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VIDHVATH IAS KAS ACADEMY
&
STUDY CENTRE

DAILY MCQ'S

FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

DATE: 04/04/2026 (SATURDAY)

- **Static mcq's**
- **Current Affairs mcq's**
- **Mains Practice Questions**



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DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM STATIC PART

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding temple architecture traditions in early medieval India:

1. The Nagara style is characterized by a curvilinear shikhara and is predominantly found north of the Vindhyas.
2. The Dravida style temples always have a pyramidal vimana and exclusively lack boundary walls.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Neither
- (d) Both

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct. The Nagara style, seen in North India, is marked by a beehive-shaped (curvilinear) shikhara.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Although Dravida temples have pyramidal vimanas, they do not “exclusively lack boundary walls”; in fact, they typically have elaborate enclosure walls (prakara) and gopurams. The word “always” and “exclusively” makes the statement incorrect.

Q2. Which one of the following best describes “ecological succession” in a disturbed ecosystem?

- (a) A random replacement of species with no predictable pattern
- (b) A unidirectional and orderly process of species change leading to a stable climax community
- (c) A cyclic process where ecosystems revert to their original stage periodically
- (d) A sudden transformation of ecosystem due to catastrophic events only

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Ecological succession is a gradual, predictable, and directional process in which species composition changes over time, ultimately reaching a relatively stable climax community. It is not random (eliminating option a), not cyclic in nature (eliminating c), and not restricted only to catastrophic events (eliminating d).

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding money supply and its components:

1. M1 includes currency with the public, demand deposits with banks, and time deposits.
2. M2 includes M1 plus savings deposits with post office savings banks.
3. Higher money supply necessarily leads to inflation irrespective of output levels.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two



- (c) All three
- (d) None

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect. M1 includes currency with the public and demand deposits, but **not time deposits**.

Statement 2 is correct. $M2 = M1 + \text{savings deposits with post offices}$.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Inflation depends on both money supply and output; if output increases proportionately, inflation may not occur.

Thus, only one statement is correct.

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding the doctrine of separation of powers in the Indian constitutional framework:

1. The Constitution of India explicitly provides for absolute separation of powers among the three organs.
2. The executive is drawn from the legislature, thereby indicating functional overlap.
3. The judiciary has the power of judicial review to check legislative and executive actions.
4. The Parliament can exercise judicial functions in cases of breach of privilege.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect. India does not follow strict separation; it follows a system of checks and balances.

Statement 2 is correct. The executive is part of the legislature in a parliamentary system.

Statement 3 is correct. Judicial review is a key feature.

Statement 4 is correct. Parliament exercises quasi-judicial powers in privilege cases.

Thus, three statements are correct.

Q5. Consider the following statements:

Assertion (A):

The western coasts of continents in subtropical latitudes experience Mediterranean climate.

Reason (R1):

These regions are influenced by shifting wind belts, leading to dry summers and wet winters.

Reason (R2):

Cold ocean currents along western coasts enhance precipitation during summer months.



Which one of the following is correct?

- (a) A is correct, R1 is correct and explains A, but R2 is incorrect
- (b) A is correct, R1 and R2 are correct but only R2 explains A
- (c) A is incorrect, but both R1 and R2 are correct
- (d) A is correct, but both R1 and R2 are incorrect

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Assertion is correct: Mediterranean climate is found on western margins of continents in subtropical latitudes.

R1 is correct and explains the assertion: seasonal shift of westerlies causes winter rainfall and dry summers.

R2 is incorrect: cold currents actually stabilize the atmosphere and reduce summer precipitation rather than enhance it.

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding the Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme:

1. It aims to refund only those taxes and duties that are not refunded under any other existing scheme.
2. It is compliant with the norms of the World Trade Organization as it avoids export subsidies linked directly to export performance.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Neither
- (d) Both

Answer: (d)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: RoDTEP replaces earlier schemes and focuses on reimbursing embedded taxes not otherwise refunded.

Statement 2 is also correct: It is designed to be WTO-compliant, unlike earlier schemes such as MEIS which were challenged. Hence, both statements are correct.



Q2. With reference to Raajmarg Infra Investment Trust (RIIT), which of the following best describes its primary objective?

- (a) To finance only greenfield highway projects through sovereign guarantees
- (b) To monetize operational road assets and provide returns to investors through pooled infrastructure revenue
- (c) To regulate toll pricing across all national highways in India
- (d) To replace Public-Private Partnership (PPP) models in highway construction

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

RIIT is an Infrastructure Investment Trust structure aimed at monetizing existing operational highway assets. It pools revenue-generating assets and allows investors to earn returns. It does not replace PPPs, regulate tolls, or focus exclusively on greenfield projects.

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding Strategic Petroleum Reserves (SPRs) in India:

- 1. SPRs are maintained to insulate the economy from external supply shocks and geopolitical disruptions.
- 2. India's SPR facilities are fully owned and operated by private sector oil companies.
- 3. The reserves are generally maintained in underground rock caverns for safety and strategic reasons.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: SPRs act as a buffer against supply disruptions.

