunachal Pradesh
- (b) Assam
- (c) Himachal Pradesh
- (d) Uttarakhand

Ans. (a)

27. With reference to the wetlands of India, consider the following statements :(2012)

1. The country's total geographical area under the category of wetlands is recorded more in Gujarat as compared to other States.
2. In India, the total geographical area of coastal wetlands larger than that of wetlands.

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

Ans. (a)

28. The acidification of oceans is increasing. Why is this phenomenon a cause of concern?

1. The growth and survival of calcareous phytoplankton will be adversely affected.
2. The growth and survival of coral reefs will be adversely affected.
3. The survival of some animals that have phytoplanktonic larvae will be adversely affected.
4. The cloud seeding and formation of clouds will be adversely affected.

Which of the statements given above is /are correct?

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

Ans. (a)

29. The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment describes the following major categories of ecosystem services-provisioning, supporting, regulating, preserving and cultural. Which one of the following is supporting service? (2012)

- (a) Production of food and water
- (b) Control of climate and disease
- (c) Nutrient cycling and crop pollination
- (d) Maintenance of diversity

Ans. (d)

30. What would happen if phytoplankton of an ocean is completely destroyed for some reason?

1. The ocean as a carbon sink would be adversely affected.
2. The food chains in the ocean would be adversely affected.
3. The density of ocean water would drastically decrease.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below :

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

Ans. (d)

31. What is the role of ultraviolet (UV) radiation in the water purification systems? (2012)

1. It inactivates /kills the harmful microorganisms in water.
2. It removes all the undesirable odours from the water.
3. It quickens the sedimentation of solid particles, removes turbidity and improves the clarity of water.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans. (a)

32. Consider the following statements: Chlorofluorocarbons, known as ozone-depleting substances, are used –

1. in the production of plastic foams
2. in the production of tubeless tyres
3. in cleaning certain electronic components
4. as pressurizing agents in aerosol cans

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Ans. (c)

33. Government of India encourages the cultivation of 'sea buckthorn'. What is the importance of this plant?

1. It helps in controlling soil erosion and in preventing desertification.
2. It is a rich source of biodiesel.
3. It has nutritional value and is well-adapted to live in cold areas of high altitudes.
4. Its timber is of great commercial value.

Which of the statements given above is /are correct?

- (a) 1 only

- (b) 2, 3 and 4 only
 - (c) 1 and 3 only
 - (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- Ans. (c)

2013

34. Which of the following can be found as pollutants in the drinking water in some parts of India?

- 1. Arsenic
- 2. Sorbitol
- 3. Fluoride
- 4. Formaldehyde
- 5. Uranium

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- (a) 1 and 3 only
 - (b) 2, 4 and 5 only
 - (c) 1, 3 and 5 only
 - (d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
- Ans. (c)

35. In the grasslands, trees do not replace the grasses as a part of an ecological succession because of –

- (a) insects and fungi
 - (b) limited sunlight and paucity of nutrients
 - (c) water limits and fire
 - (d) None of the above
- Ans. (c)

36. Which one of the following is the correct sequence of ecosystems in the order of decreasing productivity?

- (a) Oceans, lakes, grasslands, mangroves
 - (b) Mangroves, oceans, grasslands, lakes
 - (c) Mangroves, grasslands, lakes, oceans
 - (d) Oceans, mangroves, lakes, grasslands
- Ans. (c)

37. Acid rain is caused by the pollution of environment by –

- (a) carbon dioxide and nitrogen
 - (b) carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide
 - (c) ozone and carbon dioxide
 - (d) nitrous oxide and sulphur dioxide
- Ans. (d)

38. With reference to food chains in ecosystems, consider the following statements :

- 1. A food chain illustrates the order in which a chain of organisms feed upon each other.

2. Food chains are found within the populations of a species.
3. A food chain illustrates the numbers of each organism which are eaten by others.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct?

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

Ans. (a)

39. Consider the following organisms:

1. Agaricus
2. Nostoc
3. Spirogyra

Which of the above is / are used as biofertilizer / biofertilizers

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

Ans. (b)

40. Which one of the following terms describes not only the physical space occupied by an organism, but also its functional role in the community of organisms?

