

Q.1) Consider the following statements about 'Kambala'

1. It is prevalent in all the Southern States
2. It is similar to Spanish-style bullfighting

Select the correct statements

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

Q.1) Solution (d)

News: The Supreme Court has refused to stay a plea filed by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals to ban a legislation in Karnataka that permits the annual buffalo race known as Kambala.

The sport is similar to the other controversial traditional game called Jallikattu. The Kambala season begins in November and goes on till March.

Kambala is a contest where two pairs of buffaloes tied ploughs are made to race on slush-filled tracks with a jockey guiding them while they run.

The buffaloes are made to run at a speed that they time close to 12 to 13 seconds while covering a distance of 140 to 160 metres.

The farmers use a whip to nudge the buffalo ahead and try to make them a medal winner.

The Kambala season generally starts in November and lasts till March of the following year.

The winning pair of buffaloes were awarded coconuts as part of this centuries-old tradition but these days the race is for a gold medal or a trophy. Kambala races are nowadays conducted day and night under floodlights.

Animal rights activists have opposed the sport saying that tying the noses of the buffaloes with a rope and using a whip amounts to cruelty.

Supreme Court in 2014 had banned Kambala and Jallikattu based on a petition filed by various animal rights organisations.

Kambala supporters have been protesting since the ordinance on jallikattu was moved by the Tamil Nadu government lifting the ban.

Massive protests and processions are being taken around with buffaloes to put pressure on the Karnataka government to move a similar ordinance.

Kambala is a traditional bull sport similar to Jallikattu

Source: <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/kambala-season-to-begin-on-saturday/article19999765.ece>

Q.2) Consider the following statements about Anemia

1. It is a condition when blood lacks enough haemoglobin
2. It caused by decreased or faulty red blood cell production & destruction of red blood cells

Select the correct statements

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

Q.2) Solution (c)

Anemia is a decrease in the total amount of red blood cells (RBCs) or hemoglobin in the blood, or a lowered ability of the blood to carry oxygen. When anemia comes on slowly, the symptoms are often vague and may include feeling tired, weakness, shortness of breath or a poor ability to exercise. Anemia that comes on quickly often has greater symptoms, which may include confusion, feeling like one is going to pass out, loss of consciousness, or increased thirst. Anemia must be significant before a person becomes noticeably pale. Additional symptoms may occur depending on the underlying cause.

The three main types of anemia are due to blood loss, decreased red blood cell production, and increased red blood cell breakdown.

In India, more than half (51%) of all women of reproductive age have anaemia according to findings of the new Global Nutrition Report 2017

Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/51-of-indian-women-aged-15-49-anaemic-most-in-world-study/articleshow/61538152.cms>

Q.3) The WTO was born out of negotiations in which round of the GATT?

- a) Geneva Round
- b) Torquay Round
- c) Uruguay Round
- d) Tokyo Round

Q.3) Solution (c)

The World Trade Organization (WTO) is an intergovernmental organization that regulates international trade. The WTO officially commenced on 1 January 1995 under the Marrakesh Agreement, signed by 123 nations on 15 April 1994, replacing the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), which commenced in 1948. It is the largest international economic organization in the world. The WTO deals with regulation of trade in goods, services and intellectual property between participating countries by providing a framework for negotiating trade agreements and a dispute resolution process aimed at enforcing participants' adherence to WTO agreements, which are signed by representatives of member governments.^{9–10} and ratified by their parliaments. Most of the issues that the WTO focuses on derive from previous trade negotiations, especially from the Uruguay Round (1986–1994).

Q.4) A trade bloc is a

- a) Non-tariff barrier
- b) Tariff barrier
- c) Reason for protectionism
- d) Group of countries that have agreed to remove all trade barriers among themselves

Q.4) Solution (d)

A trade bloc is a type of intergovernmental agreement, often part of a regional intergovernmental organization, where barriers to trade (tariffs and others) are reduced or eliminated among the participating states.

Advantages

- **Increased foreign direct investment:** An increase in foreign direct investment may result from the creation of trade blocs. This can benefit the economies of participating nations by creating jobs in new or expanded businesses.

- **Economies of scale:** The larger markets created by trade blocs permit companies to take advantage of economies of scale. Since the average cost of each good produced tends to fall as production increases, this results in lower prices for consumers.
- **Competition:** Trade blocs force the manufacturers in participating countries to compete with each other. Increased competition creates pressures for greater efficiency within firms, which results in lower prices for consumers.
- **Trade Effects:** Trade blocs eliminate tariffs, which drives down the cost of imports. As a result, consumers can save money by buying imported goods when cheaper than locally produced ones—they can then spend those savings on other goods. Reducing the cost of imports also reduces the cost of locally produced goods that use imported parts or components.
- **Improved Market Efficiency:** Increased competition and the removal of tariffs, which may act as a price floor, drive down prices and allow for increased consumption. This reduces deadweight loss and hence improves market efficiency.

Q.5) Mansabdari System introduced by Akbar was borrowed from the system followed in

- a) Papal States
- b) Afghanistan
- c) Turkey
- d) Mongolia

Q.5) Solution (d)

Mansabdar implies the generic term for the military-kind grading of all royal functionaries of the Mughal Empire. The Mansabdari system introduced by Akbar was borrowed from the system followed in Mongolia.

