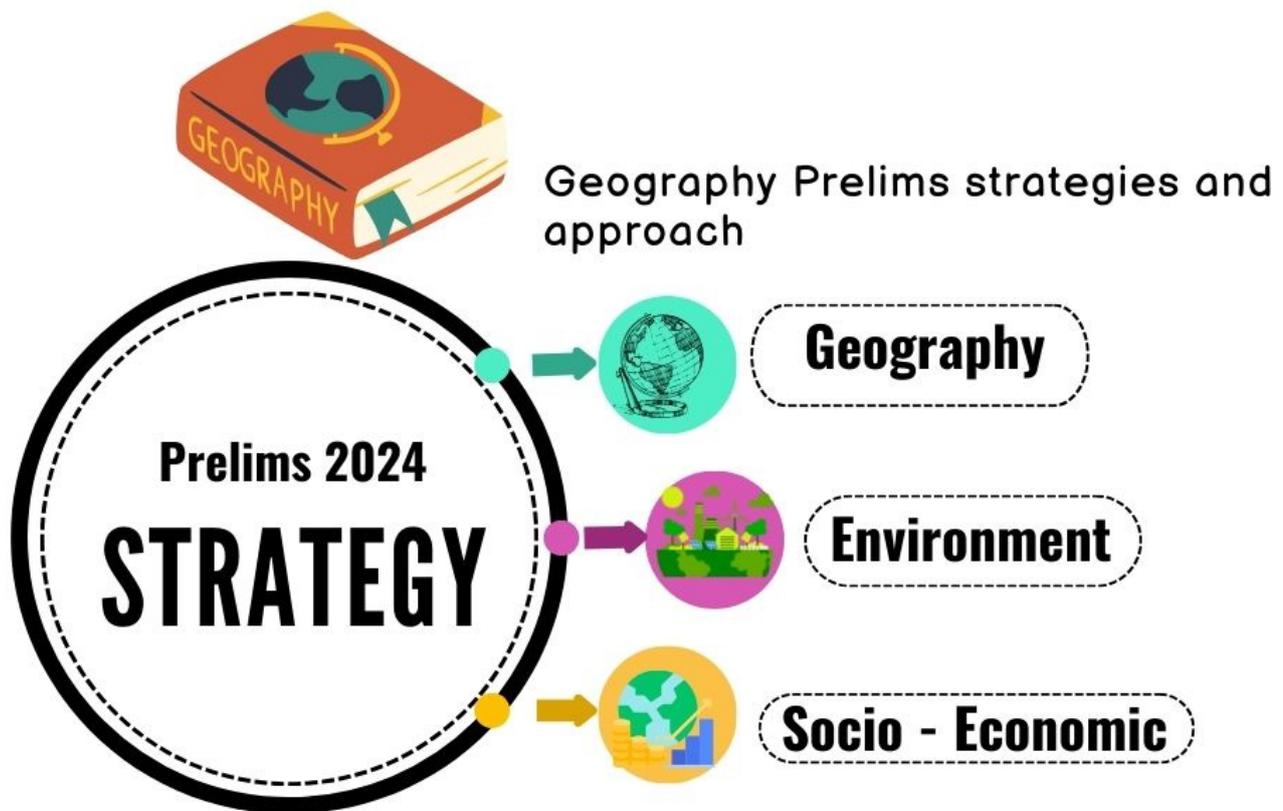


UPSC GEOGRAPHY GS PRELIMS QUESTIONS TRENDS



UPSC Physical Geography

2015 - 2023 Prelims PYQs

GEOMORPHOLOGY Total No of Question Asked in UPSC = 7

Que. 1 Ilmenite and rutile, abundantly available in certain coastal tracts of India, are rich sources of which one of the following? [2023]

- a) Aluminium
- b) Copper
- c) Iron
- d) Titanium

Que. 2 Consider the following statements: [2023]

1. In a seismograph, P waves recorded earlier than S waves.
2. In P waves, the individual particles vibrate to and fro in the direction of wave propagation whereas in S waves, the particles vibrate up and down at right angles to the direction of wave propagation

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Que. 3 In the northern hemisphere, the longest day of the year normally occurs in the: [2022]

- a) First half of the month of June
- b) Second half of the month of June
- c) First half of the month of July
- d) Second half of the month of July

Que. 4 On 21st June, the Sun: [2019]

- a) Does not set below the horizon at the Arctic Circle
- b) Does not set below the horizon at Antarctic Circle
- c) Shines vertically overhead at noon on the Equator
- d) Shines vertically overhead at the Tropic of Capricorn

Que. 5 The word 'Denisovan' is sometimes mentioned in media in reference to: [2019]

- a) Fossils of a kind of dinosaurs
- b) An early human species
- c) A cave system found in North-East India
- d) A geological period in the history of Indian subcontinent

Que. 6 Which of the is/are the possible consequences of heavy sand mining in riverbeds? [2018]

1. Decreased salinity in the water
2. Pollution of groundwater
3. Lowering of the water level

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Que. 7 Which of the following phenomena might have influenced the evolution of organisms? [2014]

1. Continental drift
2. Glacial cycles

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only

- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

No Question [2015]

Climatology Total No of Question Asked in UPSC = 12

2015 - 2023 Prelims PYQs

Que. 1 With reference to the Earth's atmosphere, which one of the following statements is correct? [2023]

- a) The total amount of insolation received at the equator is roughly about 10 times of that received at the poles.
- b) Infrared rays constitute roughly two-thirds of insolation.
- c) Infrared waves are largely absorbed by water vapour that is concentrated in the lower atmosphere.
- d) Infrared waves are a part of visible spectrum of electromagnetic waves of solar radiation.