Statement 2 is incorrect: SPRs in India are primarily managed by the Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Limited, a government entity, though PPP models are emerging.

Statement 3 is correct: Underground rock caverns are used for safety and strategic concealment.

Thus, two statements are correct.

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding the Model Context Protocol (MCP):

- 1. MCP is designed to standardize how AI systems interact with external tools and data sources.
- 2. It eliminates the need for APIs by directly embedding data within AI models.
- 3. MCP enhances interoperability between different AI systems and platforms.

How many of the above statements are correct?



- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: MCP provides a structured way for AI models to interact with external environments. Statement 2 is incorrect: MCP does not eliminate APIs; rather, it standardizes interactions, often still relying on APIs.

Statement 3 is correct: It improves interoperability across systems.

Thus, two statements are correct.

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding the Chokramudi Hills:

1. They are located in the Western Ghats region of Kerala.
2. The region is known for high-altitude shola-grassland ecosystems.
3. These hills are part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: Chokramudi Hills are in Kerala's Western Ghats.

Statement 2 is correct: The area exhibits shola-grassland ecosystems typical of high-altitude Western Ghats.

Statement 3 is incorrect: They are not part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve; they fall outside its defined boundary.

Thus, two statements are correct.

Q6. Consider the following statements regarding the Aghanashini–Vedavathi River-Linking Project:

1. The project aims to divert surplus water from a west-flowing river to an east-flowing river basin.
2. The Aghanashini River originates in the Western Ghats and drains into the Arabian Sea.
3. The Vedavathi River is a tributary of the Krishna River system.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two



- (c) All three
(d) None

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: The project proposes inter-basin transfer from a west-flowing to an east-flowing river.

Statement 2 is correct: Aghanashini originates in the Western Ghats and flows westward into the Arabian Sea.

Statement 3 is correct: Vedavathi is a tributary of the Tungabhadra, which is part of the Krishna basin.

Thus, all three statements are correct.

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR MAINS ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE

Q1. Examine the causes and consequences of demographic transition in developing countries, with special reference to India.

Answer:

Demographic transition refers to the shift from high birth and death rates to low birth and death rates as a country develops economically. India is currently in the late expanding stage of this transition, characterized by declining fertility but still significant population growth.

The causes of demographic transition in developing countries like India are multifaceted. First, improvements in healthcare and sanitation have significantly reduced mortality rates. Programs such as immunization drives and maternal health initiatives have increased life expectancy. Second, economic development has led to urbanization, reducing the economic utility of large families. Third, rising literacy, especially among women, has contributed to lower fertility rates as awareness of family planning increases. Additionally, government policies such as family welfare programmes have played a crucial role.

The consequences of this transition are both positive and challenging. On the positive side, India is experiencing a demographic dividend, where a larger proportion of the population is in the working-age group. This can boost economic growth if properly harnessed through skill development and employment generation. However, failure to provide adequate jobs can lead to unemployment and social unrest.

Moreover, regional disparities exist, with southern states advancing faster than northern states. Rapid urbanization has also strained infrastructure, leading to problems such as slums and environmental degradation. In the long run, India may face challenges of an ageing population, requiring robust social security systems.

Thus, demographic transition is a critical phase that offers opportunities but also demands careful policy planning to ensure sustainable development.



Q2. Discuss the role of pressure groups in strengthening and challenging democratic governance in India.

Answer:

Pressure groups are organized entities that seek to influence public policy without directly contesting elections. In India, they play a significant role in shaping democratic governance.



On one hand, pressure groups strengthen democracy by acting as intermediaries between the government and citizens. They articulate interests of various sections such as farmers, workers, and minorities. For instance, farmer organizations have influenced agricultural policies, while trade unions have contributed to labor welfare legislation. Civil society organizations also play a crucial role in advocacy, transparency, and accountability, as seen in movements supporting the Right to Information.

They also enhance participatory democracy by encouraging citizen engagement. By mobilizing public opinion, they ensure that diverse voices are heard, thereby deepening democratic processes.

However, pressure groups can also pose challenges. Some groups resort to disruptive methods such as strikes, bandhs, and protests, which may affect public order and economic activity. Additionally, not all pressure groups represent public interest; some may promote narrow or sectional interests, leading to policy distortions. Corporate lobbying, for example, can sometimes result in regulatory capture.

Furthermore, lack of transparency in funding and operations raises concerns about accountability. Unequal access to policymakers can also create imbalances, where powerful groups exert disproportionate influence.

