UPSC EPFO APFC 2026 EXAM

Topic Wise Solved PYQs with Detailed Explanations For The Year 2023 and 2025

EBOOK EDITION



Sleepy Classes IAS
Awakening Toppers

BESTSELLER
EDITION 2026

Hi Doston,

We have crafted this ebook to compile UPSC EPFO APFC PYQs for 2023 and 2025 arranged topic wise and year-wise to ensure that your exam preparation is seamless and effective.

What We've Included in This E-Book:

UPSC APFC PYQs: Detailed explanation of every question.

Arranged Topic Wise: Your quick revision subject wise guide.

Conceptual Clarity: The Answers help you in clear concepts.

Structured Answers: Helps you in understanding start to end

Statement guide for the statement day for the examination.

Revision Support: Your quick revision guide for last minute revision.

We hope this ebook empowers you to excel in your UPSC EPFO APFC preparation!

All The Best!



Sleepy Classes IAS

Awakening Toppers

Sleepy Classes IAS
Awakening Toppers

Table of Contents

UPSC APFC PYQs

1. English ..... 1 – 23
2. History ..... 24 – 32
3. Culture ..... 33 – 38
4. Industrial Relations and Labour Codes..... 39 – 64
5. General Accounting Principles..... 65 – 96
6. Computer Applications ..... 97 – 100
7. Science & Technology ..... 101 – 113
8. Polity ..... 114 – 125
9. Economy ..... 126 – 133
10. Governance ..... 134 – 137
11. Current Affairs ..... 138 – 148
12. Social Security ..... 149 – 150

English

2023

Q. A: before the judge B: given that he was clearly innocent C: was incomprehensible D: his decision to plead guilty

(a) DBCA

(b) BADC

(c) BDAC

(d) DCBA

Ans: c

Explanation:

A: before the judge

B: given that he was clearly innocent

C: was incomprehensible

D: his decision to plead guilty

Logical Flow:

B ("*given that he was clearly innocent*") sets up the condition.

D ("*his decision to plead guilty*") is the subject.

A ("*before the judge*") naturally modifies where he pleaded guilty.

C ("*was incomprehensible*") provides the verb and predicate.

Combining them: *Given that he was clearly innocent, his decision to plead guilty before the judge was incomprehensible.*

Q. A: when your stated principles B: it is difficult C: are at odds with your ground realities D: to practise what you preach

(a) ACDB

(b) DACB

(c) BACD

(d) BDAC

Ans: d

Explanation:

A: when your stated principles

B: it is difficult

C: are at odds with your ground realities

D: to practise what you preach

Logical Flow:

B and **D** link together to form the main clause: "*it is difficult to practise what you preach*".

A and **C** form the conditional clause: "*when your stated principles are at odds with your ground realities*".

Combining them: *It is difficult to practise what you preach when your stated principles are at odds with your ground realities.*

Q. A: people in dire need B: it is a truth universally acknowledged that C: for assistance D: reach out to their friends and family

(a) BADC

(b) ADCB

(c) BCAD

(d) CBAD

Ans: a

Explanation:

A: people in dire need

B: it is a truth universally acknowledged that

C: for assistance

D: reach out to their friends and family

Logical Flow:

B is the standard introductory phrase ("*it is a truth universally acknowledged that...*").

A introduces the subject of the clause ("*people in dire need*").

C modifies the type of need ("*for assistance*"), linking directly to **A**.

D completes the sentence with the action ("*reach out to their friends and family*").

Combining them: *It is a truth universally acknowledged that people in dire need for assistance reach out to their friends and family.*

Q. A: his vengeful B: by the expression on his face C: and diabolical nature D: were clearly revealed

(a) BDAC

(b) BACD

(c) ADBC

(d) ACDB

Ans: d

Explanation:

A: his vengeful

B: by the expression on his face

C: and diabolical nature

D: were clearly revealed

Logical Flow:

A and **C** must go together because "*his vengeful*" requires the conjunction and noun phrase "*and diabolical nature*" to complete the subject.

D ("*were clearly revealed*") is the plural verb phrase that matches the compound subject.

B ("*by the expression on his face*") explains how it was revealed.

Combining them: *His vengeful and diabolical nature were clearly revealed by the expression on his face.*

Q. A: bitter fights B: between the two rival teams C: on more than one occasion D: I have witnessed

(a) DCBA

(b) CDAB

(c) BACD

(d) DBCA

Ans: b

Explanation:

A: bitter fights

B: between the two rival teams

C: on more than one occasion

D: I have witnessed

Logical Flow:

C: on more than one occasion

D: I have witnessed

A: bitter fights

B: between the two rival teams

The complete sentence is: "On more than one occasion, I have witnessed bitter fights between the two rival teams."

Directions: Given below are five items, comprising sentences in which one word has been underlined. Choose the response (a), (b), (c) or (d) which is closest to the meaning of the underlined word and mark your response in the Answer Sheet accordingly.

Q. The essay was badly researched and contained several <u>platitudes</u> and generalizations.

(a) Incorrect statements

(b) Imprecise comments

(c) Often used and unoriginal ideas

(d) Vague, subjective statements

Ans: c

Explanation:

(c) correct statement: A platitude is a remark or statement, especially one with a moral content, that has been used too often to be interesting or thoughtful.

