

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Belarus:

1. It is bordered by Russia, Ukraine, Lithuania and Latvia.
2. It is a landlocked country of eastern Europe.
3. Greater parts of this country lie in the basin of Danube River.

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:

- Belarus is a landlocked country of eastern Europe.
- It borders Russia to the northeast, Ukraine to the south, Poland to the west, and Lithuania and Latvia to the northwest.
- The capital and largest city is Minsk.
- The greater part of the republic lies in the basin of the Dnieper—which flows across Belarus from north to south on its way to the Black Sea.
- The extreme southwestern corner of Belarus is drained by the Mukhavyets, a tributary of the Bug (Buh) River, which forms part of the border with Poland and flows to the Baltic Sea.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Nallamala Forest:

1. It is the part of western ghats.
2. It spread over Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.
3. It lies south of the Krishna River.

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:

- Nallamala Forest is one of the largest stretches of undisturbed forest in South India, apart from the Western Ghats.
- It is spread over five districts in the Indian states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.
- It is located in Nallamala Hills, which is a part of the Eastern Ghats.
- It lies south of the Krishna River.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Pangong Tso lake:

1. It is a land locked lake.
2. It is the world's highest saltwater lake.

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: c

Explanation:

- Pangong Tso lake is one of the most famous lakes in Leh Ladakh, derives its name from the Tibetan word, “Pangong Tso”, which means “high grassland lake”.
- It is also known as Pangong Lake which is a long narrow, endorheic (landlocked) lake situated at a height of more than 14,000 ft (4,350 meters) in the Ladakh Himalayas.
- It is the world's highest saltwater lake.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Octopus:

1. It is a marine mollusc and a member of the class Cephalopoda.
2. They have three functioning hearts.
3. Their blood is copper-based which is more efficient at transporting oxygen at low temperatures.

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:

- Octopus is a marine mollusc and a member of the class Cephalopoda, more commonly called cephalopods.
- They have three functioning hearts.
- Two of the hearts work exclusively to move blood to the gills, while the third pumps blood through the rest of the body.
- Their blood is copper-based which is more efficient at transporting oxygen at low temperatures and makes their blood blue in colour.
- They are solitary creatures excellent at camouflaging and concealing themselves.
- They are about 90 percent muscle, and because they lack bones, they can fit through very small spaces.
- Their skin contains cells called chromatophores that allow the octopus to change colour and pattern.
- They are found in every ocean of the world.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Wildlife Crime Control Bureau:

1. It was constituted by amending the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
2. The Ministry of Environment and Forests is the nodal ministry.
3. It is a non-statutory body.

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:

- Wildlife Crime Control Bureau is a statutory multi-disciplinary body established by the Government of India to combat organized wildlife crime in the country.
- It was constituted by amending the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
- The Ministry of Environment and Forests is the nodal ministry.
- Under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 it is mandated to
 - ❖ To collect and collate intelligence related to organized wildlife crime activities and to disseminate the same to State and other enforcement agencies for immediate action so as to apprehend the criminals.
 - ❖ To establish a centralized wildlife crime data bank.