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VIDHVATH IAS KAS ACADEMY
&
STUDY CENTRE

DAILY MCQ'S

FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

DATE: 04/05/2026 (MONDAY)

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



 **9972258970 & 9740702455**

**#317/A SKB Arcade, D. Subbaiah Road,
Ramaswamy Circle, Mysuru-570004**



DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM STATIC PART

Question 1: Consider the following statements regarding agrarian relations and intermediaries in Medieval India:

1. The term *zamindar* during the Mughal period uniformly denoted only revenue collectors appointed by the state.
2. Some zamindars possessed hereditary rights over land and exercised local authority beyond mere revenue collection.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Both
- (c) None
- (d) Cannot be determined

Answer: (a) Only one

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is **incorrect**: The term *zamindar* was not uniform; it included a spectrum of intermediaries, including autonomous chiefs with socio-political authority.
- Statement 2 is **correct**: Many zamindars had hereditary rights and exercised administrative as well as military control at the local level.

Question 2: With reference to ecological succession, consider the following:

In a hydrosere succession, which of the following stages most directly precedes the climax forest stage?

- (a) Phytoplankton stage
- (b) Submerged plant stage
- (c) Reed-swamp stage
- (d) Woodland stage

Answer: (d) Woodland stage

Explanation:

Hydrosere succession follows a sequential progression:

Phytoplankton → Submerged plants → Floating plants → Reed-swamp → Marsh-meadow → Woodland → Climax forest

- The **woodland stage** is the immediate precursor to the climax forest stage.

Question 3: Consider the following statements regarding fiscal deficit and its implications:

1. Fiscal deficit necessarily leads to inflationary pressure irrespective of the mode of financing.
2. Borrowing from the central bank to finance fiscal deficit is more inflationary than market borrowing.
3. A high fiscal deficit always indicates poor fiscal management without exception.



How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: (a) Only one

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is **incorrect**: Inflation depends on financing mode and macroeconomic conditions.
- Statement 2 is **correct**: Monetization of deficit increases money supply, making it more inflationary.
- Statement 3 is **incorrect**: High fiscal deficit may be justified (e.g., during recession or for capital investment).

Question 4: Consider the following statements regarding constitutional provisions related to ordinances:

1. An ordinance promulgated by the President has the same force as an Act of Parliament.
2. An ordinance must be approved by both Houses of Parliament within six weeks of reassembly.
3. The President can withdraw an ordinance at any time without parliamentary approval.
4. Judicial review of an ordinance is completely barred under the Constitution.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: (c) Only three

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is **correct**: Ordinances have the same force as parliamentary laws.
- Statement 2 is **correct**: Approval is required within six weeks of reassembly.
- Statement 3 is **correct**: The President may withdraw an ordinance anytime.
- Statement 4 is **incorrect**: Ordinances are subject to judicial review.

Question 5: Assertion Reason type -

Assertion (A): Coastal regions experience a lower diurnal range of temperature compared to inland areas.

Reason (R1): Water has a higher specific heat capacity than land.

Reason (R2): Land surfaces reflect more solar radiation compared to water bodies.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) A is correct, R1 is correct and explains A, R2 is correct but does not explain A
- (b) A is correct, R1 is correct but does not explain A, R2 is incorrect



- (c) A is incorrect, but both R1 and R2 are correct
(d) A is correct, both R1 and R2 are correct and both explain A

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- Assertion is **correct**: Coastal regions have moderated temperatures due to maritime influence.
- R1 is **correct and explanatory**: Water heats and cools slowly, reducing temperature variation.
- R2 is **correct but not explanatory**: Albedo differences exist but are not the primary reason for reduced diurnal range.

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS

Question 6: Consider the following statements regarding the National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC):

1. It functions under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and provides concessional finance through State Channelizing Agencies.
2. It is mandated to fund only income-generating activities and does not support educational or skill development initiatives.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
(b) Both
(c) None
(d) Cannot be determined

Answer: (a) Only one

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is **correct**: NSTFDC operates under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and routes assistance via State Channelizing Agencies.
- Statement 2 is **incorrect**: It also supports education, skill development, and self-employment initiatives.

Question 7: With reference to the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), consider the following statements:

- (a) It is one of the principal organs of the United Nations responsible for coordinating economic and social work.
(b) It has permanent members with veto power similar to the Security Council.
(c) Its resolutions are legally binding on all member states.
(d) It is composed exclusively of developing countries.