- (a) Ecotone
- (b) Ecological niche
- (c) Habitat
- (d) Home range

Ans. (b)

41. Photochemical smog is a resultant of the reaction among –

- (a) NO₂, O₃ and peroxyacetyl nitrate in the presence of sunlight
- (b) CO, O₂ and peroxyacetyl nitrate in the presence of sunlight
- (c) CO, CO₂ and N₂ at low temperature
- (d) High concentration of N₂, O₃ and CO in the evening

Ans. (a)

42. With reference to the food chains in ecosystems, which of the following kinds of organism is / are known as decomposer organism/organisms?

1. Virus
2. Fungi
3. Bacteria

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

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

Ans. (b)

2014

43. Which one of the following is the process involved in photosynthesis?

- (a) Potential energy is released to form free energy
- (b) Free energy is converted into potential energy and stored
- (c) Food is oxidized to release carbon dioxide and water
- (d) Oxygen is taken, and carbon dioxide and water vapour are given out

Ans. (b)

44. Which of the following adds/add carbon dioxide to the carbon cycle on the planet Earth?

- 1. Volcanic action
- 2. Respiration
- 3. Photosynthesis
- 4. Decay of organic matter

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Ans. (c)

45. In India, the problem of soil erosion is associated with which of the following?

- 1. Terrace cultivation
- 2. Deforestation
- 3. Tropical climate

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

Ans. (b)

46. Lichens, which are capable of initiating ecological succession even on a bare rock, are actually a symbiotic association of –

- (a) algae and bacteria
- (b) algae and fungi
- (c) bacteria and fungi
- (d) fungi and mosses

Ans. (b)

47. The most important strategy for the conservation of biodiversity together with traditional human life is the establishment of –

- (a) biosphere reserves
- (b) botanical gardens
- (c) national parks

(d) wildlife sanctuaries

Ans. (a)

48. With reference to 'Eco-Sensitive Zones', which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Eco-Sensitive Zones are the areas that are declared under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
2. The purpose of the declaration of Eco-Sensitive Zones is to prohibit all kinds of human activities, in those zones except agriculture.

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

Ans. (d)

49. Consider the following pairs:

1. Dampa Tiger Reserve : Mizoram
2. Gumti Wildlife Sanctuary : Sikkim
3. Saramati Peak : Nagaland

Which of the above pairs is /are correctly matched?

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

Ans. (c)

50. Consider the following pairs:

- | Wetlands | Confluence of rivers |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Harike wetland | Beas and Satluj |
| 2. Keolado Ganga National Park | Banas and Chambal |
| 3. Kolleru Lake | Musi and Krishna |

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

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

Ans. (a)

51. Which of the following have coral reefs?

1. Andaman and Nicobar Islands
2. Gulf of Kutch
3. Gulf of Mannar
4. Sunderbans

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (b) 2 and 4 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Ans. (a)

52. Consider the following:

1. Bats
2. Bears
3. Rodents

The phenomenon of hibernation can be observed in which of the above kinds of animals?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1, 2 and 3
- (d) Hibernation cannot be observed in any of the above

Ans. (c)

53. Among the following organisms, which one does not belong to the class of other three?

- (a) Crab
- (b) Mite
- (c) Scorpion
- (d) Spider

Ans. (a)

54. Which one of the following is the correct sequence of a food chain?

- (a) Diatoms-Crustaceans-Herrings
- (b) Crustaceans-Diatoms-Herrings
- (c) Diatoms-Herrings-Crustaceans
- (d) Crustaceans-Herrings-Diatoms

Ans. (a)

55. If you travel through the Himalayas, you are Likely to see which of the following plants naturally growing there?

1. Oak
2. Rhododendron
3. Sandalwood

Select the correct answer using the code given below

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

Ans. (a)

56. If you walk through countryside, you are likely to see some birds stalking alongside the cattle to seize the insects, disturbed by their movement through grasses, Which of the following is/are such bird/birds?

