"We help you reach for the star"

VIDHVATH IAS KAS ACADEMY & STUDY CENTRE

DAILY MCQ'S

FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

DATE: 24/10/2026 (SATURDAY)

- **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

Q1. Consider the following statements regarding agrarian relations during the Mughal period, with specific reference to *Zamindars*:

Statement-I: While *Zamindars* were often seen as exploiters, historical evidence suggests that they frequently acted as the "spearhead" of peasant resistance against imperial revenue demands.

Statement-II: The relationship between the *Zamindars* and the peasantry was essentially based on a "paternalistic" ideology, where the *Zamindar* provided protection and credit in exchange for loyalty.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.

Answer: (b)

Explanation:
Both statements are correct. Historical evidence indicates that *Zamindars* often led peasant resistance against excessive Mughal revenue demands, as their own interests were also affected. The relationship between *Zamindars* and peasants was indeed paternalistic, involving protection and credit. However, this social relationship does not directly explain their leadership in resistance movements, which was primarily driven by shared economic pressures.

Q2. In the context of global environmental efforts to mitigate climate change, which of the following best describes the fundamental principle of 'Common but Differentiated Responsibilities' (CBDR)?

(a) It mandates equal contribution by all nations to the Green Climate Fund.
(b) It acknowledges that developed nations have greater historical responsibility and should provide financial and technological support to developing nations.
(c) It requires developing nations to match emission reduction targets of developed nations.
(d) It establishes a uniform global carbon tax under UNFCCC.

Answer: (b)

VIDHVATH IAS ACADEMY

Explanation:
CBDR is a foundational principle of international environmental law. It recognizes that while all countries share responsibility for environmental protection, developed countries bear a greater burden due to their historical emissions and greater financial and technological capacity. Hence, they are expected to assist developing countries.

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding the Indian economy and international trade:

1. A persistent deficit in the Capital Account of the Balance of Payments is always more detrimental than a Current Account Deficit (CAD).
2. The ‘J-Curve’ effect suggests that after currency devaluation, the trade balance initially worsens before improving.

3. Transfer Payments are included in Personal Income but excluded from National Income (NNP at factor cost).

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 incorrect because a Current Account Deficit is generally more concerning as it reflects excess imports over exports. Statement 2 is correct as devaluation initially increases import costs before export gains materialize. Statement 3 is correct since transfer payments are not earned through production and hence excluded from National Income but included in Personal Income.

Q4. With reference to the planning and development framework in India, consider the following statements:

1. District Planning Committees (DPCs) consolidate plans prepared by Panchayats and Municipalities.
2. The Governor determines the composition and manner of filling seats in DPCs.
3. At least four-fifths of DPC members are elected by elected members of Panchayats and Municipalities.
4. DPCs consult institutions as specified by the Governor while preparing development plans.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

Explanation:
Statements 1 and 3 are correct as per Article 243ZD. Statement 2 is incorrect because the State Legislature determines the composition of DPCs. Statement 4 is also incorrect in strict interpretation, as the framework is primarily governed by state legislation, though the Governor may specify institutions for consultation.

Q5. Given below are two statements:

Assertion (A): Most of the world's megacities are located in developing countries, yet the rate of urbanization in these regions is expected to decelerate significantly by 2030.

Reason (R1): Urbanization in developing countries is largely driven by rural push factors rather than urban pull factors.

Reason (R2): Demographic transition in developing countries is stabilizing rural populations, reducing migration pressure.

Which of the following is correct?

(a) Assertion (A) is correct, and both R1 and R2 explain it.
(b) Assertion (A) is incorrect, but R1 and R2 are correct.
(c) Assertion (A) and R1 are correct, but R2 is incorrect.
(d) Assertion (A) and R1 are incorrect, but R2 is correct.

Answer: (b)

Explanation:
The assertion is incorrect because urbanization in developing regions is expected to continue at a high or increasing rate, especially in Asia and Africa. However, both reasons are generally valid. Urbanization is often driven by rural distress (push factors), and demographic transition is gradually stabilizing populations, though it has not yet significantly reduced migration pressures.

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FROM CURRENT AFFAIRS

Q1. Assertion Reason type -

Assertion (A): Earthquake Lights (EQL) are more frequently reported in regions associated with rift environments and extensional tectonics than in compressional plate boundaries.

