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(Compilations of the Multiple Choice Questions)

For

8th

October

2021

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Environment

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1. Consider the following statements:

1. Carbon credit and Carbon tax are related to Kyoto Protocol.
2. A carbon credit (often called a carbon offset) is a tradable certificate or permit.
3. In Carbon trading, one credit gives the country or a company right to emit one tonne of CO₂.

Which of the above is/are incorrect?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 2 only
- D. 3 only

Answer: B

Explanation

- Carbon tax (not related to Kyoto Protocol).
✓ It is a tax on all fossil fuels in proportion to carbon dioxide emissions.
- Proposed in many developed and developing countries.
- A carbon credit (often called a carbon offset) is a tradable certificate or permit.
- One carbon credit is equal to one tonne of carbon dioxide.
- Carbon credits are a part of attempts to mitigate the growth in concentrations of GHGs.

- Carbon credits or carbon offsets can be acquired through afforestation, renewable energy, CO₂ sequestration, methane capture, buying from an exchange (carbon credits trading) etc.
- In Carbon trading, one credit gives the country or a company right to emit one tonne of CO₂.
- A developing nation such as India, turns out to be a seller of such credits, which eventually provides them with monetary gains.
- Carbon credits are traded at various exchanges across the world.
- Multi-Commodity Exchange of India (MCX) launched futures trading in carbon credits in 2009.

2. Consider the following statements regarding *Senna Spectabilis*:

1. *Senna Spectabilis* is a deciduous tree native to tropical areas of America.
2. It is an invasive species found in Nilgiris Biosphere Reserve (NBR).
3. It is categorized as 'Vulnerable' under IUCN Red List.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 3 only
- D. 1 and 2 only

Answer: D

Explanation

- Senna Spectabilis is a deciduous tree native to tropical areas of America.
- It grows up to 15 to 20 metres in a short period of time and distributes thousands of seeds after flowering.
- The thick foliage of the tree arrests the growth of other indigenous tree and grass species.
- Thus, it causes food shortage for the wildlife population, especially herbivores.
- It also adversely affect the germination and growth of the native species.
- The Kerala Government is planning to arrest the rampant growth of invasive plants, especially Senna spectabilis, in the forest areas of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve (NBR), including the Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary.
- It is categorised as 'Least Concern' under IUCN Red List.

3. Which one of the following statements is incorrect with reference to High Altitude Yak?

- A. It can tolerate temperatures as low as -40 degrees Celsius.
- B. They are endemic to the Tibetan Plateau and the adjacent high altitude regions.
- C. The total yak population in India is below 1 lakh.
- D. Its IUCN Red list status is Endangered.

Answer: D

Explanation

- It can tolerate temperatures as low as 40 degrees Celsius.

- They are endemic to the Tibetan Plateau and the adjacent high-altitude regions.
- The yak rearing states of India are Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir.
- The countrywide population trend shows that the yak population has been decreasing at an alarming rate.
- The total yak population in India is about 58,000.
- Its IUCN Red list status is Vulnerable.



- Additional info:
 - ✓ Recently, the National Research Centre on Yak (NRCY) at Dirang in Arunachal Pradesh's West Kameng district has tied up with the National Insurance Company Ltd. for insuring the high altitude yak.
 - ❖ NRCY is a premier research institute exclusively engaged in research and development of yak in India.
 - ❖ It was established in 1989 by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

4. Which one of the following statements is/are correct with reference to Swinhoe's Softshell Turtle?

1. They are important to the seafloor bio system as they contribute by

enriching soil nutrients and facilitating seed dispersion.

- 2. The natural habitat for these turtles are wetlands and large lakes.**
- 3. They are native to China and India.**
- 4. Its IUCN Red List status is Critically Endangered**

Select the correct code

- A. 1, 2 and 4 only
- B. 2 and 4 only
- C. 2, 3 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3 only

Answer: A

Explanation

- The Yangtze giant softshell turtle, also known as the Red River giant softshell turtle, the Shanghai softshell turtle, the speckled softshell turtle, and Swinhoe's softshell turtle, is an extremely rare species of turtle in the family Trionychidae.
- Some researchers have highlighted their importance to the seafloor biosystem, where they contribute by enriching soil nutrients and facilitating seed dispersion.
- The natural habitat for these turtles are wetlands and large lakes. Native to China and Vietnam.
- Its IUCN Red List status is Critically Endangered.
- In recent years, a lot of efforts have been put by the conservationists to save the world's most endangered turtle, Swinhoe's softshell turtle from the brink of extinction.

- The animal is also known as the Hoan Kiem turtle or Yangtze giant softshell turtle.
- In Vietnam, these animals have great cultural significance as people in Hanoi revere this creature as a living god.
- These turtles are gray with light gray or yellow spots.



- 5. The aquatic organisms are classified on the basis of their zone of occurrence. Which of the following is/are correctly matched?**
 - 1. Neuston: This group contains powerful swimmers that can overcome the water currents.**
 - 2. Nekton: These organisms live at the air-water interface.**
 - 3. Benthos: The benthic organisms are those found living at the bottom of the water mass.**

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 3 only
- C. 1 only
- D. 2 and 3 only

Answer: B

Explanation

- The aquatic organisms are classified on the basis of their zone of occurrence.
- Neuston: These organisms live at the air-water interface, e.g. floating plants.
- Periphyton: These are organisms which remain attached to stems and leaves of rooted plants or substances emerging above the bottom mud such as sessile algae.
- Plankton: Microscopic floating organisms such as algae, diatoms, protozoans and larval forms are called plankton.
- This group includes both microscopic plants like algae (phytoplankton) and animals like crustaceans and protozoans (zooplankton).
- The locomotory power of the planktons is limited so that their distribution is controlled, largely, by currents in the aquatic ecosystems.
- Nekton: This group contains powerful swimmers that can overcome the water currents.
- Benthos: The benthic organisms are those found living at the bottom of the water mass.