1. Painted Stork
2. Common Myna
3. Black-necked Crane

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Ans. (b)

57. Other than poaching, what are the possible reasons for the decline in the population of Ganges River Dolphins?

1. Construction of dams and barrages on rivers
2. Increase in the population of crocodiles in rivers
3. Getting trapped in fishing nets accidentally
4. Use of synthetic fertilizers and other agricultural chemicals in crop-fields in the vicinity of rivers

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Ans. (c)

58. With reference to two non-conventional energy sources called 'coal bed methane' and 'shale gas', consider the following 'statements':

1. Coal bed methane is the pure methane gas extracted from coal seams, while shale gas is a mixture of propane and butane only that can be extracted from fine-grained sedimentary rocks.
2. In India abundant coal bed methane sources exist, but so far no shale gas sources have been found.

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

Ans. (d)

59. In India, cluster bean (Guar) is traditionally used as a vegetable or animal feed, but recently the cultivation of this has assumed significance. Which one of the following statements is correct in this context?

- (a) The oil extracted from seeds is used in the manufacture of biodegradable plastics
- (b) The gum made from its seeds is used in the extraction of shale gas
- (c) The leaf extract of this plant has the properties of anti-histamines
- (d) It is a source of high quality biodiesel

Ans. (b)

60. With reference to technologies for solar power production, consider the following statements:

1. 'Photovoltaics' is a technology that generates electricity by direct conversion of light into electricity, while 'Solar Thermal' is a technology that utilizes the Sun's rays to generate heat which is further used in electricity generation process.

2. Photovoltaics generates Alternating Current (AC), while Solar Thermal generates Direct Current (DC).

India has manufacturing base for Solar Thermal technology, but not for Photovoltaics.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 1, 2 and 3

(d) None

Ans. (a)

61. There is some concern regarding the nanoparticles of some chemical elements that are used by the industry in the manufacture of various products. Why?

1. They can accumulate in the environment, and contaminate water and soil.

2. They can enter the food chains.

3. They can trigger the production of free radicals.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) 3 only

(c) 1 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans. (d)

62. Which of the following are some important pollutants released by steel industry in India?

1. Oxides of sulphur

2. Oxides of nitrogen

3. Carbon monoxide

4. Carbon dioxide

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1, 3 and 4 only

(b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 1 and 4 only

(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Ans. (d)

63. Brominated flame retardants are used in many household products like mattresses and upholstery. Why is there some concern about their use?

1. They are highly resistant to degradation in the environment.

2. They are able to accumulate in humans and animals.

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

Ans. (c)

64. Consider the following countries:

1. Denmark
2. Japan
3. Russian Federation
4. United Kingdom
5. United States of America

Which of the above are the members of the 'Arctic Council' ?

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

Ans. (d)

65. With reference to 'Global Environment Facility', which of the following statements is/are correct?

- (a) It serves as financial mechanism for 'Convention on Biological Diversity' and 'United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change'.
- (b) It undertakes scientific research on environmental issues at global level
- (c) It is an agency under OECD to facilitate the transfer of technology and funds to underdeveloped countries with specific aim to protect their environment.
- (d) Both (a) and (b)

Ans. (a)

66. If a wetland of international importance is brought under the 'Montreux Record', what does it imply?

- (a) Changes in ecological character have occurred, are occurring or are likely to occur in the wetland as a result of human interference.
- (b) The country in which the wetland is located should enact a law to prohibit any human activity within five kilo meters from the edge of the wetland
- (c) The survival of the wetland depends on the cultural practices and traditions of certain communities living in its vicinity and therefore the cultural diversity therein should not be destroyed
- (d) It is given the status of 'World Heritage Site'

Ans. (a)

67. With reference to a conservation organization called 'Wetlands International', which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is an intergovernmental organization formed by the countries which are signatories to Ramsar Convention.
2. It works at the field level to develop and mobilize knowledge, and use the practical experience to advocate for better policies.

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
Ans. (b)

68. Consider the following international agreements:

1. The International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
2. The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
3. The World Heritage Convention

Which of the above has / have a bearing on the biodiversity?

