

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding Hwasong-18:**

1. It is a type of solid-fuel intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM).
2. Ballistic missiles can carry either nuclear or conventional warheads.
3. It is South Korea's first ICBM to use solid-fuel ICBM.

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

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

Ans: a

Explanation:

- Hwasong-18 is a type of solid-fuel intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) developed by North Korea.
- It is North Korea's first ICBM to use solid-fuel, which allows for faster launches.
- Ballistic missiles can carry either nuclear or conventional warheads.
- An ICBM, is a long-range (greater than 5,500 km or 3,500 miles) ballistic missile typically designed for nuclear weapons delivery, that is, delivering one or more nuclear warheads.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs):**

1. It can be traded and exchanged only in cryptocurrencies.
2. They are unique cryptographic tokens that exist on a blockchain and cannot be replicated.
3. They are assigned unique identification codes and metadata that distinguish them from other tokens.

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

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

Ans: b

Explanation:

- Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs) are unique cryptographic tokens that exist on a blockchain and cannot be replicated.
- They can represent digital or real-world items like artwork, photograph, song, video, real estate, individuals' identities, property rights, and more.
- Thus, NFTs are assets that have been tokenized via a blockchain. They are assigned unique identification codes and metadata that distinguish them from other tokens.
- The term 'non-fungible' simply means that each token is different as opposed to a fungible currency such as money (a ten-rupee note can be exchanged for another and so on).
- NFTs can be traded and exchanged for money, cryptocurrencies, or other NFTs—it all depends on the value the market and owners have placed on them.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding Tunicates:**

1. They are commonly called sea squirts which are a group of marine animals.
2. They spend most of their lives attached to docks, rocks or the undersides of boats.

Choose the correct answer from the codes given below:

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Ans: c

Explanation:

- Tunicates are commonly called sea squirts which are a group of marine animals.
- They spend most of their lives attached to docks, rocks or the undersides of boats.
- About 3,000 species of tunicate exist in the world's oceans, living mostly in shallow water.
- They are a species of marine invertebrates with an evolutionary history from at least 500 million years ago.
- Researchers are interested in them as they are the closest relatives of vertebrates, which includes fish, mammals, and people.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding Bard Chatbot:**

1. It is an Artificial Intelligence (AI) chatbot developed by Alphabet, parent company of Google.
2. It is an example of generative AI.
3. Users can interact with the Bard chatbot in 40 languages.

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

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

Ans: d

Explanation:

- Bard Chatbot is an Artificial Intelligence (AI) chatbot developed by Alphabet, parent company of Google.
- It is an example of generative AI that can respond to questions in a human-like way.
- Users can interact with the Bard chatbot in 40 languages, including nine Indian languages.
- Users can change the tone and style of Bard's responses to either simple, long, short, professional or casual.
- They can pin or rename conversations, export code to more places and use images in prompts.
- Generative AI (GenAI) is a type of AI that can create a wide variety of data, such as images, videos, audio, text, and 3D models.

**Q: Consider the following statement regarding Kaas Plateau:**

1. It has been declared as world natural heritage site by UNESCO.
2. It is also known as valley of flowers.
3. It is part of the Eastern Ghats.

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

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

Ans: a

Explanation:

- Kaas Plateau is nestled in the Western Ghats is about 140 km from Pune.
- It is part of the Western Ghats which was declared as world natural heritage site by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in 2012
- It is known as Kaas Pathar in Marathi, its name is derived from the Kaasa tree, botanically known as *Elaeocarpus glandulosus* (rudraksha family).
- It is also known as valley of flowers which is situated at a mighty altitude of 1200 metres.
- It is a major biodiversity hotspot owing to the many varieties of endemic flowers and butterflies that are found here.