Which of the statements given above is correct?

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- ECOSOC is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations.
- It **does not have veto powers**, its resolutions are **non-binding**, and its membership is **regionally representative**, not limited to developing countries.

Question 8: Consider the following statements regarding the Central Armed Police Forces (General Administration) Act, 2026:

1. It aims to create a unified administrative framework for all CAPFs while retaining operational autonomy.
2. It mandates a completely uniform recruitment and training system across all CAPFs, removing all force-specific variations.
3. It provides for inter-force deputation and lateral mobility among personnel.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: (b) Only two

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is **correct**: Focus is on administrative uniformity with operational flexibility.
- Statement 2 is **incorrect**: Complete uniformity is neither practical nor mandated.
- Statement 3 is **correct**: Lateral mobility provisions are included.

Question 9: Consider the following statements regarding polar fauna, specifically the Emperor Penguin and the Antarctic Fur Seal:

1. Emperor Penguins breed during the Antarctic winter, unlike most bird species.
2. Antarctic Fur Seals primarily depend on sea ice for breeding and resting.
3. Both species are vulnerable to sea ice loss due to climate change, though via different ecological mechanisms.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: (b) Only two



Explanation:

- Statement 1 is **correct**: Emperor Penguins uniquely breed during winter.
- Statement 2 is **incorrect**: Fur Seals breed mainly on subantarctic islands, not sea ice.
- Statement 3 is **correct**: Climate change impacts both, though differently.

Question 10: Consider the following statements regarding Naphthalene Diimide (NDI):

1. It is used in organic electronics due to its strong electron-accepting properties.
2. It belongs to the class of inorganic semiconductors used in photovoltaic cells.
3. Its molecular structure enables applications in sensors and flexible electronic devices.
4. It is primarily derived from metallic compounds used in traditional semiconductor fabrication.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: (b) Only two

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is **correct**: NDI is a well-known electron acceptor in organic semiconductors.
- Statement 2 is **incorrect**: It is organic, not inorganic.
- Statement 3 is **correct**: Suitable for flexible electronics and sensors.
- Statement 4 is **incorrect**: It is not derived from metallic compounds.

Question 11: Consider the following statements regarding the Sijimali Bauxite Mine:

1. It is located in the Eastern Ghats region of India.
2. The region is ecologically sensitive and inhabited by tribal communities.
3. It lies within the Indo-Gangetic Plain physiographic division.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: (b) Only two

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is **correct**: Located in the Eastern Ghats (Odisha region).
- Statement 2 is **correct**: Area has ecological sensitivity and tribal habitation.



- Statement 3 is **incorrect**: It belongs to Peninsular Plateau (Eastern Ghats), not Indo-Gangetic Plain.

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR MAINS ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE

GS Paper 1

Q1. “Travel accounts provide valuable insights into medieval Indian society but are not free from biases.” Critically examine.

Answer: Travel accounts of foreign visitors such as Ibn Battuta, Al-Biruni, and François Bernier are crucial historical sources for understanding medieval Indian society. They offer first-hand observations on governance, economy, social customs, and culture.

Value of Travel Accounts:

Firstly, these narratives provide **external perspectives**, often highlighting aspects overlooked in indigenous sources. For instance, Al-Biruni’s detailed observations on caste and religion offer systematic insights into Indian society. Secondly, travellers like Ibn Battuta documented **administrative systems**, trade routes, and urban life, enriching our understanding of the Delhi Sultanate. Bernier’s accounts help reconstruct **Mughal court politics and economic conditions**.

Limitations and Biases:

However, these accounts are not free from bias. Travellers often interpreted Indian society through their own cultural lens. For example, Bernier criticized Indian land revenue systems, comparing them unfavorably with European models, which reflected Eurocentric bias. Similarly, Al-Biruni’s Brahmanical focus led to **limited representation of lower castes**.

Language barriers and reliance on intermediaries further affected accuracy. Many travellers depended on translators, leading to distortions. Additionally, their accounts often emphasized **exoticism**, exaggerating practices unfamiliar to them.

