CBSE EXAMINATION PAPER-2026

GEOGRAPHY

(Solved)

Time allowed : 3 hours | Maximum Marks : 77

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions carefully and follow them :

i. This question paper contains **32 questions.** All questions are **compulsory.**

ii. This question paper is divided into **4 sections.**

iii. **Section A** – questions number **1 to 1** are case based questions

iv. **Section B** – questions number **2 to 18** are multiple choice questions

v. **Section C** – questions number **19 to 23** are short answer

vi. **Section D** – questions number **24 to 32** are long answer

vii. There is no overall choice given in the question paper. However, an internal choice has been provided in few questions.

viii. Use of calculator is NOT allowed.

Section A

Question 1.

Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :

The Quaternary Sector

The Quaternary Sector along with the Tertiary Sector has replaced most of the primary and secondary employment as the basis for economic growth. Over half of all workers in developed economies are in the 'Knowledge Sector' and there has been a very high growth in demand for consumption of information-based services from mutual fund managers to tax consultants, software developers and statisticians. Personnel working in office buildings, elementary schools and university classrooms,

hospitals and doctors' offices, theatres, accounting and brokerage firms all belong to this category of services.

Like some of the tertiary functions, quaternary activities can also be outsourced. They are not tied to resources, affected by the environment, or necessarily localised by market.

(1) Define the concept of 'outsourcing'.

[1 Marks]

(2) More than 50 percent of all workers in developed countries belongs to which sector of economy ?

[1 Marks]

(3) 'Mutual funds managers' are demanding which type of services ?

[1 Marks]

Section B

Question 2.

Two statements are given below. They are Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read both statements carefully and choose the correct option :

Assertion (A) : There is a strong dichotomy between physical elements and human beings.

Reason (R) : Nature and human are intricately interwined.

[1 Marks]

(A) (A) is incorrect but (R) is correct.

(B) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

(C) (A) is correct but (R) is incorrect.

(D) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).

Question 3.

“Neither there is absolute necessity nor there is absolute freedom.” The given statement is related to which one of the following concepts ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Individualism

(B) Possibilism

(C) Neo-determinism

(D) Determinism

Question 4.

Read the following sub-fields of social geography carefully and choose the correct option :

I. Resource Geography

II. Leisure Geography

III. Gender Geography

IV. Marketing Geography

[1 Marks]

(A) I and IV are correct.

(B) I and III are correct.

(C) II and IV are correct.

(D) II and III are correct.

Question 5.

Which one of the following types of farming is most labour intensive ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Subsistence agriculture

(B) Horticulture

(C) Co-operative farming

(D) Collective farming

Question 6.

Which one of the following is an example of non-metallic mineral based industry ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Aluminium industry

(B) Copper industry

(C) Cement industry

(D) Iron and Steel industry

Question 7.

Two statements are given below. They are Assertion (A) and Reason (R).

Read both the statements carefully and choose the correct option :

Assertion (A) : The concept of ‘sustainable development’ emerged in 1990’s.

Reason (R) : General awareness about environmental issues originated during 1960’s in the western world.

Options :

[1 Marks]

(A) (A) is correct but (R) is incorrect.

(B) (A) is incorrect but (R) is correct.

(C) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

(D) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).

Question 8.

Arrange the following coal mining areas of India from south to north direction of their location and choose the correct option :

I. Singareni

II. Neyveli

III. Jharia

IV. Talchar

[1 Marks]

(A) I, II, IV, III

(B) I, II, III, IV

(C) II, I, III, IV

(D) II, I, IV, III

Question 9.

If you were asked to prepare a ‘hill area development programme’, which of the following must be kept in mind ? Choose the correct option :

I. Establishing heavy industry

II. Ecosystem

III. National Highway construction

IV. Topography

[1 Marks]

(A) I and IV

(B) II and IV

(C) II and III

(D) I and III

Question 10.

Match Column-I with Column-II and choose the correct option :

[1 Marks]

Column-I (Mineral)		Column-II (Major Mines)	
a.	Iron-ore	i.	Katni
b.	Manganese	ii.	Bhilwara
c.	Bauxite	iii.	Chandrapur
d.	Copper	iv.	Sundargarh

Options :

	a	b	c	d
(A)	iv	iii	i	ii
(B)	iii	iv	ii	i
(C)	iii	iv	i	ii
(D)	iv	iii	ii	i

(A) B

(B) D

(C) C

(D) A

Question 11.

Read the information given in the box carefully and identify the mineral :

[1 Marks]

- It is a non-ferrous ore.
- Odisha is the largest producer state.
- It is used in manufacturing of aluminium.

(A) Bauxite

(B) Manganese

(C) Mica

(D) Copper

Question 12.

