

This document features ChatGPT-generated Prelims questions, with 8 questions on each selected micro-theme. The themes included here are representative samples drawn from over 100 meticulously curated micro-themes across different sections of the UPSC syllabus – both explicit and implicit.

All questions have been generated using the “GPT-5 Thinking” model (Plus tier). The answer keys have been accurately produced by ChatGPT but are not included in this version. No manual editing has been applied—the quality and standard of the questions speak for themselves.

THEME ONE

1. The mean annual “thermal equator” lies a few degrees north of the geographic equator primarily because:
 - A. The unequal land–sea distribution (greater landmass in the Northern Hemisphere) raises annual mean temperatures slightly north of the equator.
 - B. Earth’s perihelion in January preferentially warms the Northern Hemisphere over the Southern Hemisphere.
 - C. Coriolis force steers warm ocean currents only into the Northern Hemisphere.
 - D. The ITCZ remains fixed near 10° N throughout the year.
2. Consider the following statements about the diurnal temperature range (DTR):
 1. DTR generally increases with aridity and sparse vegetation.
 2. Under clear skies and light winds, the minimum near-surface temperature typically occurs just after sunrise.
 3. Urban heat islands usually enhance (increase) DTR relative to rural surroundings.
 4. Advection of moist maritime air tends to suppress DTR inland.

Which of the following combinations is/are correct?

 - A. 1, 2 and 4 only
 - B. 1 and 3 only
 - C. 2 and 3 only
 - D. 1, 2 and 3 only

3. Match the regions (Column I) with their dominant temperature character (Column II):

Column I

- (a) NW Europe (50–60° N), westerly coast
- (b) Peru/Atacama coastal belt (15–25° S)
- (c) Siberian interior (55–65° N)
- (d) Equatorial oceanic islands (0–10°)

Column II

- (i) Very large annual range with severe winter minima
- (ii) Summer coastal fog and cool summers; small annual range vs interior
- (iii) Mild winters; isotherms bulge poleward in January
- (iv) Very small annual range; weak annual cycle; small diurnal range under frequent cloud

Choose the correct set:

- A. (a)-(iii), (b)-(ii), (c)-(i), (d)-(iv)
- B. (a)-(ii), (b)-(iii), (c)-(iv), (d)-(i)
- C. (a)-(iv), (b)-(i), (c)-(ii), (d)-(iii)
- D. (a)-(iii), (b)-(iv), (c)-(ii), (d)-(i)

4. Statement 1: Over most land areas with fair weather, the daily maximum temperature occurs about 2–3 hours after solar noon.

Statement 2: This lag shortens under overcast skies and strong winds.

- A. Only 1
- B. Only 2
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

5. Statement 1 (Assertion): The tropopause is higher over the equator than over the poles.

Statement 2 (Reason): Deep convective activity and latent-heat release in the tropics inject mass into the upper troposphere, thickening the tropospheric column.

- A. Both statements are correct, and 2 explains 1
- B. Both statements are correct, but 2 does not explain 1
- C. Statement 1 is correct, but 2 is incorrect
- D. Statement 1 is incorrect, but 2 is correct

6. Statement 1: Subtropical eastern ocean margins commonly exhibit a persistent inversion near 1–2 km (trade-wind inversion).

Statement 2: Subsidence beneath subtropical anticyclones compresses and warms the air aloft, capping convection.

Statement 3: Cold eastern boundary currents cool the marine boundary layer, enhancing static stability.

- A. 2 and 3 are correct and both explain 1
- B. 2 and 3 are correct, but only one explains 1
- C. Only one of 2 or 3 is correct, and it explains 1
- D. Neither 2 nor 3 is correct

7. On a clear, calm winter night over a sheltered valley, which near-surface vertical temperature structure is most likely just before sunrise (lowest ~200 m)?
 - A. A strong surface-based inversion capped near ridge-top height
 - B. A normal environmental lapse rate of $\sim 6.5^\circ\text{C}/\text{km}$ from the surface upward
 - C. An isothermal layer due to vigorous nocturnal mechanical mixing
 - D. An elevated inversion aloft with a well-mixed surface layer
8. Statement 1 (Assertion): At $40\text{--}50^\circ\text{N}$, the annual temperature range is generally smaller on west coasts than on east coasts of continents at the same latitude.
 Statement 2 (Reason): Mid-latitude westerlies advect marine air toward west coasts and comparatively more continental air toward east coasts.
 - A. Both statements are correct, and 2 explains 1
 - B. Both statements are correct, but 2 does not explain 1
 - C. Statement 1 is correct, but 2 is incorrect
 - D. Statement 1 is incorrect, but 2 is correct