Que. 2 Consider the following statements: [2023]

Statement-I: The soil in tropical rain forests is rich in nutrients.

Statement-II: The high temperature and moisture of tropical rain forests cause dead organic matter in the soil to decompose quickly.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

Que. 3 Consider the following statements: [2022]

1. High clouds primarily reflect solar radiation and cool the surface of the Earth.
2. Low clouds have a high absorption of infrared radiation emanating from the Earth's surface and thus cause a warming effect.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Que. 4 The vegetation of savannah consists of grassland with scattered small trees, but extensive areas have no trees. The forest development in such areas is generally kept in check by one or more or a combination of some conditions. Which of the following are such conditions? [2021]

- 1) Burrowing animals and termites
- 2) Fire
- 3) Grazing herbivores
- 4) Seasonal rainfall
- 5) Soil properties

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 4 and 5
- c) 2, 3 and 4
- d) 1, 3 and 5

Que. 5 'Leaf litter decomposes faster than in any other biome and as a result the soil surface is often almost bare. Apart from trees, the vegetation is largely composed of plant forms that reach up into the canopy vicariously, by climbing the trees or growing as epiphytes, rooted on the upper branches of trees'. This is the most likely description of: [2021]

- a) Coniferous forest
- b) Dry deciduous forest
- c) Mangrove forest
- d) Tropical rainforest

Que. 6 Consider the following statements: [2020]

1. Jet streams occur in the Northern Hemisphere only.
2. Only some cyclones develop an eye.
3. The temperature inside the eye of a cyclone is nearly 10°C lesser than that of the surroundings.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 2 only
- d) 1 and 3 only

Que. 7 In the context of which of the following do some scientists suggest the use of cirrus cloud thinning technique and the injection of sulphate aerosol into stratosphere? [2019]

- a) Creating the artificial rains in some regions

- b) Reducing the frequency and intensity of tropical cyclones
- c) Reducing the adverse effects of solar wind on the Earth
- d) Reducing the global warming

Que. 8 Why are dewdrops not formed on a cloudy night? [2019]

- a) Clouds absorb the radiation released from the Earth's surface.
- b) Clouds reflect back the Earth's radiation.
- c) The Earth's surface would have low temperature on cloudy nights.
- d) Clouds deflect the blowing wind to ground level.

Que. 9 With reference to 'Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD)' sometimes mentioned in the news while forecasting Indian monsoon, which of the following statements is/are correct? [2017]

1. IOD phenomenon is characterised by a difference in sea surface temperature between tropical Western Indian Ocean and tropical Eastern Pacific Ocean.
2. An IOD phenomenon can influence an El Nino's impact on the monsoon.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Que. 10 Consider the following statements: [2015]

1. The winds which blow between 30 degrees N and 60 degrees S latitudes throughout the year are known as westerlies.
2. The moist air masses that cause winter rains in North-Western region of India are part of westerlies.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Que. 11 "Each day is more or less the same, the morning is clear and bright with a sea breeze; as the sun climbs high in the sky, heat mounts up, dark clouds form, than rain comes with thunder and lightning. But rain is soon over.": [2015]

Which of the following regions is described in the above passage?

- a) Savannah
- b) Equatorial
- c) Monsoon
- d) Mediterranean

Que. 12 In the South Atlantic and South Eastern Pacific regions in tropical latitudes, cyclone does not originate. What is the reason? [2015]

- a) Sea Surface temperature are low
- b) Inter Tropical Convergence Zone seldom occurs
- c) Coriolis force is too weak
- d) Absence of land in those regions

Oceanography Total No of Question Asked in UPSC = 7

2015 - 2023 Prelims PYQs

Que. 1 Consider the following statements: [2023]

Statement-I: The temperature contrast between continents and oceans is greater during summer than in winter.

Statement-II : The specific heat of water is more than that of land surface.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

Que. 2 With reference to the water on the planet Earth, consider the following statements: [2021]

- 1) The amount of water in the rivers and lakes is more than the amount of groundwater.
- 2) The amount of water in polar ice caps and glaciers is more than the amount of groundwater.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Que. 3 Consider the following statements: [2021]

- 1) The Global Ocean Commission grants licences for seabed exploration and mining in international waters.
- 2) India has received licences for seabed mineral exploration in international waters.
- 3) 'Rare earth minerals' are present on seafloor in international waters.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only

- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Que. 4 Consider the following statements: [2021]

- 1) In the tropical zone, the western sections of the oceans are warmer than the eastern sections owing to the influence of trade winds.
- 2) In the temperate zone, westerlies make the eastern sections of oceans warmer than the western sections.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Que. 5 With reference to Ocean Mean Temperature (OMT), which of the following statements is/are correct? [2020]

1. OMT is measured up to a depth of 26°C isotherm which is 129 meters in the south-western Indian Ocean during January-March.
2. OMT collected during January-March can be used in assessing whether the amount of rainfall in monsoon will be less or more than a certain long-term mean.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Que. 6 Tides occur in oceans and seas due to which of the following? [2015]

1. Gravitational Force of the Sun
2. Gravitational Force of the Moon
3. Gravitational Force of the Earth

Select the correct answer using the code given below

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2, and 3

Que. 7 What explains the eastward flow of the equatorial counter-current? [2015]

- a) The Earth's rotation on its axis
- b) Convergence of the two equatorial currents
- c) Difference in salinity of water
- d) Occurrence of the belt of calm near equator

