

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Vostro Account:

1. It is a domestic bank holds for a foreign bank in the domestic bank's currency.
2. The banks will keep the record of money transferred.
3. It is not compulsory that the owner and beneficiary of this money will be the exporters and importers in both the countries.

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:

- Vostro account is an account that a domestic bank holds for a foreign bank in the domestic bank's currency — which, in the case of India, is the rupee.
- In the case of trade with Russia, payments in rupee for the export and import of goods will go to these Vostro accounts. The owners and beneficiaries of this money will be the exporters and importers in both the countries.
- The banks will keep the record of money transferred.

Q: Consider the following statement:

1. The accumulation of heat in inland water decreases lake water temperatures.
2. Higher soil respiration will likely decrease soil water.
3. Soil respiration triggers the decomposition of soil organic matter.

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:

- Heat accumulated on land drives up ground surface temperatures. This may increase soil respiration, which triggers the decomposition of soil organic matter and plant litter by soil microbes, releasing carbon dioxide in the process.
- Higher soil respiration will likely decrease soil water, depending on climatic and meteorological conditions and factors.
- The accumulation of heat in inland water increases lake water temperatures. This makes conditions ripe for algal blooms. Permafrost heat content could inject methane and carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, the researchers warned.

Q: Hakki Pikkis Tribes was recently in news. Consider the following statement:

1. They are the semi-nomadic bird catching tribes in the regions of west and south India.
2. They follow the matriarchal society.
3. These tribes are identified by the Government of India as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTGs).

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

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

Ans: c

Explanation:

- Hakki Pikkis are semi-nomadic tribe, traditionally of bird catchers and hunters. (Hakki in Kannada means 'bird' and Pikki means 'catchers').
- They are believed to hail originally from the bordering districts of Gujarat and Rajasthan.
- They live in several states in west and south India, particularly concentrated in Karnataka.
- They are also known as Mel-Shikari in northern Karnataka and Maharashtra.
- They are divided into four clans, Gujaratia, Panwar, Kaliwala and Mewaras.
- Men of the tribe would hunt while women begged in villages.
- The Hakki-Pikkis are said to be a matriarchal group.
- The community speaks an Indo-Aryan language.
- Their mother tongue was designated 'Vaagri' by scholars.
- UNESCO has listed 'Vaagri' as one of the endangered languages.

Q: Consider the following pairs of disputed region of Indian States and choose the incorrect option:

- a) Panchkula district Haryana-Himachal Pradesh
- b) Belgaum district Karnataka-Maharashtra
- c) Parwanoo region Haryana-Himachal Pradesh
- d) Sarchu Himachal Pradesh-Uttarakhand

Ans: d

Explanation:

- Panchkula district is disputed area among Haryana Himachal Pradesh.
- The dispute between Karnataka and Maharashtra is over the Belgaum district.
- Parwanoo region is disputed area between Haryana and Himachal Pradesh.
- Sarchu is disputed area between Himachal Pradesh and Ladakh.

Q: Consider the following statements with respect to C+C5 Summit:

1. C+C5 denotes China and Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Kyrgyzstan.
2. India is an observer country in this summit.

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

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

Ans: a

Explanation:

- C+C5 denotes China and the five Central Asian republics. The countries are Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Kyrgyzstan.
- To uphold the principle of mutual respect, good-neighborliness and friendship, solidarity in trying times, mutual benefit and win-win results.
- To continue to build high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, and explore ways to promote financial cooperation.
- To deepen the cooperation of connectivity.
- To maintain security in traditional and non-traditional areas.
- The C+C5 is already supported by the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation in terms of security and trade.