

Question 1: A river forming a border sees upstream dams reduce dry-season flow and harm downstream irrigation. Which clause is most essential in a transboundary water agreement to reduce conflict?

- a) Allow upstream country sole control of all flows
- b) Joint monitoring, transparent data sharing, and minimum environmental flow guarantees
- c) Require downstream countries to stop farming permanently
- d) Prohibit any future infrastructure downstream

Question 2: Which country has the longest coastline in the world?

- a) Australia
- b) Russia
- c) Canada
- d) Indonesia

Question 3: The 1914 assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand most directly triggered which war?

- a) Crimean War
- b) World War I
- c) World War II
- d) Franco-Prussian War

Question 4: When one society adopts certain traits of another while retaining its own identity, the process is called:

- a) Assimilation
- b) Ethnocentrism
- c) Acculturation
- d) Xenophobia

Question 5: Which force primarily keeps planets in orbit around the Sun?

- a) Electromagnetism
- b) Gravity
- c) Strong nuclear force
- d) Centrifugal force only

Question 6: A museum has radiocarbon results with overlapping error ranges. To improve confidence before public claims, researchers should:

- a) Announce the oldest date to attract attention
- b) Use multiple independent dating methods and report uncertainties transparently
- c) Discard the results and guess the age
- d) Chemically alter the sample for clarity

Question 7: Which planet in our Solar System has the most known moons?

- a) Mars
- b) Jupiter
- c) Earth
- d) Saturn

Question 8: Which gas composes the largest fraction of Earth's atmosphere by volume?

- a) Oxygen
- b) Nitrogen
- c) Carbon dioxide
- d) Argon

Question 9: Which ocean covers the largest area on Earth?

- a) Atlantic
- b) Indian
- c) Arctic
- d) Pacific

Question 10: A low-cost coastal observation satellite shows attitude drift degrading imagery. What immediate operational fix will recover useful data while a software/firmware fix is developed?

- a) Decommission the satellite immediately
- b) Reconfigure imaging for nadir passes and schedule short windows when attitude is stable
- c) Increase transmitter power to compensate for blur
- d) Jettison hardware to reduce mass

Question 11: Who led India's principal nonviolent independence movement?

- a) Jawaharlal Nehru
- b) Mahatma Gandhi
- c) Subhas Chandra Bose
- d) Sardar Patel

Question 12: Which instrument measures the brightness (flux) of stars?

- a) Spectrometer
- b) Telescope only
- c) Calorimeter
- d) Photometer

Question 13: Which of the following is the world's largest hot desert?

- a) Sahara
- b) Gobi
- c) Kalahari
- d) Mojave

Question 14: A multicultural city plans a public festival; some groups request live-animal food stalls and others worry about hygiene/welfare. Which policy best balances respect and public health?

- a) Ban all traditional foods
- b) Permit licensed vendors under clear safety standards and offer animal-free alternatives and educational displays
- c) Allow any stall with no regulation
- d) Force one culture to abandon its practice

Question 15: Which Solar System object is classified as a dwarf planet?

- a) Mars
- b) Mercury
- c) Venus
- d) Pluto

Question 16: Which political entity is both a sovereign country and a city-state?

- a) Singapore
- b) Sydney
- c) Mumbai
- d) Hong Kong

Question 17: Which mountain range traditionally separates Europe from Asia?

- a) Alps
- b) Carpathians
- c) Ural Mountains
- d) Pyrenees

Question 18: Which astronomical distance unit is defined by parallax measurements (approximately 3.26 light-years)?

- a) Astronomical unit
- b) Light-year
- c) Kilometre
- d) Parsec

Question 19: Students tested two biodegradable bag brands and found one tears sooner in wet conditions. What is the strongest critique of their conclusion "brand X is not biodegradable"?

- a) The colour of bag indicates biodegradability
- b) They conflated mechanical durability with biodegradability; controlled biodegradation tests are needed under standardized conditions
- c) Brand names alone determine biodegradability
- d) Tear tests unequivocally define biodegradability

Question 20: Who was the principal author of the United States Declaration of Independence?