Reason (R1): Extensional tectonic settings facilitate the activation of electronic charge carriers in rocks due to increased crustal fracturing.

Reason (R2): Compressional tectonic settings inhibit the generation of electromagnetic anomalies due to uniform stress distribution in the lithosphere.

Which of the following is correct?

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

Answer: (b)

VIDHVATH IAS ACADEMY

Explanation:
EQL are indeed more commonly associated with extensional settings such as rift zones where crustal fracturing allows activation of charge carriers (R1 correct). However, compressional settings do not completely inhibit electromagnetic anomalies; they can still occur, though less frequently. Hence R2 is incorrect.

Q2. Which one of the following statements best captures the essence of the No Cloning Theorem?

(a) It prohibits simultaneous measurement of position and momentum with arbitrary precision.
(b) It states that unknown quantum states cannot be perfectly copied without disturbing the original state.
(c) It establishes that entangled particles always collapse into identical states upon measurement.
(d) It ensures that quantum information can be transmitted faster than light through replication.

Answer: (b)

Explanation:
The No Cloning Theorem is a fundamental result in quantum mechanics which proves that it is impossible to create an identical copy of an arbitrary unknown quantum state. This has deep implications for quantum computing and quantum cryptography, ensuring security of quantum communication systems.

Q3. Consider the following statements regarding Coal Gasification:

1. It converts coal into syngas consisting primarily of carbon monoxide and hydrogen through partial oxidation.
2. It inherently eliminates carbon dioxide emissions, making it a completely carbon-neutral process.
3. Underground Coal Gasification (UCG) allows in-situ conversion of coal seams into gas without mining.

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 as coal gasification produces syngas. Statement 2 is incorrect because CO_2 is still produced and needs carbon capture technologies. Statement 3 is correct as UCG converts coal underground. Hence, two statements are correct.

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding INS Aridhaman:

1. It is a nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine forming part of India's nuclear triad.
2. It is capable of launching submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs) such as K-15 and K-4.
3. It operates under the direct command of the Strategic Forces Command (SFC) for nuclear deterrence.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

VIDHVATH IAS ACADEMY

Answer: (c)

Explanation:
All statements are correct. INS Aridhaman is part of India's second-strike capability under the nuclear triad. It is equipped with SLBMs like K-15 and K-4, and operational control for nuclear missions lies with the Strategic Forces Command.

Q5. Consider the following statements regarding the Hindu Kush mountain system:

1. It forms a natural extension of the Himalayan mountain system into Central Asia.
2. It acts as a major climatic barrier influencing the monsoon penetration into Central Asia.

3. It is the primary source region for the Indus River and several of its tributaries.
4. It lies entirely within the territory of Afghanistan.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: (c)

Explanation:
Statements 1, 2, and 3 are correct. The Hindu Kush is geologically linked to the Himalayas, influences regional climate, and contributes to the Indus basin. Statement 4 is incorrect as the range extends into Pakistan as well.

Q6. With reference to the geographical location of Azerbaijan, consider the following statements:

1. It is bounded by the Caspian Sea to the east.
2. It shares borders with Armenia, Georgia, and Iran.
3. It has a direct land border with Turkey through the Nakhchivan exclave.
4. It lies entirely within the continent of Europe.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Answer: (c)

Explanation:
Statements 1, 2, and 3 are correct. Azerbaijan borders the Caspian Sea and several countries, including a small border with Turkey via Nakhchivan. Statement 4 is incorrect because Azerbaijan lies at the crossroads of Eastern Europe and Western Asia.

VIDHVATH IAS ACADEMY

DAILY PRACTICE QUESTIONS FOR MAINS ANSWER WRITING PRACTICE

GS–1

Q1. Examine the urban planning, architectural features, and socio-economic organization of the Vijayanagara Empire. How did these elements reflect the political and cultural priorities of the state?

Answer:

The Vijayanagara Empire, with its capital at Hampi, represents one of the most sophisticated examples of pre-modern urban planning in India. The city's layout was not merely functional but deeply embedded in political authority, religious symbolism, and economic vitality.

