

GENERAL AWARENESS FOR IRMA

Directions for questions 1 to 60: Select the correct alternative from the given choices.

1. "Inconvenient Truth" is a documentary about the dangers of global warming. The director of the documentary is
(1) Al Gore. (2) Rajendra Pachauri.
(3) Steven Spielberg. (4) Sekhar Kapur.
(5) Wangari Maathai.
2. The *Jerdon's Courser* is an extremely rare endangered bird found only in
(1) Sikkim. (2) Rajasthan.
(3) Andhra Pradesh. (4) Tamil Nadu.
(5) Gujarat.
3. Jose Ramos Horta was conferred the *Nobel Peace Prize* in 1996 for leading a human rights campaign in [He is now the President of the country.]
(1) East Timor. (2) Ireland.
(3) Montenegro. (4) Phillipines.
(5) Mauritius.
4. *Pugwash* is a body of scientists committed to disarmament. Its founder is
(1) Andrei Sakharov.
(2) Linus Pauling.
(3) Joseph Rotblat.
(4) Robert Oppenheimer.
(5) Norman Borlaug.
5. *El-Niño* and *La Nina* are ocean currents linked to global climatic changes. These currents are found off the coast of
(1) Colombia. (2) Ecuador.
(3) Chile. (4) Peru.
(5) Bolivia.
6. The world heritage site of the ruins of *Petra* is located in
(1) Jordan. (2) Israel.
(3) Egypt. (4) Iraq.
(5) Iran.
7. Which bank was the first to launch the reverse mortgage scheme for senior citizens under the name "*Baghban*"?
(1) SBI (2) ICICI Bank
(3) HDFC Bank (4) PNB
(5) BOB
8. Union Carbide which was linked to the 1984 *Bhopal Gas tragedy* has been taken over by
(1) Du Pont. (2) Dow Chemicals.
(3) Bayer. (4) Exxon Mobil.
(5) General Electric.
9. The ancient Mayan city of *Chichan Itza* is located in
(1) Peru. (2) Mexico.
(3) Bolivia. (4) Chile.
(5) Brazil.
10. *Chennai Petroleum*, is the first public sector unit to have a captive windmill. It is a subsidiary of
(1) OIL. (2) IOC.
(3) BPCL. (4) HPCL.
(5) GAIL.
11. *The Jarawas* are an endangered tribe found in
(1) Tamil Nadu. (2) Gujarat.
(3) Chhattisgarh. (4) Orissa.
(5) Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
12. The director of the 1941 classic "*Citizen Kane*" is
(1) Charles Chaplin.
(2) Orson Welles.
(3) Jean Luc Godard.
(4) Michaelangelo Antonioni.
(5) Vittorio De Sica.
13. Who among the following *persons of Indian origin* [PIO] was the President of Singapore?
(1) Cheddi Jagan
(2) Manohar Adhikari
(3) Veeraswamy Ringadoo
(4) SR Nathan
(5) Bharat Jagdeo
14. Which of the following is a disease caused by *mercury poisoning*?
(1) Alzheimers (2) Bulamia
(3) Minamata (4) Anorexia
(5) Amnesia
15. *Nuclear power* constitutes about 30% of the total power generated in
(1) USA. (2) Russia.
(3) France. (4) Australia.
(5) Canada.
16. Who among the following is a *Santoor maestro*?
(1) Rono Majumdar (2) Tarun Bhattacharya
(3) Pandit Jasraj (4) Bismillah Khan
(5) Amjad Ali
17. The director of the national award winning film *Parzania* is
(1) Aparna Sen.
(2) Nagesh Kuknoor.
(3) Mahesh Bhatt.
(4) Shyam Benegal.
(5) Rahul Dholokia.

18. According to the NSSO, about 64.3% of the population depend on agriculture for their livelihood, of which agriculture labour constitute
 (1) 39.4%. (2) 24.9%.
 (3) 8.63%. (4) 30.8%.
 (5) 40.94%.