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

69. The scientific view is that the increase in global temperature should not exceed 2 °C above pre-industrial level. If the global temperature increases beyond 3°C above the pre-industrial level, what can be its possible impact/impacts on the world?

1. Terrestrial biosphere tends toward a net carbon source
2. Widespread coral mortality will occur.
3. All the global wetlands will permanently disappear.
4. Cultivation of cereals will not be possible anywhere in the world.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4,
Ans. (b)

70. Consider the following statements:

1. Animal Welfare Board of India is established under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
2. National Tiger Conservation Authority is a statutory body.
3. National Ganga River Basin Authority is chaired by the Prime Minister.

Which of the statements given above is/ are correct?

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

71. With reference to Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS), consider the following statements

1. It is an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Environment and Forests.
2. It strives to conserve nature through action-based research, education and public awareness.
3. It organizes and conducts nature trails and camps for the general public.

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

Ans. (c)

72. Consider the following statements regarding 'Earth Hour'

1. It is an initiative of UNEP and UNESCO.
2. It is a movement in which the participants switch off the lights for one hour on a certain day every year.
3. It is a movement to raise the awareness about the climate change and the need to save the planet.

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

Ans. (c)

73. Every year, a month long ecologically important campaign/festival is held during which certain communities/ tribes plant saplings of fruit-bearing trees. Which of the following are such communities/tribes?

- (a) Bhutia and Lepcha
- (b) Gond and Korku
- (c) Irula and Toda
- (d) Sahariya and Agariya

Ans. (b)

2015

74. Which of the following National Parks is unique in being a swamp with floating vegetation that supports a rich biodiversity?

- (a) Bhitarkanika National Park
- (b) Keibul Lamjao National Park
- (c) Keoladeo Ghana National park
- (d) Sultanpur National park

75. What can be the impact of excessive/inappropriate use of nitrogenous fertilizers in agriculture?

1. Proliferation of nitrogen-fixing microorganisms in soil can occur.
2. Increase in the acidity of soil can take place
3. Leaching of nitrate to the ground-water can occur.

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

76. With reference to the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. IUCN is an organ of the United Nations and CITES is an international agreement between governments
2. IUCN runs thousands of field projects around the world to better manage natural environments.
3. CITES is legally binding on the States that have joined it, but this Convention does not take the place of national laws.

Select the correct using the code given below.

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

77. With reference to 'fly ash' produced by the power plants using the coal as fuel, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Fly ash can be used in the production of bricks for building construction
2. Fly ash can be used as a replacement for some of the Portland cement contents of concrete
3. Fly ash is made up of silicon dioxide and calcium oxide only, and does not contain any toxic elements.

Select the correct answer using the code given below

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

78. With reference to 'dugong', a mammal found in India, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is a herbivorous marine animal.
2. It is found along the entire coast of India
3. It is given legal protection under Schedule 1 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

79. Which one of the following is the national aquatic animal of India?

- (a) Saltwater crocodile
- (b) Olive ridley turtle
- (c) Gangetic dolphin
- (d) Gharial

80. Which one of the following regions of India has a combination of mangrove forest, evergreen forest and deciduous forest?

- (a) North Coastal Andhra Pradesh
- (b) South-West Bengal
- (c) Southern Saurashtra
- (d) Andaman and Nicobar Islands

81. Which one of the following is associated with the issue of control and phasing out of the use of ozone-depleting substances?

- (a) Bretton Woods Conference
- (b) Montreal Protocol
- (c) Kyoto Protocol
- (d) Nagoya Protocol

82. What is Rio+20 Conference, often mentioned in the news?

- (a) It is the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development
- (b) It is a Ministerial Meeting of the World Trade Organization
- (c) It is a Conference of the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change
- (d) It is a Conference of the Member Countries of the Convention on Biological Diversity

83. Which of the following statements regarding 'Green Climate Fund' is/are correct?

1. It is intended to assist the developing countries in adaptation and mitigation practices to counter climate change.
2. It is founded under the aegis of UNEP, OECD, Asian Development Bank and World Bank

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

84. Which one of the following National Parks has a climate that varies from tropical to subtropical, temperate and arctic?

