

Q.1) Consider the following statements about Clouded Leopard

1. It is only found in Asia
2. It is the state animal of Meghalaya
3. Clouded leopard is the mascot for 2017 FIFA U-17 World Cup

Select the correct statements

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

Q.1) Solution (d)

Clouded Leopard is a wild cat occurring from the Himalayan foothills through mainland Southeast Asia into China. Since 2008, it is listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List. Its total population is suspected to be fewer than 10,000 mature individuals, with a decreasing population trend, and no single population numbering more than 1,000 adults.

Native: Bangladesh; Bhutan; Cambodia; China; India; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Malaysia (Peninsular Malaysia); Myanmar; Nepal; Thailand; Viet Nam

Regionally extinct: Taiwan, Province of China

The clouded leopard is the state animal of the Indian state of Meghalaya.

Clouded leopard (Kheleo) is the mascot for 2017 FIFA U-17 World Cup.

IUCN Status – Vulnerable

Source: <http://indianexpress.com/article/india/mizoram-has-highest-number-of-clouded-leopards-in-southeast-asia-4876139/>

Q.2) Consider the following statements about 'Coriolis Force'

1. It is invisible force that appears to deflect the wind is the Coriolis force
2. It is zero at the Equator
3. Coriolis Effect cause storms in the north swing counter-clockwise

Select the correct statements

- a) 1 and 2

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

Q.2) Solution (d)

Coriolis Force

The invisible force that appears to deflect the wind is the Coriolis force. The Coriolis force applies to movement on rotating objects. It is determined by the mass of the object and the object's rate of rotation. The Coriolis force is perpendicular to the object's axis. The Earth spins on its axis from west to east. The Coriolis force, therefore, acts in a north-south direction. The Coriolis force is zero at the Equator.

Though the Coriolis force is useful in mathematical equations, there is actually no physical force involved. Instead, it is just the ground moving at a different speed than an object in the air.

Storms in the north swing counter-clockwise: the Coriolis effect. Storms in the south swing with the clock, and winds tend to pass to the left!

Winds blow across the Earth from high-pressure systems to low-pressure systems. However, winds don't travel in a straight line. The actual paths of winds—and of ocean currents, which are pushed by wind—are partly a result of the Coriolis effect. The Coriolis effect is named after Gustave Coriolis, the 19th-century French mathematician who first explained it.

The key to the Coriolis effect lies in the Earth's rotation. The Earth rotates faster at the Equator than it does at the poles. This is because the Earth is wider at the Equator. A point on the Equator has farther to travel in a day.

In the Northern Hemisphere, wind from high-pressure systems pass low-pressure systems on the right. This causes the system to swirl counter-clockwise. Low-pressure systems usually bring storms. This means that hurricanes and other storms swirl counter-clockwise in the Northern Hemisphere. In the Southern Hemisphere, storms swirl clockwise.

Source: <http://www.tribuneindia.com/news/spectrum/travel/at-the-centre-of-earth/487067.html>

Q.3) Consider the following statements about Kakatiya dynasty

1. Sri Kasi Visweswara Temple belongs to the Kakatiya period

2. Rudradeva II was the last ruler of the Kakatiya dynasty

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 800 year old Sri Kasi Visweswara Temple, belongs to the kakatiya period. For, apart from locals, pilgrims from neighbouring States of Maharashtra and Karnataka frequent the place to worship the presiding deity, Lord Shiva.

The Kakatiya dynasty was a South Indian dynasty whose capital was Orugallu, now known as Warangal. It was eventually conquered by the Delhi Sultanate.

The demise of Kakatiya dynasty resulted in confusion and anarchy under alien rulers for some time, before the Musunuri Nayaks brought stability to the region.

Pratāparudra (r. c. 1289-1323), also known as Rudradeva II, was the last ruler of the Kakatiya dynasty of India. He ruled the eastern part of Deccan, with his capital at Warangal.

Prataparudra succeeded his grandmother Rudramadevi as the Kakatiya monarch. In the first half of his reign, he subjugated the insubordinate chiefs who had asserted their independence during his predecessor's reign. He also achieved successes against the neighbouring Hindu kingdoms of the Yadavas (Seunas), the Pandyas and Kampili.

In 1310, he faced an invasion from the Muslim Delhi Sultanate, and agreed to become a tributary of the Delhi Sultan Alauddin Khalji. After Alauddin's death, he stopped making tribute payments, but a 1318 invasion forced him to pay tribute to Alauddin's son Mubarak Shah. After the end of the Khalji dynasty, he again withheld the tribute payments to Delhi. This prompted the new Sultan Ghiyath al-Din Tughluq to order a 1323 invasion that ended the Kakatiya dynasty and resulted in annexation of their kingdom to the Delhi Sultanate.

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/excavation-reveals-hidden-glory-of-kakatiya-era-temple/article20242659.ece>

Q.4) Global Financial Development Report is released by

- a) World Bank

- b) WEF
- c) WTO
- d) IMF

Q.4) Solution (a)

Source: <http://indianexpress.com/article/explained/global-financial-crisis-indian-economy-world-bank-bankers-without-borders-rbi-4934594/>

Q.5) Vedic Literature deals with

- 1. Music
- 2. Mysticism

Select the correct statements

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

Q.5) Solution (c)

The Brahmanas explain the hymns of the Vedas. They act as the appendices to the Vedas. They are written in prose and they elaborately describe the various sacrifices and rituals, along with their mystic meanings.

The Aranyakas deal with mysticism and symbolism.

Sam Veda

- It is a collection of melodies. It contains stanzas taken from Rig Veda and set to the tune for the purpose of singing.
- The Jha Samaveda is important in tracing the history of Indian music.

Source: <http://indianexpress.com/article/india/vice-president-venkaiah-naidu-stresses-importance-of-mastering-ones-mother-tongue-4895274/>