THEME TWO

1. Which of the following best captures the dynamical cause and vertical placement of the major westerly jet streams?
 - A. They arise where strong horizontal temperature gradients with height imply strong vertical wind shear (thermal-wind balance), concentrating westerlies near the tropopause.
 - B. They are produced primarily by surface friction acting on subtropical highs, maximizing in the planetary boundary layer.
 - C. They form due to momentum export by deep convection in the ITCZ and therefore peak at 700–850 hPa.
 - D. They occur because the Coriolis parameter is zero at the Equator, focusing winds into narrow cores there.
-
2. Consider the following statements regarding the Tropical Easterly Jet (TEJ) over the Indian longitudes:
 1. It appears in boreal summer and is absent in winter.
 2. Its core is typically around 100–150 hPa and flows from Southeast Asia across India toward Africa.
 3. A stronger TEJ is generally associated with enhanced all-India summer monsoon rainfall.
 4. The TEJ reduces vertical wind shear over the North Indian Ocean in July–August, favouring tropical cyclogenesis.
 Which of the above are correct?
 - A. 1, 2 and 3 only
 - B. 1 and 4 only
 - C. 2 and 3 only
 - D. 1, 2, 3 and 4
-

3. Match the following (process/setting → typical upper-tropospheric outcome), and choose the correct combination:

Column I

1. Orographic forcing by the Himalaya–Tibetan Plateau
2. Land–sea thermal contrast in the winter hemisphere (Asia)
3. Strong meridional temperature gradient near $\sim 60^\circ\text{N}$ in DJF
4. Uninterrupted oceanic belt with weak land–sea contrast ($40\text{--}60^\circ\text{S}$)

Column II

- A. Stronger, more zonal mid-latitude westerlies and storm tracks
B. Equatorward-displaced subtropical westerly jet over India in winter
C. Polar Front Jet (PFJ) intensification
D. Generation of large-amplitude stationary Rossby waves

- A. 1–D, 2–B, 3–C, 4–A
B. 1–B, 2–D, 3–A, 4–C
C. 1–C, 2–A, 3–D, 4–B
D. 1–A, 2–C, 3–B, 4–D
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4. Consider the following statements about mid-latitude Rossby (planetary) waves:
1. In barotropic flow, their phase typically propagates westward relative to the mean flow.
 2. Their energy (group) propagation is always westward.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- A. Only 1
B. Only 2
C. Both 1 and 2
D. Neither 1 nor 2
-

5. Assertion (A): Divergence in preferred entrance/exit quadrants of an upper-tropospheric jet streak can initiate surface cyclogenesis downstream.
Reason (R): Ageostrophic circulations associated with jet-streak dynamics produce ascent and mass removal aloft in those quadrants.
- A. Both A and R are correct, and R explains A
B. Both A and R are correct, but R does not explain A
C. A is correct, but R is incorrect
D. A is incorrect, but R is correct
-

6. Three-statement reason–assertion about the monsoon upper circulation:
Statement 1: A strong Tropical Easterly Jet (TEJ) is associated with a vigorous Indian summer monsoon.
Statement 2: Strong diabatic heating over the Tibetan Plateau and monsoon rainbelt strengthens upper-level easterlies.
Statement 3: A strong TEJ reduces vertical wind shear over the North Indian Ocean during July–August, thereby enhancing tropical cyclone development.
Choose the option that best reflects correctness and explanatory linkage:
A. Statements 2 and 3 are correct and both explain Statement 1
B. Statements 2 and 3 are correct, but only one explains Statement 1
C. Only one of Statements 2 or 3 is correct, and it explains Statement 1
D. Neither Statement 2 nor 3 is correct
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7. Consider the following statements about blocking and Rossby-wave breaking in the westerlies:
1. Rossby-wave breaking can produce tropopause folding and stratosphere–troposphere exchange events.
 2. Omega blocks feature quasi-stationary anticyclones that split and deflect the westerlies both poleward and equatorward.
 3. Persistent blocking increases the likelihood of heatwaves in summer mid-latitudes.
 4. Blocking is generally more frequent and persistent in the Southern Hemisphere than in the Northern Hemisphere.
- Which of the above are correct?
- A. 1 and 2 only
 - B. 1, 2 and 3 only
 - C. 2 and 4 only
 - D. 1, 3 and 4 only
-