Critical Evaluation:

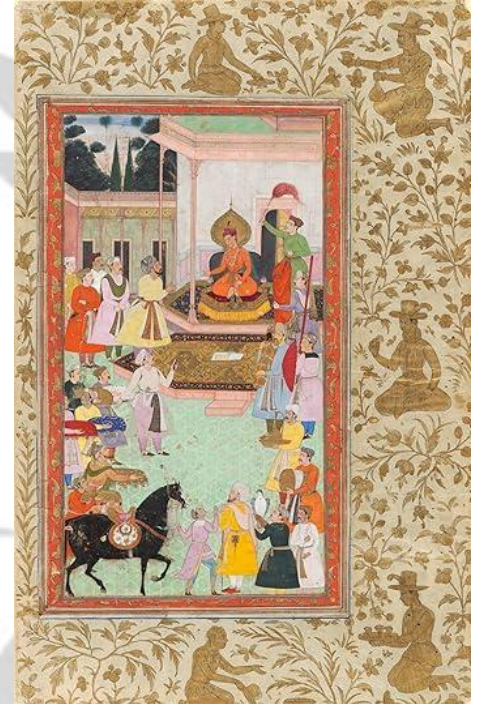
Modern historians cross-reference these accounts with archaeological and indigenous sources to filter biases. Despite limitations, they remain indispensable for reconstructing medieval history.

Conclusion:

Travel accounts are valuable yet subjective sources. A critical and comparative approach ensures balanced historical interpretation.

UPSC Relevance:

Important for GS-1 (History), especially source-based historiography and analytical questions.





GS Paper 2

Q2. Discuss the rise of regional powers in medieval India and their impact on political decentralization.

Answer: The decline of centralized empires such as the Delhi Sultanate led to the emergence of regional powers across India. These included the Vijayanagara Empire in the south, Rajput kingdoms in the north-west, and Deccan Sultanates.

Rise of Regional Powers:

Political fragmentation created opportunities for local rulers to assert autonomy. The Vijayanagara Empire emerged as a strong Hindu kingdom resisting northern invasions, while Rajput states maintained local dominance. Similarly, Bahmani and later Deccan Sultanates controlled significant territories.

Factors Contributing to Rise:

- Weakening of central authority
- Regional cultural identity
- Military strength of local rulers
- Economic control over trade routes

Impact on Political Structure:

The rise of regional powers led to **political decentralization**. Governance became localized, with rulers adopting diverse administrative practices. This fostered regional diversity in political systems.

Economic and Cultural Impact:

These states promoted regional languages, art, and architecture. Vijayanagara, for instance, became a center of temple architecture and trade. Regional courts patronized literature and culture.

However, fragmentation also led to **frequent conflicts**, weakening overall political unity and making India vulnerable to external invasions.

Critical Analysis:

While decentralization allowed cultural flourishing, it hindered the formation of a unified polity.

Conclusion:

Regional powers played a dual role—promoting diversity while contributing to political fragmentation.

UPSC Relevance:

Important for GS-2 (Polity evolution, governance structures).





GS Paper 3

Q3. Examine the urban planning and economic significance of Vijayanagara Empire.

Answer: The Vijayanagara Empire (14th–17th century) stands as a remarkable example of advanced urban planning and economic prosperity in medieval India.

Urban Planning Features:

The capital city, Hampi, was strategically located along the Tungabhadra River. It featured:

- Fortified walls and gateways
- Segregated zones (royal, sacred, urban)
- Advanced water management systems (canals, tanks)
- Planned marketplaces and streets

The presence of wide roads and organized bazaars reflects sophisticated city planning.

Economic Significance:

Vijayanagara was a major commercial hub. It engaged in international trade with Persia, Arabia, and Europe. Key exports included spices, textiles, and precious stones.

Agriculture was supported by irrigation systems, ensuring surplus production. The empire's wealth attracted foreign travellers, who described it as one of the richest cities of its time.

Administrative Efficiency:

Revenue collection was systematic, and local governance was delegated effectively. This ensured economic stability.

Decline:

The Battle of Talikota (1565) led to its downfall, causing destruction of the capital.

Conclusion:

Vijayanagara exemplifies advanced urban planning and economic prosperity in pre-modern India.

UPSC Relevance:

Important for GS-3 (economy, infrastructure, urban planning in historical context).

GS Paper 4 (Ethics)

Q4. Discuss the importance of empathy in public administration with suitable examples.

Answer: Empathy is the ability to understand and share the feelings of others. In public administration, it is a crucial ethical value that enhances governance effectiveness.

Importance of Empathy:

Empathy enables administrators to design policies that address real needs. It fosters trust between citizens and the state. For instance, empathetic officers during disasters ensure humane relief operations.