19. India has a permanent base in the Arctic in the *Svalbard Archipelago*. The archipelago is located in
 (1) Norway. (2) Russia.
 (3) Iceland. (4) Finland.
 (5) Denmark.
20. Who among the following included in the 2007 Forbes list of powerful women, is the CEO of *Kraft Foods*?
 (1) Ho Ching (2) Indra Nooyi
 (3) Cynthia Carrol (4) Irene Rosenfeld
 (5) Patricia Russo
21. Who among the following is the chairman of "*The Energy Research Institute*" [TERI]?
 (1) L Man Singh (2) D Swarup
 (3) RK Pachauri (4) Sam Pitroda
 (5) CS Rao
22. Which state launched *Yesheshwini* one of the world's largest micro-health insurance scheme covering 2 million farmers?
 (1) Kerala (2) Karnataka
 (3) Tamil Nadu (4) Andhra Pradesh
 (5) Maharashtra
23. Which of the following committees recommendations deal with the revival of *rural cooperatives*?
 (1) Sachar (2) Gupta
 (3) Vaidhyathan (4) Narsimhan
 (5) Malhotra
24. "*The Children of Gebelavi*" is a monumental work of Nobel Prize winner
 (1) Naguib Mahfouz
 (2) Orhan Pamuk
 (3) Ismail Kadare
 (4) Chinua Achebe
 (5) Chimamanda Ngozi Adchie
25. The *tallest tree* in the world, the Giant Sequoia (325 ft high) is found in
 (1) Russia. (2) Canada.
 (3) Malaysia. (4) Congo.
 (5) USA.
26. The Laboratory For The Conservation of *Endangered Species* [LACONES] is attached to the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology. The CCMB is located in
 (1) Hyderabad. (2) Bangalore.
 (3) Pune. (4) Kochi.
 (5) Chennai.
27. "*Animals People*" is a novel about the 1984 Bhopal Gas Tragedy. The author is
 (1) Vandana Shiva. (2) Indra Sinha.
 (3) George Orwell. (4) Amitav Ghose.
 (5) Ramachandra Guha.
28. The Supreme Court commenting on the staggering pendency and delay of cases in the Indian courts quoted from the novel "*Bleak House*" to drive home its point. The author of "*Bleak House*" is
 (1) Thomas Hardy (2) Victor Hugo
 (3) Charles Dickens (4) John Grisham
 (5) George Orwell
29. The 2005-06 SCOPE [Standing Committee on Public Enterprises] Award for Environmental Excellence and *Sustainable Development* was conferred on
 (1) NTPC. (2) IOC.
 (3) BHEL. (4) NHPC.
 (5) NLC.
30. The *National Food Security Mission* [NFSM] has been allotted Rs.5000 crore in the 11th plan. The NFSM covers
 (1) Rice, Wheat and Maize.
 (2) Wheat, Pulses and Oil seeds.
 (3) Rice, Wheat and Pulses.
 (4) Oil seeds, Pulses and Jowar.
 (5) Maize, Jowar and Sugarcane.
31. The *Pietermaritzburg Railway Station* was linked to a dramatic incident in a great person's life. The great person was
 (1) Martin Luther King.
 (2) Nelson Mandela.
 (3) Albert Einstein.
 (4) Mahatma Gandhi.
 (5) Mother Teresa.
32. Which international convention stipulates decontaminating a ship of *toxic wastes* before it is decommissioned and sent to a ship-breaking yard?
 (1) Stockholm Convention
 (2) Montreal Convention
 (3) Madrid Convention
 (4) Basel Convention
 (5) Kyoto Protocol
33. Who was the director of the great classic "*Bicycle Thieves*"? It launched the Neo-realism School of Cinema in the 1940's
 (1) Vittorio De Sica.
 (2) Akira Kurosawa.
 (3) Francis Ford Coppola
 (4) Ingmar Bergman.
 (5) Orson Welles.