8. From winter to summer over the Indian longitudes, which sequence best describes the seasonal repositioning of upper-level jets?
- A. The Subtropical Westerly Jet (STWJ) retreats equatorward while the TEJ strengthens over peninsular India.
 - B. The STWJ shifts north of the Himalayas and a TEJ establishes near 100–150 hPa across India; the Northern Hemisphere PFJ weakens relative to winter.
 - C. The STWJ remains over central India year-round, and the TEJ occurs only during La Niña years.
 - D. The STWJ splits into two branches over India in summer because the Tibetan Plateau cools sharply.

THEME THREE

1. A transect exactly along the Equator from the Atlantic to the Indian Ocean crosses which sequence of physical regions/features in the correct west→east order?
 - A. Gulf of Guinea → Guinea Highlands → Lake Turkana → Ethiopian Highlands → Gulf of Aden
 - B. Gulf of Guinea → Congo Basin lowlands → Albertine Rift/Rwenzori → Lake Victoria → Somali coast
 - C. Gulf of Guinea → Cameroon Highlands → Jos Plateau → East African Plateau → Mozambique Channel
 - D. Gulf of Guinea → Congo Basin lowlands → Lake Victoria → Albertine Rift/Rwenzori → Red Sea
-

2. At roughly 30°S across southern Africa, which west→east cross-section best represents the relief progression inland from the Atlantic coast?
 - A. Namib coastal desert → Great Escarpment → Kalahari Basin → Drakensberg/Lesotho highlands → Indian Ocean lowlands
 - B. Kalahari Basin → Namib coastal desert → Drakensberg/Lesotho → Great Escarpment → Indian Ocean lowlands
 - C. Great Escarpment → Namib coastal desert → Kalahari Basin → Mozambique lowlands → Drakensberg
 - D. Namib coastal desert → Kalahari Basin → Great Escarpment → Drakensberg/Lesotho → Angola Plateau
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3. Consider the following statements about Saharan massifs and plateaus:
 1. The Tibesti Massif lies east of the Hoggar (Ahaggar) Mountains.
 2. The Ennedi Plateau lies west of the Tibesti Massif.
 3. The Hoggar (Ahaggar) is closer to the Atlantic coast than the Tibesti.
 4. A line due south from the Hoggar reaches the Gulf of Guinea west of the Niger Delta.Which of the above are correct?
 - A. 1 and 2 only
 - B. 1 and 3 only
 - C. 2 and 3 only
 - D. 1, 3 and 4 only
-

4. Match the desert with the dominant physical setting most responsible for its aridity:

Column I

1. Namib
2. Kalahari
3. Sahara (central/northern)
4. Danakil (Afar)

Column II

- A. Interior basin on the African Plateau with continentality and subsidence
- B. Cold eastern boundary current with persistent coastal upwelling and fog
- C. Subtropical high-pressure belt over a vast continental interior
- D. Rift-related tectonic depression, below sea level in places, rain shadowed

Select the correct combination:

- A. 1–B, 2–A, 3–C, 4–D
 - B. 1–A, 2–B, 3–C, 4–D
 - C. 1–B, 2–C, 3–A, 4–D
 - D. 1–D, 2–A, 3–B, 4–C
-

5. Standing at Khartoum (confluence of the Blue and White Nile), you travel by the shortest overland route to the nearest point on the Red Sea. Which general direction and first major physical barrier are most accurate?
- A. WNW across the Marrah Mountains (Jebel Marra)
 - B. ENE across the Red Sea Hills of the Eastern Desert
 - C. SSE across the Sudd wetlands and the East African Plateau
 - D. NNE across the Sinai Highlands
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6. Which African river crosses the Tropic of Capricorn twice due to its arcuate course around a plateau margin?
- A. Limpopo
 - B. Zambezi
 - C. Okavango
 - D. Orange
-

7. Along which coastal stretch would you expect the highest frequency of cool sea fogs and the lowest mean sea-surface temperatures due to a cold eastern boundary current?
- A. Lüderitz–Walvis Bay (southwestern Africa)
 - B. Mombasa–Dar es Salaam (east Africa)
 - C. Conakry–Abidjan (west Africa)
 - D. Berbera–Djibouti (Horn of Africa)
-

