

CUET 2026 May 13 Shift 1 Geography

Question Paper (Memory-Based) with Solutions

Conducted by National Testing Agency (NTA)



General Instructions

- (i) The examination will be conducted in Computer-Based Test (CBT) mode.
- (ii) Each question carries +5 marks for correct answer and -1 mark for wrong answer.
- (iii) The total number of questions are 50.
- (iv) Duration of the exam is 1 hour (60 minutes).

1. Match List-I with List-II:

List-I (School of Thought)		List-II (Key Focus)	
(A)	Welfare School	(1)	Social inequality and capitalism
(B)	Radical School	(2)	Lived experience and perception
(C)	Behavioural School	(3)	Housing, health, and education
(D)	Determinism	(4)	Nature controls human action

- (A) A-3, B-1, C-2, D-4
- (B) A-1, B-3, C-4, D-2
- (C) A-3, B-2, C-1, D-4
- (D) A-4, B-1, C-2, D-3

Correct Answer: (A) A-3, B-1, C-2, D-4

Solution:

Step 1: Match Welfare School.

Welfare School focuses on:

Housing, Health, and Education

Thus:

$$(A) \rightarrow (3)$$

Step 2: Match Radical School.

Radical School studies:

Social Inequality and Capitalism

Thus:

$$(B) \rightarrow (1)$$

Step 3: Match Behavioural School.

Behavioural School focuses on:

Lived Experience and Perception

Thus:

$$(C) \rightarrow (2)$$

Step 4: Match Determinism.

Determinism states:

Nature Controls Human Action

Thus:

$$(D) \rightarrow (4)$$

Step 5: Identify the correct option.

Therefore, the correct matching is:

$$A - 3, B - 1, C - 2, D - 4$$

Hence, the correct answer is:

(A)

Quick Tip:

Determinism $\rightarrow$ Nature Controls Human Action

Behavioural School $\rightarrow$ Human Experience and Perception

2. Match the Industrial Region with its characteristic:

Region		Characteristic	
(A)	Ruhr (Germany)	(1)	Silicon Valley
(B)	High-Tech Industry	(2)	Coal and Iron Ore base
(C)	Footloose Industry	(3)	Dependence on any specific raw material is low
(D)	Cottage Industry	(4)	Minimum capital and local raw material

(A) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4

(B) A-1, B-2, C-4, D-3

(C) A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4

(D) A-4, B-1, C-2, D-3

Correct Answer: (A) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4

Solution:

Step 1: Match Ruhr Region.

Ruhr region of Germany is famous for:

Coal and Iron Ore Base

Thus:

(A) → (2)

Step 2: Match High-Tech Industry.

High-tech industries are associated with:

Silicon Valley

Thus:

(B) → (1)

Step 3: Match Footloose Industry.

Footloose industries:

Do not depend heavily on specific raw materials

Thus:

$(C) \rightarrow (3)$

Step 4: Match Cottage Industry.

Cottage industries require:

Minimum Capital and Local Raw Material

Thus:

$(D) \rightarrow (4)$

Step 5: Identify the correct option.

Therefore, the correct matching is:

$A - 2, B - 1, C - 3, D - 4$

Hence, the correct answer is:

(A)

Quick Tip:

Footloose Industries

have:

Low Dependence on Raw Material

3. Which of the following is a Quaternary activity?

- (A) Teaching in a school
- (B) Working in a call center (BPO)
- (C) Software Development/Information Research
- (D) Operating a CNC machine

Correct Answer: (C) Software Development/Information Research

Solution:

Concept: Quaternary activities are knowledge-oriented services involving:

- Research
- Information technology
- Data processing
- Software services

These activities are based on intellectual skills and information handling.

Step 1: Identify the quaternary activity.

Software Development/Information Research

is based on specialised knowledge and information services. Thus:

Software Development/Information Research

Step 2: Analyze the remaining options.

Teaching in a school This is a tertiary service activity.

⇒ Incorrect

Working in a call center This is also a tertiary service activity.

⇒ Incorrect

Operating a CNC machine This belongs to manufacturing/secondary activity.

⇒ Incorrect

Step 3: Identify the correct option.

