

Process of Elimination for IAS PRELIMS GS PAPER

Strategy

- GS Prelims paper is multiple choice
- The questions are mainly complex as two or more areas are combined into one question so it becomes difficult to choose right answer
- The strategy of elimination is convenient method to arrive at right answer.
- The paper should be attempted with multiple round approach rather than attempting at a stretch from 1 to 100 questions.
- It is possible to increase your score by 20+ marks by applying technique of elimination

Use 3-2-1-0 Elimination Approach

- Entire paper should be done with process of elimination
- Don't focus on right answer.
- Focus what can be eliminated.
- So first round with three eliminations, means you are sure of your answer.

Two Elimination (Round 2) = 50% Sure Question

- In second round take questions where you can eliminate two options.
- Means you are 50% sure
- The chance of getting a question right is high. Take chance. Negative marking is 1/3rd and chance of ticking correct answer is 1/2 which is higher.

One Elimination Round (Round 3) 33% Sure Questions

- You are able to eliminate only one option for sure
- Read the statements again , options again
- Can you guess one more elimination
- Even if you are not able to do it and you have attempted so far only 60-70 question take chance as you need to attempt atleast 85 to 90 questions to have a chance to score over cut off.
- One thing must be kept in mind if paper is tough it is for all. Your relative performance is to be judged and count in the merit list

Cut off in last five years

2017	105.34
2018	98
2019	98
2020	92.51
2021	87.54

How to score high with process of elimination

	Questions Attempted	Right	Marks +	Wrong	Marks (-)	Final Score
Best	100	100	200	Nil	Nil	200
R1	40	34	68	6	3.96	64.04
R2	30	20	40	10	6.6	33.4
R3	15	7	14	8	5.28	8.72
R4	15	3	6	12	7.92	- 1.92
	100	64	128	36	23.76	104.24

NOTES:

R4 should be avoided.

Till R3 you are able to do 85 questions

Score till R3 107.48

Q56/A 2016

With reference to 'Financial Stability and Development Council', consider the following statements:

1. It is an organ of NITI Aayog
2. It is headed by the Union Finance Minister
3. It monitors macroprudential supervision of the economy.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only B) 3 only
C) 2 and 3 only D) 1,2 and 3

NOTES:

- It is clear, it is not part of NITI Aayog
- So, option A and D are out
- It is for Financial Stability so FM should be the head and objective of macrolevel supervision
- So, option B is out
- So, option C should be the answer

Q59/A 2016

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

Viruses can infect

1. bacteria
2. fungi
3. Plants

Select the correct answer using the code given below

- A) 1 and 2 only B) 3 only
C) 1 and 3 only D) 1,2 and 3

NOTES:

- Virus infect plants
- So option A is out
- Fungi also can be infected as similar to plants
- So B and C are out
- So correct answer must be D

Q66/A 2016

With reference to 'Bitcoins' sometimes seen in the news, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Bitcoins are tracked by the Central Banks of Countries
2. Anyone with a Bitcoin address can send and receive Bitcoins from anyone else with Bitcoin address
3. Online payments can be sent without either side knowing the identity of the other

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- A) 1 and 2 only B) 2 and 3 only
C) 3 only D) 1,2and 3

NOTES:

- Central Bank is not tracking Bitcoin so A and D are out
- 2 is correct so C is out
- So correct option is B

Q71/ A2016

What is/are the purpose/purposes of Government's 'Sovereign Gold Bond Scheme' and 'Gold Monetization Scheme'?

1. To bring the idle gold lying with Indian households into the economy
2. To promote FDI in the gold and jewelry sector
3. To reduce India's dependence on gold imports

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- A) 1 only B) 2 and 3 only
C) 1 and 3 only D) 1,2 and 3

NOTES:

- It can't be '2' so options B and D are out
- 1. is definitely the goal
- 3 is also correct as we want to reduce import bill
- So, Option C is correct

Q76/A 2016

Regarding 'Atal Pension Yojna', which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is a minimum guaranteed pension scheme mainly targeted at unorganized sector workers
2. Only one member of a family can join the scheme
3. same amount of pension is guaranteed for the spouse for life after subscriber's death

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- A) 1 only B) 2 and 3 only
C) 1 and 3 only D) 1,2 and 3

NOTES:

- 1 is correct so option B is out
- 2 can't be correct so option D is out
- 3 is most likely correct as it is a social security scheme so option A is out
- So, the answer has to be option C.