8. Match the rift valley lakes to the branch of the East African Rift System in which they predominantly lie:

Column I

1. Lake Kivu
2. Lake Tanganyika
3. Lake Turkana
4. Lake Malawi (Nyasa)

Column II

- A. Western (Albertine) Branch
B. Eastern Branch

Choose the correct pairing:

- A. 1–A, 2–A, 3–B, 4–B
B. 1–B, 2–A, 3–A, 4–B
C. 1–A, 2–B, 3–B, 4–A
D. 1–B, 2–B, 3–A, 4–A

THEME FOUR

1. Which of the following best describes the RBI's current operational design for anchoring overnight money-market conditions?
 - A. The Weighted Average Call Rate (WACR) is the operating target, with the Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) as the corridor floor and the Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) as the ceiling around the policy repo rate.
 - B. The Bank Rate is the operating target, with Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) as the floor and Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) as the ceiling.
 - C. The 10-year G-Sec yield is the operating target, with Base Rate as the floor and MCLR as the ceiling.
 - D. The call money rate is directly administered and pegged to the repo rate through binding quotas.

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2. Consider the following statements about RBI instruments:
 1. Balances maintained for CRR do not earn interest.
 2. The SDF is a collateral-free facility that absorbs liquidity, and its rate is below the policy repo rate.
 3. The fixed-rate reverse repo sets the permanent floor of the policy corridor since April 2022.
 4. Under MSF, banks may borrow overnight by dipping below the SLR up to a notified limit.Which of the above are correct?
 - A. 1, 2 and 4 only

- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

3. Match the RBI operation with its primary design/intent, and select the correct combination.

Column I

- 1. Marginal Standing Facility (MSF)
- 2. 14-day Variable Rate Repo (VRR) (main operation)
- 3. Variable Rate Reverse Repo (VRRR)
- 4. "Operation Twist" (simultaneous OMO buy–sell)

Column II

- A. Absorb surplus liquidity via auction at market-clearing rates
- B. Overnight ceiling for liquidity, against G-Secs, with SLR dip allowed within limit
- C. Neutral-to-durable liquidity impact on aggregate; influence the yield curve by buying long and selling short (or vice-versa)
- D. Inject liquidity at term via auction; align money-market rates with the policy rate

- A. 1–B, 2–D, 3–A, 4–C
- B. 1–D, 2–B, 3–C, 4–A
- C. 1–B, 2–A, 3–D, 4–C
- D. 1–C, 2–D, 3–A, 4–B

4. Consider the following statements about RBI's outright Open Market Operations (OMOs):

- 1. A net OMO purchase (RBI buys G-Secs) injects durable liquidity into the banking system.
- 2. A net OMO purchase mechanically lowers the policy repo rate.
 - A. Only 1
 - B. Only 2
 - C. Both 1 and 2
 - D. Neither 1 nor 2

-
5. Assertion (A): RBI can use an increase in CRR as a sterilisation tool following large foreign exchange purchases that swell primary liquidity.
Reason (R): CRR impounds a share of banks' deposits interest-free with the central bank, withdrawing liquidity without changing the stock or distribution of government securities held by the market.
- A. Both A and R are correct, and R explains A
 - B. Both A and R are correct, but R does not explain A
 - C. A is correct, but R is incorrect
 - D. A is incorrect, but R is correct
-

6. Three-statement reason–assertion regarding transmission to loan rates:
Statement 1: Post-2019 external benchmark linking has strengthened the pass-through of repo-rate changes to retail and MSME lending rates.
Statement 2: For specified floating loans, banks must link lending rates to an external benchmark such as the policy repo rate or a market yield like the 3-month Treasury Bill.
Statement 3: MCLR resets are fully market-determined on a daily basis, ensuring the same immediacy of transmission as external benchmarks.
Choose the option that best reflects correctness and explanatory linkage:
A. Statements 2 and 3 are correct and both explain Statement 1
B. Statements 2 and 3 are correct, but only one explains Statement 1
C. Only one of Statements 2 or 3 is correct, and it explains Statement 1
D. Neither Statement 2 nor 3 is correct
-

7. Consider the following statements on RBI's liquidity management around the policy corridor:
1. In a system-wide surplus, RBI typically absorbs liquidity through the SDF and, as needed, via VRRR auctions.
 2. MSF utilisation tends to rise when the call rate trades persistently below the SDF rate.
 3. Fine-tuning variable-rate repo operations (1–7 days) can be deployed around large tax outflows to smooth WACR deviations.
 4. Sharp accretions to the Government's cash balances with RBI tighten system liquidity conditions.
- Which of the above are correct?
- A. 1, 3 and 4 only
 - B. 1 and 2 only
 - C. 2 and 3 only
 - D. 1, 2, 3 and 4
-