(a) Incorrect statements: A platitude isn't necessarily factually wrong or false; it is just a lazy, overused cliché (like saying "*good things come to those who wait*").

(b) Imprecise comments: Platitudes can be very precise in what they say, but they lack original thought.

(d) Vague, subjective statements: This option actually defines the word "*generalizations*" which appears later in the sentence, rather than "*platitudes*"

Q. The judgment of beauty is based on the human capacity for <u>disinterested</u> pleasure in the natural world.

(a) Indifference

(b) Free of all self-interest

(c) Not caring for something

(d) Extremely focused

Ans: b

Explanation:

(b) correct statement: Disinterested means not influenced by considerations of personal advantage; impartial, unbiased, or objective. Do not confuse it with "uninterested" (which means indifferent).

(a) Indifference & **(c) Not caring for something:** These options define the word *uninterested*. In formal English, *disinterested* means you are objective and have no personal stake in the outcome, whereas *uninterested* means you find it boring or do not care.

(d) Extremely focused: This is unrelated, as a person can be highly focused while still being deeply biased or self-interested.

Q. The hundred-year old college building was now in a <u>derelict</u> state.

(a) Preserved for historical value

(b) Unsafe for occupation

(c) Neglected and broken down

(d) Retaining its original beauty

Ans: c

Explanation:

(c) Correct statement: A derelict building or piece of land is in a very poor condition as a result of disuse, abandonment, and neglect.

(a) Preserved for historical value & **(d) Retaining its original beauty:** These are the exact antonyms (opposites) of the sentence's context, which implies decay over a century.

(b) Unsafe for occupation: While a derelict building *might* be unsafe, "derelict" specifically describes the visual state of physical abandonment and ruin, not a structural safety rating.

Q. My <u>serendipitous</u> encounter with the man on the bus was to have a profound impact on my life.

(a) Fortunate

(b) Of historical significance

(c) Sudden and abrupt

(d) A chance event

Ans: d

Explanation:

(a) Fortunate — Incorrect: *Fortunate* means **lucky or favourable**. Serendipitous can have a fortunate result, but it mainly emphasizes that something happened **by chance**.

(b) Of historical significance — Incorrect: This means something **important in history**. *Serendipitous* has no such meaning.

(c) Sudden and abrupt — Incorrect: This means something happening **quickly and unexpectedly**, but *serendipitous* refers specifically to a **chance occurrence**, often with a positive outcome.

(d) A chance event — Correct: *Serendipitous* means **occurring unexpectedly or by chance, often leading to a fortunate result**.

Q. Notwithstanding our victory today we must be careful to avoid a feeling of <u>complacency</u>.

(a) Smug and self-satisfied

(b) A defensive attitude

(c) Pride

(d) Feeling of superiority

Ans: a

Explanation:

(a) Correct Option: Complacency is a feeling of smug or uncritical satisfaction with oneself or one's achievements, often making a person blind to upcoming dangers or deficiencies.

(b) A defensive attitude: Complacency makes people drop their guard because they feel too safe; it is the opposite of being defensive.

(c) Pride: Pride is simply feeling good about an achievement. Complacency goes a step further into lazy self-satisfaction where you stop trying to improve.

(d) Feeling of superiority: This describes arrogance or hubris, which involves comparing oneself to others, whereas complacency is an internal laziness born of safety.

Directions: Read the following passage carefully and answer the five questions that follow by selecting your answers based solely on the content of the passage and the opinion of the author only.

The millet project of the MS Swaminathan Research Foundation had three objectives—to preserve crop diversity in local millet varieties, to increase production and the consumption of millets, and to enhance farm incomes. The Kolli Hills block of Namakkal district, the project area, is a distinct geographic and agroecological region of the Eastern Ghats, populated by income-poor Scheduled Tribe households.

There had been a rapid decline in minor millet cultivation, and a shift in land use towards more profitable crops such as cassava (tapioca), pineapple, coffee, and pepper. As the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has pointed out, the area under nutri-cereals has declined steeply in India since the mid-1980s—from 41 million hectares in the 1980s to 24 million hectares in 2017–18.

The reasons for a shift in land use include low yields. Further, processing of millets is a time-consuming and laborious task, undertaken by women. Additionally, very little was marketed, and a tiny share of grain was processed into value-added products.

The project intervened in three areas. First, yield enhancement was attempted, using a combination of participatory varietal trials for improved seeds, new agronomic practices, and new technology. Community seed banks were designed and constructed to conserve, restore, revive, strengthen and improve local seed systems.

Second, customized post-harvest machineries (pulverizers and dehullers) were introduced. The introduction of small-scale localized mechanical milling, operated by self-help groups, was a game-changer.

The third major initiative was training. The Kolli Hills Agrobiodiversity Conservers' Federation (KHABCOFED) was formed to oversee all activities relating to training and value-addition. Ready-to-cook products were branded under the Kolli Hills Natural Foods label and market links established. Net returns from value-added products were five to ten times higher than those from grains.