34. Which of the following is not one of the recommendations of the *Vaidyanathan Committee* on Rural Co-operative Credit System?
 (1) End dual-control system.
 (2) Return of state government equity to ensure non-interference.
 (3) Prescribe qualifications for CEOs.
 (4) Liberal prudential norms for rural co-operative banks.
 (5) RBI should prescribe capital adequacy norms.
35. The FAO Report on Food Security says that on account of *climate change*, India stands to lose 125 million tonnes, which is equal to ___ % of its rainfed cereal production.
 (1) 20 (2) 15
 (3) 18 (4) 16
 (5) 12
36. Which is the only country in the world to produce all five known commercial varieties of *silk* (mulberry, tropical tasar, oak tasar, eri, and muga)?
 (1) China (2) India
 (3) Thailand (4) Malaysia
 (5) Myanmar
37. Which of the following individuals / institutions / is developing a digital database for the Union Ministry of Health of 1,500 *yoga* postures and their therapeutic properties to overthrow patents already granted in the West?
 (1) Swami Ramdev
 (2) B K Iyengar
 (3) The Art of Living Foundation
 (4) Bihar School of Yoga
 (5) National Institute of Science, Communication and Information Resource (NISCIR)
38. Which of the following statements is not true of *Mission 2007* of the Union Government, which aims to make every village in India a knowledge centre?
 (1) A network of information kiosks in India's 6 lakh villages is to be set up by 2007.
 (2) Mission 2007 is a national initiative of nearly eighty organisations.
 (3) A National Virtual Academy for rural prosperity has been set up with generous support from Infosys.
 (4) The project is estimated to cost Rs 1500 crore.
 (5) 10,000 village knowledge centers including 5000 e-choupals are already functional.
39. The National Institute of Siddha is located in
 (1) Thiruvananthapuram. (2) Kochi.
 (3) Coimbatore. (4) Chennai.
 (5) Vellore.
40. *e-Choupal* is a rural marketing and business initiative of
 (1) ITC. (2) Godrej.
 (3) Britannia. (4) HUL.
 (5) Dabur.
41. Despite all the talk of India being a global player in ITES, what is the percentage of *computer penetration* in the country?
 (1) 1.5% (2) 0.9%
 (3) 2.5% (4) 1.2%
 (5) 2.1%
42. Which of the following tractor companies is the only one to win the prestigious *Deming Prize* for manufacturing?
 (1) Eicher (2) HMT
 (3) TAFE (4) Escort
 (5) Mahindra & Mahindra
43. The estimated gross potential of *wind power* in India is 45000 MW. Which of the following states / Union Territories is ranked as the state with the highest potential of 8275 MW?
 (1) Tamil Nadu (2) Kerala
 (3) Karnataka (4) Pondicherry
 (5) Andhra Pradesh
44. The *National Literacy Mission* (NLM), set-up in 1988, aims to attain a sustainable threshold level of 75% literacy by
 (1) 2007. (2) 2008.
 (3) 2009. (4) 2010.
 (5) 2011.
45. The author of *In Defense of Globalisation* is
 (1) C K Prahalad. (2) Meghnad Desai.
 (3) Amartya Sen. (4) Jayati Ghosh.
 (5) Jagdish Bhagwati.
46. The *Sethusamudram Ship Canal Project* is the latest mega project which has led to renewed debate on the merits of development vis-à-vis environmental concerns. Which of the following statements is not true of the project?
 (1) It is a maritime shortcut between East and West coasts.
 (2) The project involves dredging of the shallow Adams Reef.
 (3) The Gulf of Mannar located near the project is a marine reserve.
 (4) One of the spin-offs of the project is an increase in fishing area.
 (5) The environmental clearance to the project has been given by NEERI.
47. The *SARFAESI Act* deals with
 (1) Structural Adjustment Reforms.
 (2) Corporate Social Responsibility.
 (3) Right to Information.
 (4) Social Audit.
 (5) Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets.