8. With reference to targeted/term liquidity tools used since 2020, which statement is most accurate?
- A. LTRO/TLTRO provided durable system liquidity at longer tenors to compress term premia and support transmission, with sectoral targeting in some tranches.
 - B. LTRO is an absorption tool at a penalty rate for banks breaching SLR.
 - C. TLTRO auctions are a permanent part of the LAF corridor as its standing floor.
 - D. LTRO/TLTRO operations necessarily steepen the sovereign yield curve by increasing short-term rates.

THEME FIVE

1. As per the latest RBI compilation (end-March 2025), which instrument category constituted the single largest share of India's external debt stock?
 - A. Debt securities (including bonds)
 - B. Trade credit and advances
 - C. Loans (including ECBs and multilateral/bilateral loans)
 - D. Currency and deposits (largely NRI deposits)
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2. Consider the following statements regarding India's external debt currency composition at end-March 2025:
 1. US dollar-denominated debt accounted for a little over half of total external debt.
 2. Rupee-denominated external debt formed the second-largest share, ahead of yen, SDR and euro.
 3. The combined share of yen, SDR and euro was lower than the share of rupee-denominated debt.
 4. The US dollar share was marginally higher than a year earlier.Which of the following combinations is correct?
 - A. 1, 2 and 3 only
 - B. 1, 2 and 4 only
 - C. 2, 3 and 4 only
 - D. 1, 2, 3 and 4
-

3. Match the following external-debt classifications with their most appropriate descriptions:

Column I

1. Loans
2. Currency & deposits
3. Short-term debt (original maturity)
4. Short-term debt (residual maturity)

Column II

- A. Includes ECBs/multilateral–bilateral loans; the single largest instrument category in 2025
- B. Largely NRI deposits mobilised by banks; a top-three instrument by share
- C. Obligations due within one year at **issuance**; around a fifth of total in 2025
- D. All obligations falling due within one year **from now**; includes current-year amortisations of long-term debt and short-term by original maturity

Select the correct combination:

- A. 1–A, 2–B, 3–C, 4–D
 - B. 1–B, 2–A, 3–D, 4–C
 - C. 1–A, 2–C, 3–B, 4–D
 - D. 1–D, 2–B, 3–C, 4–A
-

4. Consider the following statements about India's external vulnerability indicators at end-March 2025:
1. The ratio of short-term external debt (by **original** maturity) to foreign-exchange reserves was a little above one-fifth.
 2. The share of short-term external debt (by **original** maturity) in total external debt **rose** compared to a year earlier.
- Choose the correct answer:
- A. Only 1
 - B. Only 2
 - C. Both 1 and 2
 - D. Neither 1 nor 2
-

5. Assertion (A): Episodes of US dollar appreciation can raise India's external debt-to-GDP ratio even without fresh net borrowing.
Reason (R): A stronger dollar inflates the local-currency value of USD-denominated obligations (valuation effect), which are the majority of India's external debt.
- A. Both A and R are correct, and R explains A
 - B. Both A and R are correct, but R does not explain A
 - C. A is correct, but R is incorrect
 - D. A is incorrect, but R is correct
-

6. Three-statement reason–assertion on sustainability of India's external debt:
Statement 1: India's external debt position remains broadly manageable.
Statement 2: Short-term debt by **original** maturity is below 20% of total, and short-term by **residual** maturity is well under half of total.
Statement 3: A sizeable portion of external commercial borrowings (ECBs) is hedged, reducing currency-mismatch risks.
- Choose the option that best reflects correctness and explanatory linkage:
- A. Statements 2 and 3 are correct and both explain Statement 1
 - B. Statements 2 and 3 are correct, but only one explains Statement 1
 - C. Only one of Statements 2 or 3 is correct, and it explains Statement 1
 - D. Neither Statement 2 nor 3 is correct
-

7. Consider the following statements on composition and management developments in FY2024–25:
1. In February 2025, the RBI announced a large USD/INR swap to inject rupee liquidity; such a swap **adds** to FX reserves but does **not** directly increase gross external debt.
 2. At end-March 2025, "loans" had a larger share in total external debt than either trade credit or debt securities.
 3. At end-March 2025, the US dollar's share in external debt exceeded the combined share of yen and euro.