- a) George Washington
- b) Thomas Jefferson
- c) Benjamin Franklin
- d) John Adams

Question 21: Which ancient civilization built Machu Picchu?

- a) Maya
- b) Aztec
- c) Inca
- d) Olmec

Question 22: Which organization is the primary UN agency providing global public health guidance?

- a) UNESCO
- b) World Bank
- c) WHO (World Health Organization)
- d) WTO

Question 23: What is the capital city of Australia?

- a) Sydney
- b) Melbourne
- c) Canberra
- d) Perth

Question 24: Which organization administers the Nobel Peace Prize?

- a) Norwegian Nobel Committee
- b) Nobel Foundation in Sweden
- c) Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences
- d) Swedish Academy

Question 25: A recovering economy wants jobs but also must meet climate commitments. Which stimulus policy best balances short-term employment and long-term emissions goals?

- a) Subsidize coal plants without conditions for fast job creation
- b) Invest in green infrastructure and workforce retraining while supporting transitional measures for affected workers
- c) Do nothing and rely on private sector only
- d) Remove all environmental safeguards to speed any industrial project

Question 26: Which holiday is traditionally a harvest festival in North America?

- a) Diwali
- b) Eid al-Fitr
- c) Hanukkah
- d) Thanksgiving

Question 27: Which world leader hosted the 1961 Belgrade conference that launched the Non-Aligned Movement?

- a) Fidel Castro
- b) Kwame Nkrumah
- c) Tito
- d) Jawaharlal Nehru

Question 28: Which ocean lies between Africa and Australia?

- a) Atlantic
- b) Indian
- c) Pacific
- d) Southern

Question 29: Which region is found between Mars and Jupiter containing many small bodies?

- a) Kuiper belt
- b) Oort cloud
- c) Asteroid belt
- d) Trojans

Question 30: An archaeological site with fragile wall paintings could fund conservation through tourism but risks damage. Which management strategy best protects the paintings while allowing public access and funding?

- a) Allow unlimited visitation to maximize revenue
- b) Limit physical visitors, provide virtual/replica displays, and use monitored, controlled viewing with conservation fees
- c) Close the site indefinitely and provide no access
- d) Move the paintings offsite without records

Question 31: Which UN body is primarily responsible for maintaining international peace and authorizing peacekeeping missions?

- a) UN General Assembly
- b) UN Secretariat
- c) International Court of Justice
- d) UN Security Council

Question 32: Which language is written primarily in the Cyrillic script?

- a) Arabic
- b) Hindi
- c) Japanese
- d) Russian

Question 33: Which festival is commonly called the Lunar New Year?

- a) Diwali
- b) Eid al-Adha
- c) Lunar New Year / Spring Festival
- d) Thanksgiving

Question 34: Who composed the well-known Fifth Symphony that opens with a short-short-short-long motif?

- a) Mozart
- b) Bach
- c) Chopin
- d) Beethoven

Question 35: Which country is landlocked (no direct sea access)?

- a) Bolivia
- b) Canada
- c) Japan
- d) Philippines

Question 36: A suspected meteor airburst produced loud booms and minor damage. Which evidence most reliably discriminates a meteor event from a man-made explosion?

- a) Local social media posts alone
- b) Seismic and infrasound records characteristic of high-velocity atmospheric entry and recovered meteorite fragments with extra-terrestrial chemical signatures
- c) Wall clocks showing the event time
- d) Anecdotal reports of loud sound only

Question 37: Which festival features lanterns widely celebrated across East Asia?

- a) Lantern Festival
- b) Carnival
- c) Thanksgiving
- d) Holi

Question 38: An international heritage database raises Indigenous concerns about misuse of items. Which governance approach best addresses those concerns?

- a) Community-controlled access rights with consent and culturally sensitive metadata policies
- b) Mandatory upload of all community items without consent
- c) Centralize control in a foreign institution only
- d) Publish everything unrestricted for speed

Question 39: Which organelle is known as the “powerhouse of the cell”?