Urban planning in Vijayanagara was characterized by a **multi-layered fortification system**, with concentric walls protecting different zones—royal, sacred, and residential. This segmentation reflects a strong emphasis on **defense and administrative control**, especially given constant conflicts with the Deccan Sultanates. The presence of well-planned roads, water reservoirs, and irrigation systems such as canals and tanks indicates a high degree of engineering skill and state investment.



Architecturally, Vijayanagara blended **Dravidian temple styles with innovative secular structures**. Monumental temples like Virupaksha and Vittala served not only religious purposes but also acted as centers of economic activity. The iconic stone chariot and musical pillars exemplify artistic excellence and technological ingenuity. Royal enclosures, audience halls, and elephant stables reveal Persian and Indo-Islamic influences, highlighting cultural syncretism.

Economically, the empire thrived on **agrarian surplus, craft production, and long-distance trade**. Marketplaces (bazaars) were often located near temples, indicating a close relationship between religion and commerce. Foreign travelers like Domingo Paes described bustling markets with goods ranging from spices to precious stones, reflecting integration into global trade networks.

Socially, the city exhibited a hierarchical yet vibrant structure, with different occupational groups residing in distinct quarters. The prominence of temples and festivals underscores the role of religion in legitimizing political authority.

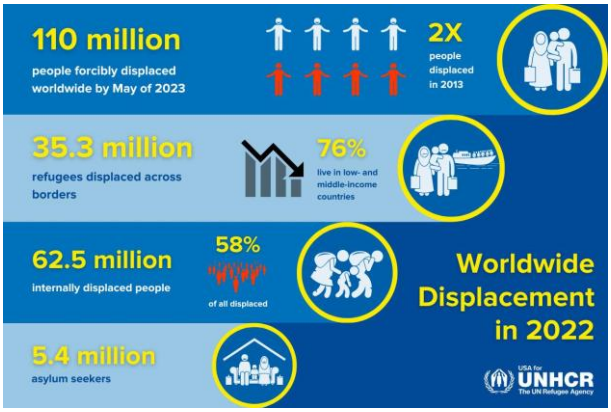
Thus, Vijayanagara's urbanism was not accidental but a deliberate expression of **power, prosperity, and cultural identity**, integrating defense, economy, and religion into a cohesive imperial vision.

GS–2

Q2. Critically analyze the changing nature of security in the contemporary world. How do non-traditional security threats challenge the state-centric notion of security?

Answer:

Traditionally, security was viewed through a **state-centric lens**, focusing on territorial integrity and military threats. However, in the contemporary world, the concept of security has expanded to include **non-traditional threats**, fundamentally altering its scope and approach.



Non-traditional security threats include **climate change, pandemics, cyber threats, food insecurity, and transnational terrorism**. Unlike conventional military threats, these challenges are **borderless, complex, and often non-military in nature**. For instance, climate change leads to extreme weather events, affecting livelihoods and causing displacement, thereby creating indirect security risks.

The COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated how a health crisis could paralyze economies, disrupt governance, and strain international relations. Similarly, cyber threats undermine critical infrastructure and national sovereignty without physical invasion. These examples highlight that **security is no longer confined to military strength but includes resilience and adaptability**.

Such threats challenge the state-centric model in several ways. First, they require **collective global action**, as no single nation can tackle them alone. Second, they shift focus from "hard power" to "human security," emphasizing individual well-being. Third, they blur the line between internal and external security, as domestic vulnerabilities can have international repercussions.

However, states remain central actors, as they possess resources and authority to coordinate responses. The challenge lies in **integrating traditional and non-traditional approaches**, involving international organizations, civil society, and private sectors.

In conclusion, the evolving nature of security demands a **holistic, cooperative, and multi-dimensional framework**, moving beyond military dominance to ensure sustainable peace and stability.

GS–3

Q3. Discuss the global challenges associated with the management of natural resources. How can sustainable development reconcile economic growth with environmental conservation?

Answer:

Natural resources form the backbone of economic development, yet their mismanagement has led to severe global challenges. These include **resource depletion, environmental degradation, climate change, and inequitable distribution**.



One major challenge is the **over-exploitation of resources** such as forests, minerals, and fossil fuels. Rapid industrialization and population growth have intensified demand, leading to deforestation, biodiversity loss, and pollution. Water scarcity is another critical issue, exacerbated by overuse, contamination, and climate variability.