4. The ratio of short-term debt (original maturity) to FX reserves was about 20%. Which of the above are correct?
- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
 - B. 1, 3 and 4 only
 - C. 2, 3 and 4 only
 - D. 1, 2, 3 and 4
-

8. Which of the following **descending** sequences aligns best with India's external-debt composition at end-March 2025?
- A. Loans → Currency & deposits → Trade credit → Debt securities
 - B. Loans → Trade credit → Debt securities → Currency & deposits
 - C. Currency & deposits → Loans → Debt securities → Trade credit
 - D. Debt securities → Loans → Currency & deposits → Trade credit

THEME SIX

1. Which of the following best captures the idea of the "Fourth Industrial Revolution" in everyday terms?
- A. The shift from manual craftwork to steam power in factories
 - B. The convergence of digital, physical and biological technologies (e.g., AI, IoT, robotics, biotech) transforming how we live and work
 - C. The introduction of assembly lines and electricity in mass production
 - D. The move from desktops to laptops in offices
-

2. Consider the following statements about widely cited 4IR technologies:
- 1. 5G can support low-latency links useful for real-time industrial control.
 - 2. Edge computing processes data closer to where it is generated to reduce backhaul traffic.
 - 3. Blockchain guarantees that no one can ever lose money in a transaction.
 - 4. Augmented Reality (AR) overlays digital information on the real world through a device.
- Which of the following combinations is correct?
- A. 1, 2 and 4 only
 - B. 1 and 3 only
 - C. 2 and 3 only
 - D. 1, 2, 3 and 4
-

3. Match the technology with a common, real-world application and select the correct combination.

Column I

- 1. Internet of Things (IoT)
- 2. Additive manufacturing (3D printing)

3. Robotic Process Automation (RPA)
4. Digital twin

Column II

- A. Automating repetitive back-office tasks like invoice processing
- B. Creating a dynamic virtual model of a machine/plant for monitoring and “what-if” tests
- C. Networked sensors for smart utilities like water, street lighting, parking
- D. Rapid prototyping and lightweight, complex parts in aerospace/healthcare

- A. 1–C, 2–D, 3–A, 4–B
- B. 1–D, 2–A, 3–B, 4–C
- C. 1–A, 2–C, 3–D, 4–B
- D. 1–B, 2–D, 3–C, 4–A

4. Consider the following statements about cloud and edge use in everyday services:
 1. Video-doorbells can use edge processing to detect motion locally before sending clips to the cloud.
 2. All mobile apps must process every user action in distant cloud data centres to function.
 - A. Only 1
 - B. Only 2
 - C. Both 1 and 2
 - D. Neither 1 nor 2

5. Assertion (A): Many governments are experimenting with “regulatory sandboxes” for fintech and other 4IR services.
Reason (R): Sandboxes allow limited, time-bound testing with real users under supervision so that rules can adapt as new risks are understood.
 - A. Both A and R are correct, and R explains A
 - B. Both A and R are correct, but R does not explain A
 - C. A is correct, but R is incorrect
 - D. A is incorrect, but R is correct

6. Three-statement reason–assertion about AI use in businesses:

Statement 1: Companies increasingly publish “responsible AI” or “AI ethics” guidelines.

Statement 2: Such guidelines aim to manage issues like bias, transparency and accountability in AI systems.

Statement 3: Once these guidelines exist, AI systems will not make mistakes or produce harmful outputs.

Choose the option that best reflects correctness and explanatory linkage:

 - A. Statements 2 and 3 are correct and both explain Statement 1
 - B. Statements 2 and 3 are correct, but only one explains Statement 1
 - C. Only one of Statements 2 or 3 is correct, and it explains Statement 1
 - D. Neither Statement 2 nor 3 is correct

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7. Which of the following is the most appropriate everyday example of Extended Reality (XR) in the 4IR context?
- A. A spreadsheet automatically calculating totals
 - B. A mobile game that uses the camera to place virtual furniture in your living room
 - C. A static online map showing city boundaries
 - D. A radio broadcasting live sports commentary
-

8. Consider the following statements about skills and jobs in the 4IR:
- 1. Automation tends to replace routine, repetitive tasks while creating new roles in areas like data analysis, design and maintenance.
 - 2. Lifelong learning and upskilling become more important as technologies change job content quickly.
- A. Only 1
 - B. Only 2
 - C. Both 1 and 2
 - D. Neither 1 nor 2

