

Q: Consider the following statements with respect to Red Sea

1. Israel, Yemen and Eritrea are the bordering countries of Red Sea.
2. It connects the Mediterranean Sea with the Atlantic Ocean through the Suez Canal.
3. The Red Sea occupies part of a large rift valley in the continental crust of Africa and Arabia.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All Three
- d) None of the above

Ans: a

Explanation:

- Red Sea is one of the most significant shipping routes in the world that supports free movement of commercial shipping.
- It contains some of the world's hottest and saltiest seawater.
- It connects the Mediterranean Sea with the Indian Ocean through the narrow Suez Canal.
- Bordering countries – Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Sudan, Eritrea and Djibouti.
- The Red Sea lies in a fault depression that separates two great blocks of Earth's crust, namely Arabia and North Africa.
- The Red Sea occupies part of a large rift valley in the continental crust of Africa and Arabia.

Q: Consider the following statements with respect to Biological Invasion

1. It is process where a species is intentionally or accidentally introduced in a new location outside its natural range.
2. Stray cats and dogs are the worst invasive species in the world.

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

Ans: c

Explanation:

- Biological invasion is a multi-step process wherein a species is intentionally or accidentally transported and then introduced to a new location outside its natural range.
- They are usually transported for agriculture, ornamental or recreation purposes.
- These species may soon establish a self-sustaining population and disperse to other regions.
- Invasive species are also responsible for incurring huge economic losses every year for India.
- Stray cats and dogs are considered among the worst invasive species in the world and are responsible for killing scores of native birds and terrestrial animals annually.

Q: Consider the following statements with respect to Gyrocopters

1. It is a type of aircraft that flies by means of auto-rotation.
2. It cannot be operated under turbulent weather conditions.
3. India's first-ever gyrocopter safari operated in Himachal Pradesh.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All Three
- d) None of the above

Ans: a

Explanation:

- A gyrocopter is also called autogyro which is a rotary-wing aircraft that flies by means of auto-rotation.
- It is distinguished by the absence of an engine turning the rotors, and resembles a small helicopter.
- A rotor is a moving part of an electromagnetic system in an electric motor, generator or alternator.
- Unlike a helicopter, the rotor of a gyrocopter is not powered directly by a motor, but turns by the action of the relative airflow on the blades.
- The 1st flying autogyro was invented in Spain in 1923 by Juan de la Cierva.
- India's first-ever gyrocopter safari is to be launched in Uttarakhand.
- The operating and maintenance costs of the gyrocopter are of a much lower level, especially when compared to a helicopter.
- The gyrocopter can be flown safely and steadily under both strong wind and turbulent conditions.

Q: Consider the following statements with respect to Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS), 2023

1. It is a voluntary initiative that seeks to increase maritime co-operation among Indian Ocean littoral states.
2. India was the chair of the IONS at the inaugural edition.

How many of the statements given above are incorrect?

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

Ans: d

Explanation:

- The 8th edition of IONS was concluded recently which provides maritime co-operation among navies of the littoral states of the Indian Ocean Region.
- Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) is a voluntary initiative that seeks to increase maritime co-operation among navies of the littoral states of the Indian Ocean Region.
- It provides an open and inclusive forum for discussion of regionally relevant maritime issues.
- India also took over as the co-Chair (CoC) of IONS Working Groups on Maritime Security and Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Relief (HADR) for the forthcoming cycle.
- India was the chair of the IONS at the inaugural edition in 2008.
- India is also scheduled to take over as the Chair of IONS (2025-27) during 9th CoC planned to be conducted in India in end 2025.

Q: Consider the following statements with respect to Blue Sea Dragon

1. It is a type of sea slug that have brightly coloured underbelly.
2. It can be found in both temperate and tropical waters.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

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

Ans: c

Explanation:

- Blue Sea Dragon (*Glaucus atlanticus*) is a type of mollusk or sea slug which is known as a nudibranch.
- Blue Sea Dragon is also known as blue glaucus.
- It has brightly coloured underbelly that make them to expose to airborne predators.
- It can be found on the surface of the Atlantic, Pacific, and Indian oceans in temperate and tropical waters throughout the world.
- It feed on other aquatic creatures that live near the water's surface.
- Its favourite meals is made up primarily of venomous siphonophores.