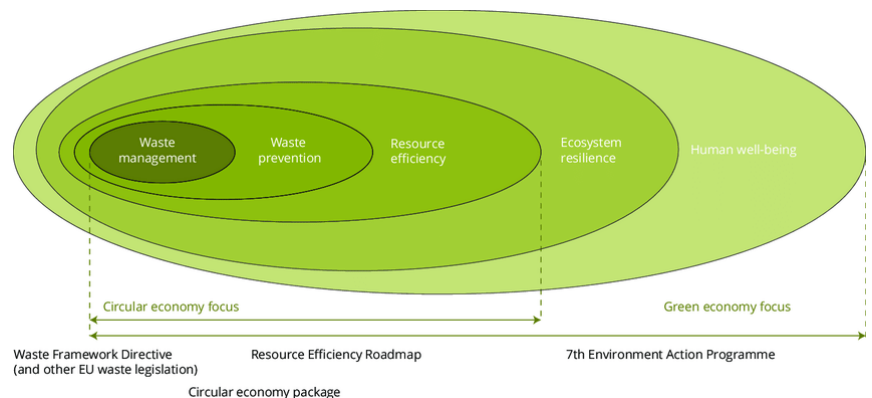
In conclusion, while pressure groups are essential for a vibrant democracy, their functioning must be regulated to ensure that they contribute positively to governance rather than undermining it.

Q3. Analyze the significance of sustainable development in the context of economic growth in India.

Answer:

Sustainable development refers to development that meets present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. In the Indian context, balancing economic growth with environmental sustainability is a major challenge.

India has experienced rapid economic growth in recent decades, but this has often come at the cost of environmental degradation. Issues such as air pollution, water scarcity, and



deforestation highlight the unsustainable nature of traditional growth models. Therefore, integrating sustainability into economic planning is essential.



The significance of sustainable development lies in ensuring long-term economic stability. Environmental degradation can reduce agricultural productivity, increase health costs, and disrupt livelihoods. For example, climate change has led to erratic monsoons, affecting farmers and food security.

India has taken several steps toward sustainable development, including promoting renewable energy, adopting international commitments like the Paris Agreement, and encouraging sustainable practices through policies like the National Action Plan on Climate Change.

However, challenges remain. There is often a trade-off between development and conservation, especially in a country with large developmental needs. Implementation gaps, lack of awareness, and inadequate funding further hinder progress.

Moving forward, India must adopt a holistic approach that integrates economic, social, and environmental dimensions. Investment in green technologies, sustainable agriculture, and circular economy practices can ensure that growth is both inclusive and environmentally sustainable.

Q4. “Ethics in public administration is not merely about rules but about values.” Discuss with suitable examples.

Answer:

Ethics in public administration goes beyond adherence to rules and regulations; it involves the internalization of values such as integrity, accountability, transparency, and compassion.

Rules provide a framework for action, but they cannot cover every possible situation. Values guide decision-making in complex and ambiguous scenarios. For instance, a civil servant may face a situation where following rules strictly could harm vulnerable populations. In such cases, values like empathy and fairness become crucial.

Integrity is a core value that ensures that public officials act in the best interest of society. Transparency and accountability help build trust between the government and citizens. For example, proactive disclosure of information under the Right to Information framework reflects ethical governance.

Ethics also plays a role in preventing corruption. When public officials are guided by strong moral principles, they are less likely to engage in unethical practices. Whistleblowers who expose wrongdoing demonstrate courage and commitment to public interest.

However, ethical dilemmas are common in public administration. Conflicts between personal values and professional duties can arise. Therefore, training and sensitization of civil servants are essential to strengthen ethical behavior.

In conclusion, while rules are necessary, it is the underlying values that ensure just, fair, and effective governance. A value-based approach to administration is key to achieving good governance and public trust.





Q5. Examine the significance of Brazil's Proálcool Programme in the context of global energy security and climate change mitigation.

Answer:

Brazil's Proálcool Programme, launched in the 1970s, is one of the most successful biofuel initiatives in the world. It was introduced in response to the oil crisis to reduce dependence on imported fossil fuels.

The programme focuses on producing ethanol from sugarcane and using it as an alternative fuel. Brazil has developed a robust ecosystem involving farmers, industries, and flex-fuel vehicles that can run on both petrol and ethanol. This has significantly reduced the country's reliance on crude oil imports.

In terms of energy security, Proálcool has enabled Brazil to diversify its energy sources. By promoting domestically produced biofuels, the country has insulated itself from global oil price shocks. This model is particularly relevant for developing countries that are heavily dependent on energy imports.

From an environmental perspective, ethanol is considered a cleaner fuel compared to fossil fuels. It results in lower greenhouse gas emissions, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation. The use of sugarcane-based ethanol is especially efficient due to high energy yields.

However, the programme is not without challenges. Large-scale cultivation of sugarcane can lead to land-use changes, deforestation, and concerns about food security. Water usage and environmental impacts of monoculture farming are also issues.

Despite these challenges, Proálcool offers valuable lessons for countries like India, which are exploring biofuels as part of their energy strategy. It demonstrates how policy support, technological innovation, and stakeholder participation can create a sustainable energy model.

In conclusion, Brazil's Proálcool Programme is a landmark initiative that highlights the potential of biofuels in achieving energy security and environmental sustainability.