THEME SEVEN

- 1. After the decision in *Minerva Mills*, which of the following accurately states the present scope of Article 31C?
 - A. Laws giving effect to **any** Directive Principle are immunised from Articles 14, 19 and 21.
 - B. Laws giving effect to Article 39(b) or 39(c) are protected from challenge under Articles 14 and 19, but remain open to Article 21 and basic-structure scrutiny.
 - C. Article 31C was struck down in its entirety and has no operation.
 - D. Article 31C operates only during a Proclamation of Emergency.
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2. Consider the following statements about landmark rulings and their core holdings:
- 1. *K.S. Puttaswamy* (2017) — Privacy is a constitutionally protected fundamental right.
 - 2. *Shreya Singhal* (2015) — Section 66A of the IT Act was unconstitutional for overbreadth and chilling effect.
 - 3. *Subramanian Swamy v. Union of India* (2016) — Criminal defamation was declared unconstitutional.
 - 4. *Joseph Shine* (2019) — Criminal offence of adultery was struck down as unconstitutional.
- Which of the following combinations is correct?
- A. 1, 2 and 4 only
 - B. 1 and 3 only
 - C. 2, 3 and 4 only
 - D. 1, 2, 3 and 4
-

3. Match the following provisions with their subject matter, and select the correct combination.

Column I

1. Article 21A
2. Article 43B
3. Article 23
4. Article 24

Column II

- A. Prohibition of traffic in human beings and forced labour (begar)
B. Promotion of cooperative societies (voluntary formation, democratic control, professional management)
C. Free and compulsory education for children aged 6–14 years
D. Prohibition of employment of children below 14 years in factories, mines or hazardous employment

- A. 1–C, 2–B, 3–A, 4–D
B. 1–B, 2–C, 3–D, 4–A
C. 1–A, 2–D, 3–B, 4–C
D. 1–D, 2–A, 3–C, 4–B
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4. Consider the following statements about preventive detention under Article 22:

1. The detenu must be informed, as soon as may be, of the grounds of detention and afforded the earliest opportunity to make a representation.
 2. The detaining authority is constitutionally bound to disclose even those facts the disclosure of which it considers against the public interest.
- A. Only 1
B. Only 2
C. Both 1 and 2
D. Neither 1 nor 2
-

5. Assertion (A): Courts in India apply the doctrine of proportionality while assessing restrictions on fundamental rights under Articles 14, 19 and 21.
Reason (R): Proportionality requires a legitimate aim, suitability, necessity (least restrictive means) and a balance between the importance of the aim and the degree of rights infringement.
- A. Both A and R are correct, and R explains A
B. Both A and R are correct, but R does not explain A
C. A is correct, but R is incorrect
D. A is incorrect, but R is correct
-

6. Three-statement reason–assertion regarding the role of Directive Principles in rights adjudication:
- Statement 1: Directive Principles can guide courts in expanding the content of the right to life under Article 21.
- Statement 2: Articles 47 and 48A have been invoked to recognise facets such as public health and a clean environment as part of Article 21.
- Statement 3: Because Directive Principles are non-justiciable, they cannot be used at all in constitutional interpretation.
- Choose the option that best reflects correctness and explanatory linkage:
- A. Statements 2 and 3 are correct and both explain Statement 1
 - B. Statements 2 and 3 are correct, but only one explains Statement 1
 - C. Only one of Statements 2 or 3 is correct, and it explains Statement 1
 - D. Neither Statement 2 nor 3 is correct
-

7. Consider the following developments relating to equality and affirmative action:
- 1. The 103rd Constitutional Amendment introduced reservations for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) in admissions and public employment, excluding SC/ST/OBC from its scope.
 - 2. In *Janhit Abhiyan* (2022), the Supreme Court upheld the validity of the 103rd Amendment.
 - 3. *Indra Sawhney* (1992) held that reservations in promotions were not permissible under Article 16(4), leading to Article 16(4A) being added later for SC/ST promotions subject to conditions.
 - 4. Horizontal reservations (e.g., for persons with disabilities or women) cut across vertical categories such as SC, ST, OBC and General.
- Which of the above are correct?
- A. 1 and 3 only
 - B. 1, 2 and 4 only
 - C. 2, 3 and 4 only
 - D. 1, 2, 3 and 4
-

8. Which of the following best states the position on trade in intoxicating liquors vis-à-vis Article 19(1)(g)?
- A. It is a fundamental right, subject only to reasonable restrictions under Article 19(6).
 - B. It is not a fundamental right; the State may regulate, prohibit or create a monopoly in intoxicants as a matter of policy.
 - C. It is a fundamental right during non-emergency periods but not during a Financial Emergency.
 - D. It is a fundamental right for existing licence-holders but not for new entrants.