- a) Mitochondrion
- b) Nucleus
- c) Ribosome
- d) Golgi apparatus

Question 40: When eyewitness accounts contradict each other, the historian’s best method to increase confidence is to:

- a) Prefer the most dramatic account for interest
- b) Cross-check with contemporaneous records, assess bias/provenance, and present plausible reconstructions with stated uncertainties
- c) Ignore both and invent a narrative
- d) Average the two accounts numerically

Question 41: A university lab wants to recycle lab plastics but fears hazardous contamination. Which practical program best increases recycling while protecting safety?

- a) Accept all plastics in municipal recycling regardless of contamination
- b) Burn plastics onsite to avoid sorting
- c) Collect only packaging clean of hazardous residues, segregate hazardous plastics for proper disposal, and train staff in segregation/decontamination
- d) Ship everything overseas without documentation

Question 42: The Prime Meridian (0° longitude) passes through which place?

- a) Paris
- b) Rome
- c) Greenwich
- d) Cairo

Question 43: Which 20th-century leader was widely nicknamed “The Iron Lady”?

- a) Indira Gandhi
- b) Golda Meir
- c) Angela Merkel
- d) Margaret Thatcher

Question 44: Which North African country borders both the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea?

- a) Algeria
- b) Tunisia
- c) Libya
- d) Morocco

Question 45: Which mountain range runs along the western edge of South America and contains the highest peaks there?

- a) Andes
- b) Rockies
- c) Himalaya
- d) Alps

Question 46: Which ancient Chinese ruler became the first emperor after unifying much of China in the 3rd–2nd century BCE?

- a) Liu Bang
- b) Han Wudi
- c) Sun Yat-sen
- d) Qin Shi Huang

Question 47: Which UN agency publishes the annual Human Development Report and the HDI?

- a) WHO
- b) World Bank
- c) IMF
- d) UNDP

Question 48: Which traditional Japanese theatre is known for masks and highly stylized movement?

- a) Kabuki
- b) Bunraku
- c) Kyogen
- d) Noh

Question 49: Which canal connects the Red Sea to the Mediterranean Sea?

- a) Panama Canal
- b) Corinth Canal
- c) Kiel Canal
- d) Suez Canal

Question 50: Which region of the Solar System contains numerous rocky bodies between Mars and Jupiter?

- a) Kuiper belt
- b) Oort cloud
- c) Asteroid belt
- d) Hilda group

Question 51: Which country is the largest by land area?

- a) Russia
- b) China
- c) United States
- d) Canada

Question 52: Which annual forum (abbreviation) hosts the major UN climate negotiation conferences?

- a) COP (Conference of the Parties)
- b) OPEC
- c) G7
- d) IMF Meetings

Question 53: Which planet is famous for its prominent ring system?

- a) Venus
- b) Mars
- c) Neptune
- d) Saturn

Question 54: Which renewable energy approach converts organic waste into methane-rich fuel by microbial digestion?

- a) Gasification with oxygen only
- b) Direct burning of wet garbage
- c) Anaerobic digestion producing biogas (methane + CO₂)
- d) Chemical solvent extraction

Question 55: A remote island micro grid underperforms during storm season due to salt corrosion and soiling. Which blended technical/operational plan most cost-effectively improves reliability year-round?

- a) Replace panels frequently with identical ones and maintain previous schedule
- b) Abandon solar and import diesel only
- c) Use corrosion-resistant mounts/coatings, optimize tilt for self-cleaning, schedule maintenance, and add modest battery buffer with demand-priority controls
- d) Reduce household electricity allocations without system changes

Question 56: Which country is traditionally known for having the longest coastline?

- a) Russia
- b) Australia
- c) Canada
- d) Greenland

Question 57: Which capital city sits further south than the others?

- a) Wellington (New Zealand)
- b) Cape Town (South Africa)
- c) Buenos Aires (Argentina)
- d) Pretoria (South Africa)

Question 58: Which global climate indicator is most directly used to show long-term warming?

- a) Number of hurricanes per year only
- b) Annual GDP growth rate
- c) Global mean surface temperature trend over decades
- d) Daily rainfall totals in one city

Question 59: Which mountain range contains the world's longest continental mountain chain?

- a) Andes
- b) Himalaya
- c) Rockies
- d) Urals

Question 60: Which continent is the largest by land area?

- a) Africa
- b) Europe
- c) Antarctica
- d) Asia

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