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Q.1) A chemical component that is found in all viruses is:

- a) Protein
- b) DNA
- c) RNA
- d) Glycoproteins

Q.1) Solution (a)

A viral protein is both a component and a product of a virus.

All viruses contain the following two components:

1)a nucleic acid genome and 2) a protein capsid that covers the genome. Together this is called the nucleocapsid. In addition, many animal viruses contain a 3) lipid envelope. The entire intact virus is called the virion. The structure and composition of these components can vary widely.

Viral Genomes: While the genomes of all known cells are comprised of double stranded DNA, the genomes of viruses can be comprised of single or double stranded DNA or RNA.

DNA:

- Double Stranded linear or circular
- Single Stranded linear or circular
- Other Structures gapped circles

RNA: Double Stranded – linear

Source: http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=170725

Q.2) Consider the following statements about Northern river terrapin

- 1. It is native to India and Bangladesh
- 2. It is listed in CITES Appendix II
- 3. They are found in both freshwater and brackish water habitats

Select the correct statements

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

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Q.2) Solution (c)

The northern river terrapin (Batagur baska) is a species of riverine turtle native to Southeast Asia. It is classified Critically Endangered by the IUCN and considered extinct in much of its former range.

Native:

Bangladesh; Cambodia; India; Indonesia; Malaysia

Regionally extinct:

Myanmar; Singapore; Thailand; Viet Nam

CITES I listing

CITES Appendix I

- Appendix I, about 1200 species, are species that are threatened with extinction and are or may be affected by trade.
- Commercial trade in wild-caught specimens of these species is illegal (permitted only in exceptional licensed circumstances).
- Captive-bred animals or cultivated plants of Appendix I species are considered Appendix II specimens, with concomitant requirements (In addition, Article VII of CITES states that specimens of animals listed in Appendix I that are bred in captivity for commercial purposes are treated as Appendix II. The same applies for specimens of Appendix I plants artificially propagated for commercial purposes.).
- The Scientific Authority of the exporting country must make a non-detriment finding, assuring that export of the individuals will not adversely affect the wild population.
- Any trade in these species requires export and import permits. The Management Authority of the exporting state is expected to check that an import permit has been secured and that the importing state is able to care for the specimen adequately.

The species prefers freshwater habitats and moves to brackish river mouths or estuaries in the breeding season (December–March), returning after laying their eggs.

Source: <u>http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/a-fragile-ark-that-shelters-</u> 2626-creatures/article19673678.ece

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Q.3) Consider the following statements

- 1. The Far Eastern Federal District of Russia has land borders with China and North Korea
- 2. Lake Baikal is the largest freshwater lake by volume in the world located in Siberia

Select the correct statements

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

Q.3) Solution (c)

The Russian Far East is the Russian part of the Far East, i.e. the extreme east parts of Russia, between Lake Baikal in Eastern Siberia and the Pacific Ocean. The Far Eastern Federal District, which covers this area, borders with the Siberian Federal District to the west.

The Far Eastern Federal District is the largest of the eight federal districts of Russia but the least populated. The entire federal district lies within the easternmost part of Asia and covers the territory of the Russian Far East. The Far Eastern Federal District has land borders with the People's Republic of China and North Korea to the south west and maritime borders with Japan and the United States. Although traditionally considered part of Siberia, the Russian Far East is categorized separately from Siberia in Russian regional schemes (and previously during the Soviet era when it was called the Soviet Far East).

Lake Baikal is a rift lake in Russia, located in southern Siberia, between Irkutsk Oblast to the northwest and the Buryat Republic to the southeast. Lake Baikal is the largest freshwater lake by volume in the world, containing 22–23% of the world's fresh surface water.

The region to the east of Lake Baikal is referred to as Transbaikalia, and the loosely defined region of the lake is sometimes known as Baikalia.

Transbaikal is a mountainous region to the east of or "beyond" (trans-) Lake Baikal in Russia.

The steppe and wetland landscapes of Dauria are protected by the Daurian Nature Reserve, which forms part of a World Heritage Site named "The Landscapes of Dauria".

Source: <u>http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/chennai-vladivostok-sea-</u> route-to-make-it-near-east/articleshow/60486508.cms

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Q.4) Tokyo Convention 1963 was in news recently, concerning

- a) No-Fly List
- b) Rohingya Refugees
- c) Diplomatic immunity
- d) Sedimentary basins

Q.4) Solution (a)

The DGCA has revised the relevant sections of the Civil Aviation Requirement (CAR Section 3, Series M, Part VI on "Handling of Unruly Passengers) to bring in a deterrent for passengers who engage in unruly behaviour on board aircrafts. The revision has been done in accordance with the provisions of Tokyo Convention 1963.

The revised CAR deals with unruly behavior of passenger on-board aircrafts. Unruly behavior of passengers at airport premises will be dealt with by relevant security agencies under applicable penal provisions. The revised CAR will be applicable for all Indian operators engaged in scheduled and non-scheduled air transport services, both domestic and international carriage of passengers. The CAR would also be applicable to foreign carriers subject to compliance of Tokyo Convention 1963.

Source: <u>http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-cm/government-unveils-rules-to-tackle-on-board-disruptive-and-unruly-behaviour-by-passengers-paves-way-for-no-fly-list-117091100115_1.html</u>

Q.5) Which of the following Indian States borders Rakhine State of Myanmar?

- a) Mizoram
- b) Nagaland
- c) Manipur
- d) None of the above

Q.5) Solution (d)

India does not share border with Rakhine state of Myanmar

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