Q29/A2013

Due to improper/indiscriminate disposal of old and used computers or their parts, which of the following are released into the environment as e-waste?

1. Beryllium
2. Cadmium
3. Chromium
4. Heptachlor
5. Mercury
6. Lead
7. Plutonium

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- A) 1,3,4,6 and 7 only B) 1,2,3,5 and 6 only
C) 2,4,5 and 7 only D) 1,2,3,4,5,6 and 7

NOTES:

- Option A, C, and D have 7 common
- Plutonium is a radioactive metal can not be used in computers
- So Option B should be the right answer.

Q41/A2014

Which of the following have coral reefs?

1. Andaman and Nicobar Islands
2. Gulf of Kachchh
3. Gulf of Mannar
4. Sundarbans

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- A) 1,2 and 3 only B) 2 and 4 only
C) 1 and 3 only D) 1,2,3 and 4

NOTES:

- We know Andaman and Nicobar is famous for Corals so Option B is eliminated
- Option 3 is there in all the remaining answers so 3 is correct
- Gulf of Kachchh should have corals as gulf
- Sundarbans is odd man with 1 2 3
- So option D should be out
- So option A is the right answer

Q42/A2014

In India, the problem of soil erosion is associated with which of the following?

1. Terrace cultivation
2. Deforestation
3. Tropical climate

Select the correct answer using the code given below

- A) 1 and 2 only B) 2 only
C) 1 and 3 only D) 1,2 and 3

NOTES:

- Tropical Climate can't be the reason for soil erosion so Option C and D are out
- Terrace cultivation is for protection of soil so option 1 is out so option A is out too
- Correct answer is option B

Q48/A2014

Consider the following pairs:

HILLS		REGION
1. Cardamom Hills	::	Coromandel Coast
2. Kaimur Hills	::	Konkan Coast
3. Mahadeo Hills	::	Central India
4. Mikir Hills	::	North-East India

Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- A) 1 and 2 B) 2 and 3
C) 3 and 4 D) 2 and 4

NOTES:

- Kaimur hills are not on Konkan coast. So, 2 is out.
- So, options A, B and D are out as have 2
- Only C is left so correct answer is C

Q53/A2014

The scientific view is that the increase in global temperature should not exceed 2 degree Centigrade above pre-industrial level. If the global temperature increases beyond 3 degrees centigrade above the pre-industrial level, what can be its possible impact/impacts on the world?

1. Terrestrial biosphere tends toward a net carbon source
2. Widespread coral mortality will occur
3. All the global wetlands will permanently disappear
4. Cultivation of cereals will not be possible anywhere in the world

Select the correct answer using the code given below

- A) 1 only B) 1 and 2 only
C) 2,3 and 4 only D) 1,2,3 and 4

NOTES:

- Coral mortality is correct so option A is out
- 4 appears to be very unlikely so option C and D are out
- So right answer is B only

Q56/A2014

What are the benefits of implementing the 'Integrated Watershed Development Programme'?

1. Prevention of soil runoff
2. Linking the country's perennial rivers with seasonal rivers
3. Rainwater harvesting and recharge of groundwater table
4. Regeneration of natural vegetation

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- A) 1 and 2 only B) 2,3 and 4 only
C) 1,3 and 4 only D) 1,2 and 3 and 4

NOTES:

- Out of the four options Linking of rivers under watershed Development appears to be out of place so 2 should be out
- If 2 is out then Options A, B and D are out
- So right answer is C only

Q64/A2014

With reference to Neem tree, consider the following statements:

1. Neem oil can be used as a pesticide to control the proliferation of some species of insects and mites
2. Neem seeds are used in the manufacture of biofuels and hospital detergents
3. Neem oil has applications in pharmaceutical industry.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only B) 3 only
C) 1 and 3 only D) 1,2 and 3

NOTES:

- 1 is correct neem oil has the properties of a pesticide so Option B is out
- 3 also appears to be correct as neem oil can be used in pharmaceutical industry so option A is out
- 2 appears to be wrong as using neem for producing biofuel is unlikely
- So, option C should be the answer

Q70/A2014

Which of the following is/are the example/examples of chemical change?