48. Which of the following statements is not true of the findings of the *India Rural Finance Access Survey* (RFAS) conducted by the World Bank?
- (1) 87% of rural poor have no access to formal finance.
 - (2) 50% of the poorest households do not even have a bank account.
 - (3) 56% of the poor depend on moneylenders.
 - (4) 8% of the poor depend on landlords for credit needs.
 - (5) High transaction costs make banking unattractive for the poor.
49. Which of the following statements is not a fair representation of acclaimed management guru, C K Prahalad's latest book, *The Fortune at the Bottom of the Pyramid*?
- (1) The poor are an untapped market.
 - (2) Inclusive capitalism is the key.
 - (3) The world's most exciting and fastest growing market is found at the bottom of the social pyramid.
 - (4) The poor should be treated as wards of the state.
 - (5) Marketing strategy should be reoriented to adopt an inclusive approach.
50. Which of the following statements is not true of *biodiversity of rainforests, sustainable forest management, and global warming*?
- (1) The main cause of global warming is carbon which is absorbed by forests.
 - (2) The USA has refused to ratify the Kyoto Protocol.
 - (3) "Outsourcing of trees" which will give carbon points to western countries had made its debut in India.
 - (4) The motto of the developing world is "we pollute, your forests absorb".
 - (5) 25% of the pharmaceutical drugs in western medicine have been sourced from rainforests.
51. Which of the following statements is not true of the *National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme* (NREGS)?
- (1) It is a food for work programme.
 - (2) It is restricted at present only to the rural poor.
 - (3) It provides for work throughout the year.
 - (4) It covers only casual manual labour.
 - (5) The programme aims at creating assets in the rural areas.
52. What do you understand by *Access Deficit Charges*?
- (1) Payment made by government to encourage non-conventional energy sources.
 - (2) An allowance to government employees for working in remote inaccessible areas.
 - (3) A special levy imposed to be used for development of the North-East.
 - (4) A penalty for not revealing information under Right to Information Act.
 - (5) A levy paid by private telecom operators to BSNL for rural telephony.
53. What percentage of funds credited in the National Investment Fund [NIF] are to be utilised to finance social sector schemes of the Union Government?
- (1) 25%
 - (2) 50%
 - (3) 75%
 - (4) 60%
 - (5) 15%
54. Who of the following is the author of *The Hungry Tide*, a novel about the grim battle of survival between man and beast in the Sunderbans mangroves?
- (1) Taslima Nasreen
 - (2) Shashi Tharoor
 - (3) Amitav Ghosh
 - (4) Mahasweta Devi
 - (5) Indira Goswami
55. In which of the following states will you find the annual mass nesting of the endangered *Olive Ridley* turtles?
- (1) Kerala
 - (2) Tamil Nadu
 - (3) West Bengal
 - (4) Orissa
 - (5) Andhra Pradesh
56. The *Indus Project*, which aims to eradicate child labour in 20 districts, was launched in 2004 in collaboration with
- (1) Asian Development Bank.
 - (2) UNICEF.
 - (3) International Labour Organisation.
 - (4) MV Foundation.
 - (5) Bandu Vimukti Morcha.
57. What is the target set by the Union Government for *India's share* in world trade by 2009?
- (1) 2.5%
 - (2) 1.2%
 - (3) 1.5%
 - (4) 2%
 - (5) 1.8%
58. The *National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme* (NREGS) promises 100 days of guaranteed employment at minimum wage. In this context, the concept of full employment means
- (1) 240 days.
 - (2) 250 days.
 - (3) 270 days.
 - (4) 260 days.
 - (5) 280 days.
59. Which of the following countries has the largest *postal networks* in the world?
- (1) Russia
 - (2) U.S.
 - (3) China
 - (4) Indonesia
 - (5) India
60. Where is the *National Multi-Commodity Exchange of India Ltd.* located?
- (1) Ahmedabad
 - (2) Pune
 - (3) Ghaziabad
 - (4) Nagpur
 - (5) Guwahati