Therefore, the correct answer is:

Software Development/Information Research

Hence, the correct answer is:

(C)

Quick Tip: Quaternary activities are:

Knowledge and Information Based Services

4. Arrange the following modes of transport in terms of their historical emergence (Earliest to Latest):

1. Railways
2. Pipelines
3. Air Transport
4. Steam Ships

- (A) 4, 1, 3, 2
(B) 1, 4, 3, 2
(C) 4, 1, 2, 3
(D) 1, 3, 4, 2

Correct Answer: (A) 4, 1, 3, 2

Solution:

Concept: Different transport systems developed at different times in history. Their order of development from earliest to latest is:

- Steam Ships
- Railways
- Air Transport
- Pipelines

Step 1: Identify the earliest transport mode.

Steam ships were developed during the Industrial Revolution before railways became

widespread. Thus:

4

comes first.

Step 2: Identify the next development.

Railways emerged after steamship development. Thus:

1

comes second.

Step 3: Identify the modern transport systems.

Air transport developed in the early twentieth century. Thus:

3

comes next. Pipelines became widely used later for transporting petroleum and gas. Thus:

2

comes last.

Step 4: Determine the correct sequence.

Therefore, the correct chronological order is:

4, 1, 3, 2

Hence, the correct answer is:

(A)

Quick Tip: Historical order of transport:

Steam Ships → Railways → Air Transport → Pipelines

5. Statement I: Outsourcing helps in reducing costs and increasing efficiency.

Statement II: KPO (Knowledge Process Outsourcing) involves more high-end tasks than BPO.

- (A) Both are correct.
(B) Both are incorrect.
(C) Only I is correct.
(D) Only II is correct.

Correct Answer: (A) Both are correct.

Solution:

Concept: Outsourcing refers to obtaining services or business operations from external sources to improve efficiency and reduce operational costs.

KPO and BPO are important forms of outsourcing.

Step 1: Analyze Statement I.

Outsourcing:

- Reduces operational costs
- Improves productivity
- Increases efficiency

Thus:

Statement I is Correct

Step 2: Analyze Statement II.

KPO:

Knowledge Process Outsourcing

involves specialised and knowledge-based work such as:

- Research
- Data analysis
- Financial consultancy

These are more advanced than routine BPO services. Thus:

Statement II is Correct

Step 3: Identify the correct option.

Since both statements are correct:

Both are correct

Hence, the correct answer is:

(A)

Quick Tip:

BPO → Routine Services

KPO → Knowledge Based High End Services

6. Which of the following pairs is INCORRECT?

- (A) Trans-Siberian Railway: St. Petersburg to Vladivostok
- (B) Canadian Pacific Railway: Halifax to Vancouver
- (C) Union and Pacific Railway: New York to San Francisco
- (D) Australian Trans-Continental Railway: Perth to Sydney

Correct Answer: (D) Australian Trans-Continental Railway: Perth to Sydney

Solution:

Concept: Major trans-continental railways connect important cities and regions across countries.

Step 1: Analyze Trans-Siberian Railway.

The Trans-Siberian Railway connects:

St. Petersburg to Vladivostok

⇒ Correct

Step 2: Analyze Canadian Pacific Railway.

The Canadian Pacific Railway connects:

Halifax to Vancouver

⇒ Correct

Step 3: Analyze Union and Pacific Railway.

The Union and Pacific Railway connects:

New York to San Francisco

⇒ Correct

Step 4: Analyze Australian Trans-Continental Railway.

The Australian Trans-Continental Railway mainly connects:

Perth to Sydney

is not the standard description. The railway is generally associated with:

Perth to Adelaide

Thus, the given pair is incorrect.

Step 5: Identify the incorrect pair.

Therefore, the incorrect pair is:

Australian Trans-Continental Railway : Perth to Sydney

Hence, the correct answer is:

(D)

Quick Tip:

Trans-Siberian Railway

is the longest railway route in the world.

