February 9, 2017

Q.1) Consider the following statements about South Asia Drought Monitoring System (SADMS)

- 1. It is developed by the International Water Management Institute (IWMI)
- 2. It will provide information about locations under drought in map format and also information about drought's effect on agriculture

Select the correct statements

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.1) Solution (c)

Developed by the International Water Management Institute (IWMI), the SADMS is a comprehensive drought monitoring system to provide information in easy-to-understand maps, which pinpoint locations under stress and provide regional to district scale information about drought's effect on agriculture.

Aiming to provide near real-time information on drought onset and progression to help decision makers respond in time, the SADMS combines satellite images of vegetation with weather data, soil moisture levels and crop yield information.

In News - http://www.hindustantimes.com/opinion/early-warning-systems-can-help-soften-drought-s-blow/story-U9Q3v363rZSAOnhEgoZiGK.html

Q.2) Which of the following statements is/are correct about Lord Dalhousie?

- 1. Second Anglo-Sikh War was fought when he served as Governor General of India
- 2. First railway line between Bombay and Thane was opened during his tenure

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

February 9, 2017

Q.2) Solution (c)

Lord Dalhousie (Real name James Andrew Ramsay) served as Governor General of India from 1848 to 1856. During this period, Second Anglo-Sikh War (1849) was fought in which the Sikhs were defeated again and Dalhousie was successful in annexing the whole of Punjab to the British administration. He annexed many states by doctrine of lapse. During his tenure, first railway line between Bombay and Thane was opened in 1853 and in the same year Calcutta and Agra were connected by telegraph. His other reforms include setting up of P.W.D. and passing of the Widow Remarriage Act (1856).

In News - http://indianexpress.com/article/explained/dalhousie-delhi-road-name-change-dara-shikoh-mughal-emperor-islam-hinduism-4512963/

Q.3) Consider the following statements about Dara Shikoh

- 1. He wrote a book called 'Majma-ul Bahrain', which was devoted to a revelation of the mystical and pluralistic affinities between Sufic and Vedantic speculation
- 2. He was the youngest son of fifth Mughal emperor
- 3. He was defeated by Aurangzeb during the Battle of Samugarh

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 1 and 3
- c) 2 and 3
- d) All of the above

Q.3) Solution (a)

He was the eldest son and the heir-apparent of the fifth Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan.

Though he was a favorite of Shah Jahan, he was defeated by Aurangzeb during the Battle of Samugarh.

He had promoted the peace between the followers of Hinduism and Islam and wrote a book called Majma-ul Bahrain or the mingling of the two oceans which found commonalities between Islam and Hinduism.

In News - http://indianexpress.com/article/explained/dalhousie-delhi-road-name-change-dara-shikoh-mughal-emperor-islam-hinduism-4512963/

February 9, 2017

Q.4) Which of the following statements is/are correct about 'Zipf's Law'?

- a) The law claims that the largest city in any country is twice as large as the next one, and three times as big as the third one and so on
- b) The law does not hold true for India
- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) Neither (a) nor (b)

Q.4) Solution (c)

Indian cities do not follow the well-known Zipf's Law, which says that the largest city in any country is twice as large as the next one, and three times as big as the third one and so on. Most countries follow this law, but in India the "large" cities are not "large enough" i.e. their ranking does not follow the law of twice as big, thrice as big, etc. The reasons for these may be many, but chiefly it is because of scarcity of land. India's (habitable) land to population ratio has decreased four-fold since 1950, and it will soon be the most land-scarce country in the world.

In News - http://punemirror.indiatimes.com/columns/columnists/ajit-ranade/ranking-indian-cities/articleshow/56958987.cms

Q.5) Which of the following statements is/are correct about Romania?

- 1. Sofia is the capital of Romania
- 2. Romania became the member of Warsaw Pact
- 3. It has been a part of the European Union since 2007

Select the correct code:

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 and 3
- c) 1 and 3
- d) All of the above

Q.5) Solution (b)

Capital – Bucharest.

Modern Romania emerged within the territories of the ancient Roman province of Dacia, and was formed in 1859 through a personal union of the Danubian Principalities of Moldavia

February 9, 2017

and Wallachia. The new state, officially named Romania since 1866, gained independence from the Ottoman Empire in 1877. At the end of World War I, Transylvania, Bukovina and Bessarabia united with the sovereign Kingdom of Romania. During World War II, Romania was an ally of Nazi Germany against the Soviet Union, fighting side by side with the Wehrmacht until 1944, when it joined the Allied powers and faced occupation by the Red Army forces. Romania lost several territories, of which Northern Transylvania was regained after the war. Following the war, Romania became a socialist republic and member of the Warsaw Pact. After the 1989 Revolution, Romania began a transition back towards democracy and a capitalist market economy.

It has been a member of NATO since 2004, and part of the European Union since 2007.