THEME EIGHT

1. Which British-era document first laid out a comprehensive blueprint for education administration in India—introducing Departments of Public Instruction, a grant-in-aid system and the idea of modern universities?
 - A. Macaulay’s Minute (1835)
 - B. Wood’s Despatch (1854)
 - C. Hunter Commission Report (1882–83)
 - D. Indian Universities Act (1904)
-

2. Consider the following statements:

1. Macaulay’s Minute prioritised English as the medium for higher education and propagation of Western knowledge.
 2. Wood’s Despatch recommended vernacular languages at the primary level and introduced grant-in-aid for private institutions.
 3. The Hunter Commission proposed that primary education be entrusted to local bodies and that secondary education develop both academic and vocational tracks.
 4. The Raleigh Commission explicitly recommended immediate creation of new teaching universities at Aligarh and Banaras.
- Which combination is correct?
- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
 - B. 1, 3 and 4 only
 - C. 2 and 3 only
 - D. 1, 2 and 4 only
-

3. Match the following and select the correct combination.

Column I

1. Raleigh Commission (1902)
2. Indian Universities Act (1904)
3. Sadler (Calcutta University) Commission (1917–19)
4. Hartog Committee (1929)

Column II

- A. Greater government control over university bodies; stricter affiliation norms
- B. Review of university administration leading to legislative reform
- C. 12-year school + 2-year intermediate stage; relieve congestion in universities
- D. Emphasis on quality in primary education; addressing “wastage and stagnation”

- A. 1–B, 2–A, 3–C, 4–D
 - B. 1–A, 2–B, 3–D, 4–C
 - C. 1–C, 2–D, 3–A, 4–B
 - D. 1–D, 2–C, 3–B, 4–A
-

4. Consider the following statements about the Government of India's Resolution on Educational Policy (1913):
1. It acknowledged the State's responsibility for the progressive extension of elementary (primary) education.
 2. It fixed a nationwide, time-bound target for universal, free and compulsory primary education within twenty years.
- A. Only 1
B. Only 2
C. Both 1 and 2
D. Neither 1 nor 2
-
5. Assertion (A): The Indian Universities Act, 1904, sought to raise academic standards by reshaping university governance and affiliation.
Reason (R): It reduced elected representation in university bodies, increased government nominees and tightened conditions for college affiliation and inspections.
- A. Both A and R are correct, and R explains A
B. Both A and R are correct, but R does not explain A
C. A is correct, but R is incorrect
D. A is incorrect, but R is correct
-
6. Three-statement reason–assertion regarding the Sadler Commission (1917–19):
Statement 1: Though focused on Calcutta University, the Commission's recommendations had wider relevance for Indian higher education.
Statement 2: It proposed a 12-year school course followed by a 2-year intermediate stage to decongest universities.
Statement 3: It recommended abolishing the affiliated college system across India in favour of only unitary, teaching-residential universities.
Choose the option that best reflects correctness and explanatory linkage:
- A. Statements 2 and 3 are correct and both explain Statement 1
B. Statements 2 and 3 are correct, but only one explains Statement 1
C. Only one of Statements 2 or 3 is correct, and it explains Statement 1
D. Neither Statement 2 nor 3 is correct
-
7. Which of the following most accurately captures the core features of the Wardha Scheme of Basic Education (1937)?
- A. Free post-primary education in English, financed by provincial governments through capitation grants
B. Craft-centred, self-supporting basic schools with instruction in the mother tongue for roughly seven/eight years of schooling
C. Immediate university education in regional languages with abolition of intermediate colleges
D. Full state monopoly over secondary education and prohibition of private schools
-

8. Consider the following statements:

1. The Charter Act of 1813 earmarked an annual sum for education and catalysed the Orientalist–Anglicist debate.
 2. William Adam’s Reports (1835–38) surveyed indigenous schools and highlighted the case for strengthening vernacular primary education.
 3. Universities at Calcutta, Bombay and Madras were established in 1857 pursuant to the 1854 Despatch.
 4. The 1913 Resolution abolished the grant-in-aid system introduced earlier.
- Which combination is correct?

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
- B. 1 and 4 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 3 and 4 only