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 :

Water Pollution

Industries produce several undesirable products including industrial wastes, polluted waste water, poisonous gases, chemical residuals, numerous heavy metals, dust, smoke, etc. Most of the industrial wastes are disposed off in running water or lakes. Consequently, poisonous elements reach the reservoirs, rivers and other water bodies, which destroy the bio-system of these waters. Major water polluting industries are leather, pulp and paper, textiles and chemicals.

(1) Explain how industries are the major contributor of water pollution in India.

[1 Marks]

(2) Suggest the way for minimising water pollution.

[1 Marks]

(3) Mention two rivers of India which are highly polluted.

[1 Marks]

Section B

Question 2.

Which of the following statements related to the concept of 'development' are correct ? Choose the appropriate option.

I. Development means positive change in life.

II. When positive growth is there, it is development.

III. When quantity is greater, it is development.

IV. Development is always relative to value.

[1 Marks]

(A) Only I, II and III are correct

(B) Only II, III and IV are correct

(C) Only I, II and IV are correct

(D) Only I, III and IV are correct

Question 3.

Match column-I with column-II correctly and choose the appropriate option :

[1 Marks]

Column-I (Approach)		Column-II (Characteristics)	
a.	Income Approach	i.	Proposed by International Labour Organisation
b.	Welfare Approach	ii.	Health, education and access to resources – key factors
c.	Basic Needs Approach	iii.	It is one of the oldest approach
d.	Capability Approach	iv.	Human being – targeted beneficiaries

Options :

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

(A) A

(B) B

(C) D

(D) C

Question 4.

Which one of the following is the low latitudes zone of subsistence gathering practiced in the world ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Northern Canada

(B) Southeast Asia

(C) Southeast Chile

(D) Northern Eurasia

Question 5.

Choose the correct option related to oil tanker ports of the world.

[1 Marks]

(A) Manchester, Esskhira, Marmagao

(B) Esskhira, Singapore, Manchester

(C) Maracaibo, Esskhira, Tripoli

(D) Maracaibo, Tripoli, Singapore

Question 6.

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

Assertion (A) : All the developed countries have opened their markets for products from developing countries.

Reason (R) : World Trade Organisation deals with the global rules of trade between nations.

[1 Marks]

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

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

(C) (A) is false but (R) is true.

(D) (A) is true but (R) is false.

Question 7.

Read the following statements carefully regarding 'tertiary activities' and choose the correct option :

I. Tertiary activities include both production and exchange of services.

II. Tertiary activities involve the commercial output of services.

III. Tertiary activities are directly involved in the processing of raw material.

IV. The examples of tertiary activities are – plumber, doctor, publisher. Options :

[1 Marks]

(A) Only I, II and III are correct.

(B) Only I, III and IV are correct.

(C) Only I, II and IV are correct.

(D) Only II, III and IV are correct.

Question 8.

Choose the correctly matched pair from the following.

[1 Marks]

(A) Gold collar worker – Senior business executive

(B) Red collar worker – Practicing lawyers

(C) Pink collar worker – Environmental scientist

(D) White collar worker – Mining worker

Question 9. Which one of the following statements is true regarding 'medical tourism' in India ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Tourists travel specially for availing cheap medical facilities.

(B) Doctors travel to developed country to do surgical operation.

(C) Doctors travel to treat the patients.

(D) Tourists on trip get treated, if they fall ill.

Question 10.

Choose the right group of states where Dravadian language is spoken majorly.

[1 Marks]

(A) Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Madhya Pradesh

(B) Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka

(C) Karnataka, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh

(D) Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Maharashtra

Question 11. During which one of the following phase of population growth in India, negative growth was recorded in a decade ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Phase II

(B) Phase I

(C) Phase IV

(D) Phase III

Question 12.

Which one of the following set of cities falling on the ‘Golden Quadrilateral’ are arranged in a clock-wise direction from Delhi ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Delhi, Chennai, Mumbai and Kolkata

(B) Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai

(C) Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai and Mumbai

(D) Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Chennai

Question 13. Which one of the following cities serve as headquarter of two railway zones ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Kolkata

(B) Chennai

(C) Jaipur

(D) Bilaspur

Question 14.

Which one of the following is a natural process of land degradation ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Shifting cultivation

(B) Industrial waste

(C) Gully erosion

(D) Mining activities

Question 15.

The loudness of the sound is measured in the unit known as :

[1 Marks]

(A) Millimeter

(B) Decibel

(C) Decimal

(D) Centimeter

Question 16.

How many of the listed countries fall under Asian continent ?

[1 Marks]

Most populous countries

Sr. No.	Country	Population	% of world
1	India	1,425,775,850	17.4
2	China	1,409,670,000	17.2
3	United States of America	337,975,234	4.13
4	Indonesia	278,696,200	3.41
5	Pakistan	229,488,994	2.80
6	Nigeria	216,746,934	2.65
7	Brazil	219,277,799	2.68
8	Bangladesh	168,220,000	2.06
9	Mexico	128,271,248	1.57

(A) 3

(B) 5

(C) 6

(D) 4

Question 17.

Which of the following set of continents is not represented in the table ? Choose the most appropriate option.

[1 Marks]

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8	Bangladesh	168,220,000	2.06
9	Mexico	128,271,248	1.57

(A) Australia and Europe

(B) Europe and South America

(C) Africa and South America

(D) Australia and Africa

Question 18.

China and Brazil together account for what percentage of the world population ?

[1 Marks]

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(A) 19.88

(B) 19.58

(C) 17.58

(D) 17.88

Section C

Question 19.

Examine the relationships between the ‘unresting man’ and ‘unstable earth’.

[3 Marks]

Question 20.

Examine the importance of ‘sustainability’ as a pillar of ‘human development’.

[3 Marks]

Question 21.

Explain the main characteristics of urban settlements in India.

[3 Marks]

Question 22.

Explain the evolution of towns in India.

[3 Marks]

Question 23.

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

1. Why is the large difference between primary and tertiary categories of female workers ?
2. Explain the reason of low variation between male workers of ‘primary’ and ‘tertiary’ sectors.
3. Why ‘secondary sector’ has low contribution in India's workforce?

[3 Marks]

Sectoral composition of workforce in India, 2011

Categories	Population			
	Persons	% to total workers	Male	Female
Primary	26,30,22,473	54.6	16,54,47,075	9,75,75,398
Secondary	1,83,36,307	3.8	97,75,635	85,60,672
Tertiary	20,03,84,531	41.6	15,66,43,220	4,37,41,311

Section D

Question 24.

“Industries should be located at points where the production costs are minimum.” Examine the statement with suitable arguments.

[5 Marks]

Question 25.

“Railway is the mode of land transport for bulky goods and passengers over long distances.” In the context of this statement, explain the significance of railways in the world.

[5 Marks]

Question 26.

“Road transport is the most economical for short distances compared to railway.” In the context of this statement, explain the significance of road transport in the world.

[5 Marks]

Question 27.

“Generally land-use in a region is influenced by the nature of economic activities.” Support the statement with suitable examples.

[5 Marks]

Question 28.

“The Indian agricultural problems have physical constraints and institutional hindrances.” Support the statement with suitable examples.

[5 Marks]

Question 29.

Explain the significance of petroleum as major source of energy and describe its distribution in India.

[5 Marks]

Question 30.

Explain the significance of iron-ore as industrial raw material and describe its distribution in India.

[5 Marks]

Question 31.

Analyse the importance of Indian seaports in the development of international trade.

[5 Marks]

Question 32.

Analyse the changing pattern of India’s international trade.

[5 Marks]