Yields have risen as a result of improved seeds, agronomic practices and intercropping. There have been significant improvements in incomes from millet farming. The shift from hand-pounding to milling has reduced the drudgery for women and encouraged millet consumption. The number of private mills with customized dehullers and pulverizers has risen (and the technology has been marketed to Krishi Vigyan Kendras across Tamil Nadu).

Q. What does "agroecological region of the Eastern Ghats" mean in the passage?

(a) Area marked by excessive agricultural yield

(b) Area suitable for developing tourism

(c) Area with pollution-free characteristics

(d) Area meant for sustainable farming that works in tandem with nature

Ans: d

Explanation:

Correct Option: **(d) Area meant for sustainable farming that works in tandem with nature**

"Agroecological" combines agriculture and ecology, implying an ecological approach to farming. Options (a), (b), and (c) introduce outside themes like excess yields, tourism, and pollution-free status, which are nowhere mentioned in the text.

Q. There has been a rapid decline in minor millet cultivation because

(a) the millet crop requires special manures to grow

(b) the land of Namakkal district is not suitable for growing millet

(c) there has been shift towards growing more profitable crops

(d) the land is declared as not climate-resilient for the production of millet

Ans: c

Explanation:

Correct Option: **(c) there has been shift towards growing more profitable crops**

The passage explicitly states: "*...and a shift in land use towards more profitable crops such as cassava (tapioca), pineapple, coffee, and pepper.*" Options (a), (b), and (d) introduce fictional constraints like special manures or climate-resilience declarations.

Q. What does "a tiny share of grain was processed into value-added products" mean in the passage?

(a) Enough was not done for the marketing of millet as a diverse food product.

(b) A small quantity of millet is used with other grains.

(c) The demand for millet is not very encouraging.

(d) Millet does not have potential health benefits.

Ans: a

Explanation:

Correct Option: **(a) Enough was not done for the marketing of millet as a diverse food product.**

The text groups this phrase as a problem alongside "*very little was marketed*", before the project intervened to create ready-to-cook products under a distinct brand label. This shows that processing the grain into diverse, commercialized forms was originally neglected.

Q. "The introduction of small-scale localized mechanical milling, operated by self-help groups, was a game-changer." What does it mean in the passage?

(a) Machinery for processing millets is not advanced enough.

(b) Self-help groups are active in improving machinery for various crops.

(c) The use of improvised local machines for removing husk from millets has been a turning point for millet farming.

(d) The process of milling the millets is at a small scale.

Ans: c

Explanation:

Correct Option: **(c) The use of improvised local machines for removing husk from millets has been a turning point for millet farming.**

A "game-changer" is a turning point. The passage later links this milling directly to success, noting that it replaced laborious hand-pounding (removing husk) and reduced drudgery for women, turning the project around.

Q. Millet yield has increased because

(a) sustainable farming practices are being followed

(b) farmers are exporting millet

(c) more labour is employed for farming

(d) easy bank loans are available now

Ans: a

Correct Option: **(a) sustainable farming practices are being followed**

The final paragraph states: "*Yields have risen as a result of improved seeds, agronomic practices and intercropping.*" These collectively represent sustainable agronomic and ecological farming practices. The passage never mentions exporting (b), employing more labour (c), or bank loans (d).

Directions: Each of the five items given below has a phrase given in italics. Choose the one from among the options (a), (b), (c) and (d) that best describes the phrase and mark your response in the Answer Sheet accordingly.

Q. Her poetry not only succeeds in brilliantly capturing the beauty of nature but also carries the power to suggest that which is *too great and beautiful to be expressed in words*.

(a) the unknown

(b) the proscribed

(c) the intangible

(d) the ineffable

Ans: d

Explanation:

"Ineffable" directly means too great, sacred, or beautiful to be expressed or described in words.

Incorrect options:

(a) the unknown: Refers to something that is not understood or discovered, which doesn't mean it cannot be put into words.

(b) the proscribed: Means something that is forbidden or banned by law.

(c) the intangible: Refers to something that cannot be physically touched (like an emotion or a concept), but it can still be described in language.

Q. The Government's policies were aimed at relieving the distress of the homeless, the unemployed and *the poverty-stricken* sections of society.

(a) needy

(b) indigent

(c) disadvantaged

(d) challenged

Ans: b

Explanation:

"Indigent" is a formal, precise vocabulary term that describes people who are completely impoverished, lacking the basic necessities of life like food, clothing, and housing. It perfectly sums up all three categories mentioned.

Incorrect Options:

(a) needy: While close in meaning, it is a very general term. "Indigent" is the more accurate, advanced linguistic match for systemic poverty and homelessness.

(c) disadvantaged: Broadly refers to anyone facing social or economic hurdles, but doesn't necessarily mean they are completely homeless or destitute.

(d) challenged: Frequently used as a euphemism for physical or mental disabilities rather than severe material poverty.

Q. The organizers refused to allow him to speak at the function since he was known to make *speeches that tended to provoke and ignite passions*.

(a) irreverent speeches

(b) incendiary speeches

(c) unsubstantiated speeches

(d) irrelevant speeches