7. Match the Canal with the Water Bodies it connects:

Canal		Connection	
(A)	Suez Canal	(1)	Atlantic Ocean to Pacific Ocean
(B)	Panama Canal	(2)	Mediterranean Sea to Red Sea
(C)	Rhine Waterway	(3)	Switzerland to North Sea
(D)	Volga Waterway	(4)	Caspian Sea

(A) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4

(B) A-1, B-2, C-4, D-3

(C) A-2, B-3, C-1, D-4

(D) A-3, B-1, C-2, D-4

Correct Answer: (A) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4

Solution:

Step 1: Match Suez Canal.

The Suez Canal connects:

Mediterranean Sea to Red Sea

Thus:

(A) → (2)

Step 2: Match Panama Canal.

The Panama Canal connects:

Atlantic Ocean to Pacific Ocean

Thus:

(B) → (1)

Step 3: Match Rhine Waterway.

The Rhine Waterway connects:

Switzerland to North Sea

Thus:

(C) → (3)

Step 4: Match Volga Waterway.

The Volga Waterway is connected with the:

Caspian Sea

Thus:

(D) → (4)

Step 5: Identify the correct option.

Therefore, the correct matching is:

A – 2, B – 1, C – 3, D – 4

Hence, the correct answer is:

(A)

Quick Tip:

Suez Canal → Mediterranean Sea + Red Sea

Panama Canal → Atlantic Ocean + Pacific Ocean

8. Which of the following are the 'Gateways of International Trade'?

- (A) Airports
- (B) Ports
- (C) Highways
- (D) Inland Waterways

Correct Answer: (B) Ports

Solution:

Concept: Ports are called:

Gateways of International Trade

because they handle the movement of goods and passengers between countries through sea

routes.

Step 1: Understand the role of ports.

Ports:

- Connect countries through maritime transport
- Facilitate import and export trade
- Handle international cargo

Thus:

Ports

are known as gateways of international trade.

Step 2: Analyze the remaining options.

Airports Mainly associated with air transport.

⇒ Incorrect

Highways Used for land transport within regions and countries.

⇒ Incorrect

Inland Waterways Used mainly for internal water transport.

⇒ Incorrect

Step 3: Identify the correct option.

Therefore, the correct answer is:

Ports

Hence, the correct answer is:

(B)

Quick Tip: Ports are called:

Gateways of International Trade

because they connect nations through sea trade.

9. Consider these statements regarding WTO:

1. It succeeded the GATT in 1995.
2. It is the only global organization dealing with the rules of trade between nations.
3. Its headquarters are in New York.

Which is/are CORRECT?

- (A) 1 and 2
- (B) 2 and 3
- (C) 1 and 3
- (D) Only 1

Correct Answer: (A) 1 and 2

Solution:

Concept: The World Trade Organization (WTO) is an international organization that regulates global trade between nations.

It was established in:

1995

replacing the:

GATT

(General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade).

Step 1: Analyze Statement 1.

WTO replaced GATT in:

1995

Thus:

Statement 1 is Correct

Step 2: Analyze Statement 2.

WTO is the principal global organization dealing with international trade rules.

Thus:

Statement 2 is Correct

Step 3: Analyze Statement 3.

The headquarters of WTO are located in:

Geneva, Switzerland

not New York.

Thus:

Statement 3 is Incorrect

Step 4: Identify the correct option.

Therefore, the correct statements are:

1 and 2

Hence, the correct answer is:

(A)

Quick Tip:

WTO

was established in:

1995

with headquarters at:

Geneva, Switzerland

10. Identify the 'Entrepot Port' among the following:

- (A) Singapore
- (B) London
- (C) Rotterdam
- (D) All of the above

Correct Answer: (D) All of the above

Solution:

Concept: An entrepot port is a port where imported goods are stored and re-exported to other countries.

Such ports function as important international trade and distribution centers.

Step 1: Analyze Singapore.

Singapore is a major international re-export trade center.

⇒ Entrepot Port

Step 2: Analyze London.

London has historically functioned as an important entrepot trading port.

⇒ Entrepot Port

Step 3: Analyze Rotterdam.

Rotterdam is one of the world's major re-export and transit ports.

⇒ Entrepot Port

Step 4: Identify the correct option.

Since all the listed ports are entrepot ports:

All of the above

Hence, the correct answer is:

(D)

Quick Tip: An entrepot port:

Imports, Stores, and Re-exports Goods

to other countries.