Role in Governance:

- Improves service delivery
- Enhances inclusivity
- Reduces bureaucratic insensitivity
- Strengthens accountability



Examples:

An IAS officer working in tribal areas who adapts policies to local culture demonstrates empathy. Similarly, during COVID-19, many officers ensured migrant welfare through compassionate action.

Challenges:

Excessive emotional involvement may affect objectivity. Balancing empathy with rational decision-making is essential.

Conclusion:

Empathy humanizes governance, making it citizen-centric.

UPSC Relevance:

Core topic in GS-4 Ethics, frequently asked in theory and case studies.

Current Affairs (Madman Theory)

Q5. Explain the “Madman Theory” in international relations and evaluate its relevance in contemporary geopolitics.

Answer: The “Madman Theory” refers to a strategy where a leader projects unpredictability and irrationality to intimidate adversaries into concessions. It was notably associated with U.S. President Richard Nixon during the Cold War.

Concept Explanation:

The theory assumes that if opponents believe a leader is capable of extreme actions, they may avoid confrontation and agree to demands.

Historical Context:

During the Vietnam War, Nixon attempted to signal to North Vietnam that he might escalate conflict unpredictably, including nuclear options.



Relevance in Contemporary Geopolitics:

In modern times, elements of this theory can be observed in:

- Nuclear brinkmanship
- Strategic signaling by major powers
- Unpredictable diplomatic behavior

Countries may use calculated unpredictability to strengthen deterrence.



Criticism:

- Risk of miscalculation leading to conflict
- Undermines diplomatic trust
- Can escalate tensions uncontrollably

Evaluation:

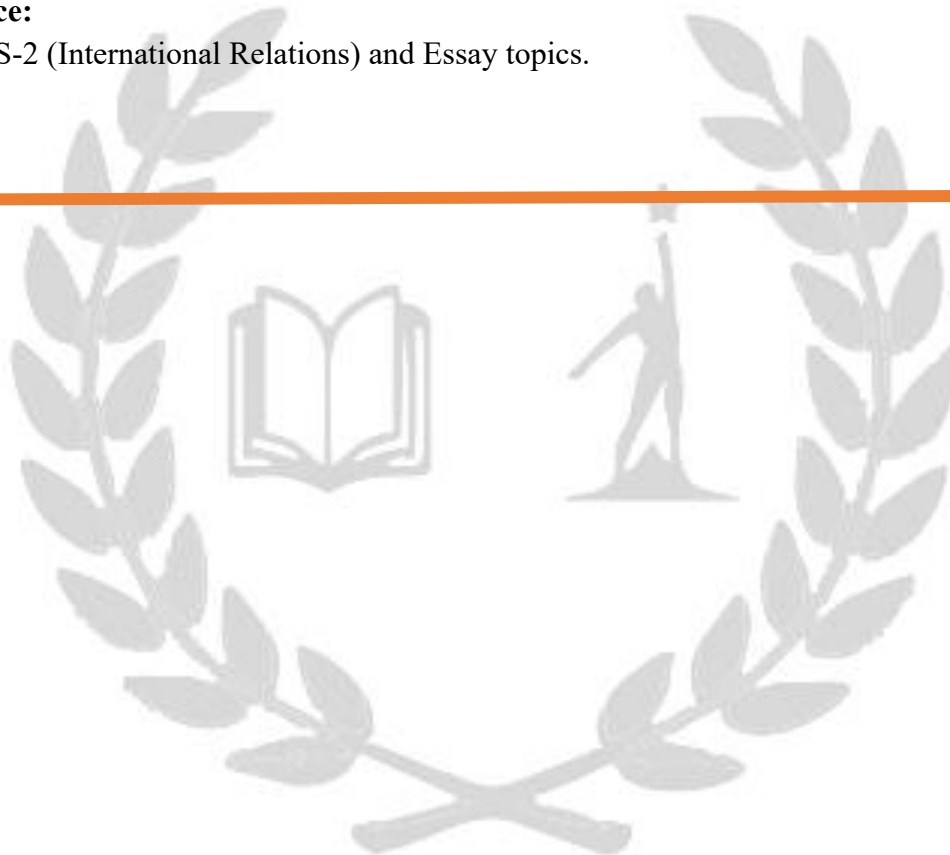
While it may offer short-term strategic advantages, it is dangerous in a nuclearized world.

Conclusion:

The Madman Theory remains relevant but risky, requiring cautious application.

UPSC Relevance:

Important for GS-2 (International Relations) and Essay topics.



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