Additionally, there exists a stark **inequality in resource consumption**, where developed nations consume disproportionately more resources compared to developing countries. This creates tensions and raises questions of environmental justice.

Sustainable development offers a framework to balance these competing demands. It emphasizes **meeting present needs without compromising future generations**. Strategies include promoting renewable energy, improving resource efficiency, and adopting circular economy models that minimize waste.

Technological innovation plays a crucial role in achieving sustainability. For example, solar and wind energy reduce dependence on fossil fuels, while precision agriculture optimizes water usage. Policy measures such as carbon pricing, environmental regulations, and international agreements like the Paris Agreement are also essential.

Community participation and indigenous knowledge systems further enhance sustainability by ensuring context-specific solutions. However, challenges remain in terms of implementation, financing, and political will.

In conclusion, reconciling economic growth with environmental conservation requires a **multi-pronged approach involving technology, policy, and global cooperation**, ensuring that development is both inclusive and sustainable.

GS–4 (Ethics, Integrity, and Aptitude)

Q4. "Ethical governance is not merely about compliance with rules but about internalizing values." Discuss in the context of public administration, citing relevant examples.

Answer:

Ethical governance extends beyond adherence to laws and regulations; it involves the **internalization of moral values such as integrity, transparency, accountability, and empathy**. In public administration, this distinction is crucial because rules alone cannot ensure ethical outcomes.

Compliance-based governance focuses on following procedures, which may sometimes lead to **bureaucratic rigidity or "rule-bound inefficiency."** For instance, a public official strictly adhering to procedural norms may deny urgent assistance due to technicalities, thereby undermining the spirit of public service.

In contrast, value-based governance emphasizes **ethical decision-making guided by public interest**. Civil servants who internalize values are more likely to act with discretion and compassion. For example, during natural disasters, officials often go beyond formal duties to ensure relief reaches affected populations, reflecting ethical commitment rather than mere compliance.



Integrity is a cornerstone of ethical governance. It ensures that decisions are free from corruption and personal bias. Transparency and accountability further strengthen public trust by making governance processes open and answerable.

However, ethical governance also requires **institutional support**, such as codes of conduct, training, and robust oversight mechanisms. Without systemic reinforcement, individual integrity may not be sufficient.

Real-life examples include initiatives like **e-governance platforms**, which reduce discretion and enhance transparency, and whistleblower protections that encourage ethical behavior.

In conclusion, ethical governance is a **synergy of rules and values**, where internalized ethics guide actions beyond formal compliance. This approach not only improves administrative efficiency but also fosters trust and legitimacy in governance.

Current Affairs:

Q5. Road infrastructure development often leads to increased wildlife mortality. Discuss the challenges and suggest measures to mitigate road accidents involving wildlife in India.

Answer:

The expansion of road infrastructure in India, while essential for economic growth, has led to a significant rise in **wildlife mortality due to road accidents**. This issue is particularly severe in biodiversity-rich regions where highways intersect forests and wildlife corridors.

One of the primary challenges is **habitat fragmentation**, which forces animals to cross roads in search of food, water, or mates. High-speed traffic and lack of awareness among drivers exacerbate the problem, leading to frequent roadkills. Species such as elephants, leopards, and deer are particularly vulnerable.



Another challenge is the **absence of ecological considerations in infrastructure planning**. Many roads are constructed without adequate environmental impact assessments or mitigation measures. Additionally, enforcement of speed limits in forest areas is often weak.

To address these issues, a combination of **engineering, policy, and behavioral interventions** is required. Wildlife crossings such as underpasses and overpasses have proven effective in reducing animal-vehicle collisions. Installing speed breakers, warning signage, and motion-sensor alerts can further enhance safety.

Policy measures should mandate **wildlife-friendly infrastructure design** and strict environmental clearances. Community involvement and driver awareness campaigns are equally important to promote responsible behavior.

VIDHVATH IAS ACADEMY

Technological solutions such as GPS-based monitoring and AI-driven detection systems can provide real-time alerts to drivers. Successful examples from India, such as wildlife corridors in Uttarakhand and Maharashtra, demonstrate the feasibility of such measures.

In conclusion, mitigating wildlife road accidents requires a **holistic approach integrating development with conservation**, ensuring that economic progress does not come at the cost of ecological sustainability.