BLOGS

Practice Questions from General Knowledge for CLAT UG

Adtiya Aryan · 04 Dec 2025

PASSAGE 1:

Water scarcity has become one of the most pressing global challenges of the twenty first century. Although the Earth is covered mostly with water, only a small fraction is fresh and usable. Population expansion, industrial pollution, inefficient agricultural practices, and rapid urbanisation have placed unprecedented pressure on freshwater sources. South Asia presents a particularly complex picture.

The region contains some of the world's largest river systems such as the Ganga, Indus, and Brahmaputra, yet it experiences recurring water stress. Climatic variations, seasonal dependence on monsoons, and the uneven distribution of water across regions contribute to the crisis.

In addition to natural factors, geopolitical issues also influence water availability. Several rivers in South Asia cross national borders, which makes water sharing a sensitive subject. Historical agreements, resource claims, and changing national priorities often complicate negotiations.

Moreover, groundwater extraction has increased rapidly over the past four decades. Studies have shown that declining aquifers could become a major point of concern, as millions rely on groundwater for drinking and agriculture.

Urban centres face their own challenges. Cities such as Chennai, Karachi, and Dhaka have experienced severe water shortages. Ageing pipelines, leakages, contamination, and uneven supply create gaps between demand and availability.

Governments across the region have proposed strategies such as rainwater harvesting, wastewater treatment, watershed management, and stricter pollution controls. However, implementation often falls short due to institutional limitations and inadequate funding.

Experts argue that if South Asia does not prioritise sustainable water governance by mid century, the region could face economic losses, weakened agricultural output, and even displacement due

to ecological stress.

International organisations have urged the countries to adopt cooperative approaches rather than competitive ones. Regional frameworks for climate adaptation and resource sharing have been discussed at various forums, but progress remains uneven.

1. Which of the following global regions is known for the highest per capita freshwater availability?

A. Middle East

B. South America

C. East Asia

D. Western Europe

2. Based on the passage, which factor is most likely to increase tensions between South Asian countries?

A. Expansion of solar energy parks

B. Cross border river dependence

C. Decline in literacy rates

D. Rise in coastal tourism

3. Declining aquifers in South Asia can be inferred to affect which sector the most?

A. Space exploration

B. Rural agriculture

C. Automobile manufacturing

D. International trade policy

4. The passage implies that solving water scarcity requires which type of approach?

A. Individual household decisions only

B. Purely technological innovation

C. Multilevel governance and cooperation

D. Complete elimination of agriculture

5. Which international organisation is most associated with global water resource assessments?

A. UNESCO

B. NATO

C. OPEC

D. ASEAN

PASSAGE 2:

India is home to some of the world's oldest urban settlements, many of which illustrate the architectural, cultural, and spiritual evolution of the subcontinent. Cities such as Varanasi, Udaipur, Madurai, and Kolkata display a broad spectrum of influences ranging from ancient temple architecture to colonial era design.

While these cities are rich in history, they face growing challenges due to rapid urbanisation. Rising populations, expanding commercial activity, and infrastructure stress have placed heritage zones under pressure.

In several cities, historic neighbourhoods continue to function as living urban environments. Markets operate daily, festivals attract crowds, and residents maintain traditional lifestyles.

However, modern development sometimes clashes with preservation. New construction often ignores architectural guidelines. Traffic congestion creates pollution that erodes heritage structures. Waste management issues add further strain. Local governments attempt to strike a balance, yet planning frameworks often lack clarity or effective enforcement.

Heritage conservation also requires community involvement. Without public awareness and participation, efforts often remain limited to cosmetic restoration. International examples suggest that successful preservation involves integrating heritage into the broader development narrative through sustainable tourism, cultural mapping, and incentives for conservation. The challenge lies in harmonising economic growth with the need to safeguard historical identity.

6. Which Indian city is recognised as a UNESCO World Heritage city?

A. Mysuru

B. Jaipur

C. Indore

D. Nagpur

7. Based on the passage, which problem is most likely to threaten the structural integrity of heritage buildings?

A. Increase in e commerce activity

B. Air pollution caused by urban congestion

C. Export of textiles

D. Growth of digital payments

8. Which of the following is an example of community driven heritage conservation?

A. Mandatory online property tax payment

B. Local residents documenting traditional neighbourhood histories

C. Installation of fibre optic internet

D. Conversion of libraries into office spaces

9. The passage implies that effective heritage preservation requires:

A. Banning tourism entirely

B. Exclusive reliance on government funding

C. Linking heritage conservation with development planning

D. Replacing old structures with replicas

10. Which international document is most relevant for heritage preservation principles?

A. Kyoto Protocol

B. Washington Consensus

C. Venice Charter

D. Rio Declaration

PASSAGE 3:

The world is experiencing a major transition in the energy sector as countries attempt to shift from fossil fuels to cleaner and renewable sources. Climate concerns, economic competitiveness, and long term sustainability have accelerated the push for solar, wind, nuclear, and green hydrogen technologies.

India, as a fast growing economy, stands at the centre of this global transformation. Its energy demand is expected to rise significantly by 2040, and how it meets this demand will influence global climate outcomes.

India has set ambitious renewable energy targets and has become a global leader in solar energy deployment. Its solar parks, located in states with high radiation levels, are among the largest in the world. Additionally, the country is exploring offshore wind, pumped hydro storage, and hydrogen production.

However, a complete shift away from coal remains challenging because coal supports a large segment of the power grid and industrial activity.

Energy transitions are not limited to technology. They require institutional reform, financial investment, grid modernisation, and international collaboration. The geopolitical landscape is also influenced by energy dynamics. Countries that can secure rare earth minerals, battery technologies, and efficient storage solutions will have strategic advantages in the global energy economy.

India participates in several international initiatives aimed at facilitating this transition. These include the International Solar Alliance and global climate finance discussions. However, the pace of the transition depends on how quickly technologies become affordable and scalable.

11. Which country currently leads the world in installed solar power capacity?

A. China

B. Brazil

C. Russia

D. Canada

12. Based on the passage, which challenge is most likely to slow down India's move away from coal?

A. Decline in urbanisation

B. Coal's role in supporting the power grid

C. Low demand for electricity

D. Excessive rainfall

13. Which mineral is critical for manufacturing lithium ion batteries used in renewable storage?

A. Bauxite

B. Lithium

C. Gypsum

D. Granite

14. The passage suggests that global energy transitions are influenced by:

A. Fashion trends and retail markets

B. Seasonal variations alone

C. Technological, financial, and geopolitical factors

D. Exclusive control of oil reserves

15. Which international organisation focuses primarily on coordinated clean energy research and innovation?

A. Mission Innovation

B. SAARC

C. ICC

D. FIFA

ANSWER KEY:

1. B
2. B
3. B
4. C
5. A
6. B
7. B
8. B
9. C
10. C
11. A
12. B
13. B
14. C
15. A