- (a) Khangchendzonga National Park
- (b) Nandadevi National Park
- (c) Neora Valley National Park
- (d) Namdapha National Park

85. 'BioCarbon Fund Initiative for Sustainable Forest Landscapes' is managed by the

- (a) Asian Development Bank
- (b) International Monetary Fund
- (c) United Nations Environment Programme
- (d) World Bank

86. The Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee is constituted under the

- (a) Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006
- (b) Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999

- (c) Environment (Protection) Act, 1986
- (d) Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972

87. 'Basel III Accord' or simply 'Basel III', often seen in the news, seeks to

- (a) develop national strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity
- (b) improve banking sector's ability to deal with financial and economic stress and improve risk management
- (c) reduce the greenhouse gas emissions but places a heavier burden on developed countries
- (d) transfer technology from developed Countries to poor countries to enable them to replace the use of chlorofluorocarbons in refrigeration with harmless chemicals

88. In a particular region in India, the local people train the roots of living tree into robust bridges across the streams. As the time passes these bridges become stronger. These unique 'Living Root Bridges' are found in

- (a) Meghalaya
- (b) Himachal Pradesh
- (c) Jharkhand
- (d) Tamil Nadu

89. Consider the following States:

1. Arunachal Pradesh
2. Himachal Pradesh
3. Mizoram

In which of the following states do "Tropical Wet Evergreen Forests" occur?

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

90. With reference to 'Forest Carbon Partnership Facility', which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is global partnership of governments, businesses, civil society and indigenous peoples
2. It provides financial aid to universities, individual scientists and institutions involved in scientific forestry research to develop eco-friendly and climate adaptation technologies for sustainable forest management
3. It assists the countries in their 'REDD+ (Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation+)' efforts by providing them with financial and technical assistance.

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

91. With reference to an organization known as 'Birdlife International' which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is a Global Partnership of Conservation Organizations.

2. The concept of 'biodiversity hotspots' originated from this organization.
3. It identifies the sites known/referred to as 'Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas'.

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

92. In India, in which one of the following types of forests is teak a dominant tree species?

- (a) Tropical moist deciduous forest
- (b) Tropical rain forest
- (c) Tropical thorn scrub forest
- (d) Temperate forest with grasslands

93. Which one of the following is the best description of the term "ecosystem"?

- (a) A community of organisms interacting with one another
- (b) That part of the Earth which is inhabited by living organisms
- (c) A community of organisms together with the environment in which they live.
- (d) The flora and fauna of a geographical area.

94. With reference to bio-toilets used by the Indian Railways, consider the following statements:

- 1. The decomposition of human waste in the bio-toilets is initiated by a fungal inoculum.
- 2. Ammonia and water vapour are the only end products in this decomposition which are released into the atmosphere.

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

95. With reference to the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA), which of the following statements is/are correct?

It is a Public Limited Government Company.

It is a Non – Banking Financial Company.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 or 2

2016

96. Which of the following best describes/ describe the aim of 'Green India Mission' of the Government of India?

1. Incorporating environmental benefits and costs into the Union and State Budgets thereby implementing the 'green accounting'
2. Launching the second green revolution to enhance agricultural output so as to ensure food security to one and all in the future
3. Restoring and enhancing forest cover and responding to climate change by a combination of adaptation and mitigation measures

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Ans.: (c)

97. 'Project Loon', sometimes seen in the news, is related to

- (a) waste management technology
- (b) wireless communication technology
- (c) solar power production technology
- (d) water conservation technology

Ans.: (b)

98. With reference to an initiative called 'The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB)', which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is an initiative hosted by UNEP, IMF and World Economic Forum.
2. It is a global initiative that focuses on drawing attention to the economic benefits of biodiversity.
3. It presents an approach that can help decision-makers recognize, demonstrate and capture the value of ecosystems and biodiversity.