Which one of the following contributes maximum in India’s export ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Ores and minerals

(B) Agriculture and allied products

(C) Mineral fuels and lubricants

(D) Manufactured goods

Question 13. Which one of the following organisations regulate the air traffic of major airports of India ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Indian Airport Commission

(B) Airport Authority of India

(C) Airport Development Authority

(D) Indian Air Control Board

Question 14.

Which one of the following ports is situated at 'Zuari Estuary' ?

[1 Marks]

(A) New Mangalore

(B) Ennore

(C) Kochchi

(D) Marmagao

Question 15.

Which one of the following inland waterway and its stretch is correctly matched ?

[1 Marks]

	(Waterways)		(Stretch)
(A)	National Waterways No. 1	–	Allahabad – Haldia
(B)	National Waterways No. 3	–	Sadiya – Dhubri
(C)	National Waterways No. 2	–	Kottapuram – Kollam
(D)	National Waterways No. 5	–	Kakinada – Puducherry

(A) A

(B) B

(C) C

(D) D

Question 16.

How many countries fall under the low category of ‘human development index’ in the given table ?

[1 Marks]

Human Development Index 2022

S.N.	Country	HDI Value
1	Belarus	0.801
2	Botswana	0.708
3	Congo	0.593
4	Mexico	0.781
5	Nigeria	0.548
6	Sudan	0.516
7	Tanjania	0.532
8	Chile	0.860
9	Yemen	0.424

(A) 3

(B) 5

(C) 4

(D) 2

Question 17.

Congo comes under which one of the following categories of human development ?

[1 Marks]

Human Development Index 2022

S.N.	Country	HDI Value
1	Belarus	0.801
2	Botswana	0.708
3	Congo	0.593
4	Mexico	0.781
5	Nigeria	0.548
6	Sudan	0.516
7	Tanjania	0.532
8	Chile	0.860
9	Yemen	0.424

(A) High

(B) Medium

(C) Low

(D) Very high

Question 18.

Which of the following European country falls under very high category of human development ?

[1 Marks]

Human Development Index 2022

S.N.	Country	HDI Value
1	Belarus	0.801
2	Botswana	0.708
3	Congo	0.593
4	Mexico	0.781
5	Nigeria	0.548
6	Sudan	0.516
7	Tanjania	0.532
8	Chile	0.860
9	Yemen	0.424

(A) Belarus

(B) Botswana

(C) Mexico

(D) Chile

Section C

Question 19.

“International trade is mutually beneficial to nations.” Support the statement with suitable arguments.

[3 Marks]

Question 20.

“Global sea ports are the gateways of international trade.” Support the statement with suitable arguments.

[3 Marks]

Question 21.

Explain the importance of the ‘Northern Atlantic Sea Route’.

[3 Marks]

Question 22.

Study the given table carefully and answer the questions that follow :

1. During which decade, the net increase in number of towns/UAs is the lowest ?
2. Mention the net increase in number of towns/UAs during 1981-91.
3. Explain the decennial growth rate of urban population.

[3 Marks]

India – Trends of Urbanisation 1961-2011

Year	Number of Towns / UAs	Urban Population (in Thousands)	% of Total population	Decennial Growth (%)
1961	2,365	78,936.6	17.97	–
1971	2,590	1,09,114	19.91	38.23
1981	3,378	1,59,463	23.34	46.14
1991	4,689	2,17,611	25.71	36.47
2001	5,161	2,85,355	27.78	31.13
2011	6,171	3,77,000	31.16	31.08

Question 23.

Explain the need to extend the network of national highways in India.

[3 Marks]

Section D

Question 24.

How do the 'landforms' and 'urbanisation' influence the distribution of world population ? Explain with examples.

[5 Marks]

Question 25.

How do 'water availability' and 'industrialization' influence the distribution of world population ? Explain with examples.

[5 Marks]

Question 26.

"The earliest human beings depended on their immediate environment for their sustenance." Examine the statement with reference to hunting and gathering.

[5 Marks]

Question 27.

"Commercial livestock rearing is well organised and capital intensive." Examine the statement with comparison to nomadic herding.

[5 Marks]

Question 28.

Explain the problem of ‘low productivity’ of Indian agriculture. Analyse the role of ‘National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture’ to solve this problem.

[5 Marks]

Question 29.

Explain the problems of the ‘indebtedness’ of Indian farmers. Analyse the importance of ‘farmer’s portal’ in helping the farmers.

[5 Marks]

Question 30.

“The government of India’s campaign ‘Beti Bachao – Beti Padhao’ is an effective step to empower women.” Justify the statement.

[5 Marks]

Question 31.

Explain the causes of air pollution and suggest any three measures to overcome it.

[5 Marks]

Question 32.

Explain the causes of noise pollution and suggest any three measures to overcome it.

[5 Marks]