1. Crystallization of sodium chloride
2. Melting of ice
3. Souring of milk

Select the correct answer using the code given below

- A) 1 and 2 only B) 3 only
C) 1,2 and 3 D) None

NOTES:

- Melting of Ice cannot be chemical reaction so Options A and C are out
- Option 3 is chemical reaction, so option D is out
- Right answer is Option B only

Q72/A2014

Consider the following techniques/phenomena:

1. Budding and grafting in fruit plants
2. Cytoplasmic male sterility
3. Gene silencing

Which of the above is/are used to create transgenic crops?

- A) 1 only B) 2 and 3
C) 1 and 3 D) None

NOTES:

- Point 3 is correct so Option A and D are out
- In budding and grafting there is change in gene structure so option 1 is out.
- So, Option B is left with which is the correct tense

Q12/A 2015

With reference to the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. IUCN is an organ of the United Nations and CITES is an international agreement between governments.
2. IUCN runs thousands of field projects around the world to better manage natural environments.
3. CITES is legally binding on the States that have joined it, but this Convention does not take the place of national laws.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A) 1 only B) 2 and 3 only
C) 1 and 3 only D) 1, 2 and 3

NOTES:

- IUCN is not an organ of UNO so 1 is wrong
- A, C and D have 1 all are out
- We left with B which is the correct answer

Q1/A2018

Consider the following statements:

1. In the first Lok Sabha, the single largest party in the opposition was the Swatantra Party.
2. In the Lok Sabha, a "Leader of the Opposition" was recognized for the first time in 1969
3. In the Lok Sabha, if a party does not have a minimum of 75 members, its leader cannot be recognized as the Leader of the Opposition.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 3 only B) 2 only
C) 2 and 3 only D) 1, 2 and 3

NOTES:

- Point 3 is wrong as it is rule of 10% seats of total seats of Lok Sabha
- So, Option A, C and D are out
- Option B is the answer

Consider the following statements about the 'Indian Star Tortoise'

1. They are found only in the Indian subcontinent
2. The exotic pet trade threatens their survival
3. They are recently downgraded to CITES Appendix II Category

Which of the statements given above are correct

- A) 1 and 2 only B) 1 and 3 only
C) 2 and 3 only D) 1,2 and 3

NOTES:

- Statement 2 and 3 are contradictory both cannot be true
- So, options C, and D are out
- Statement 2 appears to be right as tortoise we know are kept as pet
- So, option B is out
- Final answer is A

Lead ingested or inhaled, is a health hazard. After the addition of lead to petrol has been banned, what still are the sources of lead poisoning?

1. Smelting units
2. Pens and Pencils
3. Paints
4. Hair oils and Cosmetics

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

- A) 1,2 and 3 only B) 1 and 3 only
C) 2 and 4 only D) 1,2,3,and 4

NOTES:

- Logically if Govt. has banned use of lead in petrol, they can allow it in Pencils and Pens as being used by children so statement two appears to be wrong / not possible
- If 2 is out then options A, C and D are out
- So option B should be right answer

If there were no phenomenon of capillarity

1. it would be difficult to use a kerosene lamp
2. one would not be able to use a straw to consume a soft drink
3. the blotting paper would have failed to function
4. the big trees that we see around would not have grown on the earth

Which of the following statements given above are correct?

- A) 1,2 and 3 only B) 1,3 and 4 only
C) 2 and 4 only D) 1,2,3 and 4

NOTES:

- If you see carefully, you will notice 2 is common in three options so concentrate on statement 2.
- We drink soft drink through straw with sucking action so option 2 is out
- So, we left with only option C which is the correct answer

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