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

Ans.: (c)

99. With reference to 'Red Sanders', sometimes seen in the news, consider the following statements:

1. It is a tree species found in a part of South India.
2. It is one of the most important trees in the tropical rain forest areas of South India.

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

Ans.: (a)

100. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

Proper design and effective implementation of UN-REDD+ Programme can significantly contribute to –

1. protection of biodiversity
2. resilience of forest ecosystems
3. poverty reduction

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

Ans.: (d)

101. What is ‘Greenhouse Gas Protocol’?

- (a) It is an international accounting tool for government and business leaders to understand, quantify and manage greenhouse gas emissions
- (b) It is an initiative of the United Nations to offer financial incentives to developing countries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to adopt eco-friendly technologies
- (c) It is an inter-governmental agreement ratified by all the member countries of the United Nations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to specified levels by the year 2022
- (d) It is one of the multilateral REDD+ initiatives hosted by the World Bank

Ans.: (a)

102. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

Viruses can infect –

1. bacteria
2. fungi
3. plants

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Ans.: (d)

103. The term ‘Base Erosion and Profit Shifting’ is sometimes seen in the news in the context of –

- (a) mining operation by multinational companies in resource-rich but backward areas
- (b) curbing of the tax evasion by multinational companies
- (c) exploitation of genetic resources of a country by multinational companies
- (d) lack of consideration of environmental costs in the planning and implementation of developmental projects

Ans.: (b)

104. Which of the following is/are the advantage /advantages of practising drip irrigation?

1. Reduction in weed
2. Reduction in soil salinity

3. Reduction in soil erosion

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) None of the above is an advantage of practising drip irrigation

Ans.: (c)

105. In the cities of our country, which among the following atmospheric gases are normally considered in calculating the value of Air Quality Index?

- 1. Carbon dioxide
- 2. Carbon monoxide
- 3. Nitrogen dioxide
- 4. Sulfur dioxide
- 5. Methane

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Ans.: (b)

106. Recently, for the first time in our country, which of the following States has declared a particular butterfly as 'State Butterfly'?

- (a) Arunachal Pradesh
- (b) Himachal Pradesh
- (c) Karnataka
- (d) Maharashtra

Ans.: (d)

107. With reference to the Agreement at the UNFCCC Meeting in Paris in 2015, which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. The Agreement was signed by all the member countries of the UN and it will go into effect in 2017.
- 2. The Agreement aims to limit the greenhouse gas emissions so that the rise in average global temperature by the end of this century does not exceed 2 °C or even 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels.
- 3. Developed countries acknowledged their historical responsibility in global warming and committed to donate \$ 1000 billion a year from 2020 to help developing countries to cope with climate change.

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

Ans.: (b)

108. What is/are the importance/importances of the 'United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification'?

1. It aims to promote effective action through innovative national programmes and supportive inter-national partnerships.
2. It has a special/particular focus on South Asia and North Africa regions, and its Secretariat facilitates the allocation of major portion of financial resources to these regions.
3. It is committed to bottom-up approach, encouraging the participation of local people in combating the desertification.

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

Ans.: (c)

109. In which of the following regions of India are you most likely to come across the 'Great Indian Hornbill' in its natural habitat?

- (a) Sand deserts of northwest India
- (b) Higher Himalayas of Jammu and Kashmir
- (c) Salt marshes of western Gujarat
- (d) Western Ghats

Ans.: (d)

110. Which of the following are the key features of 'National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA)?

1. River basin is the unit of planning and management.
2. It spearheads the river conservation efforts at the national level.
3. One of the Chief Ministers of the States through which the Ganga flows becomes the Chairman of NGRBA on rotation basis.

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

Ans.: (a)

111. Why does the Government of India promote the use of 'Neem-coated Urea' in agriculture?

- (a) Release of Neem oil in the soil increases nitrogen fixation by the soil microorganisms
- (b) Neem coating slows down the rate of disAns. of urea in the soil
- (c) Nitrous oxide, which is a greenhouse gas, is not at all released into atmosphere by crop fields
- (d) It is a combination of a weedicide and a fertilizer for particular crops

Ans.: (b)