

OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY

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Daily MCQs: 15-06-2024

1. Consider the following statements about the Cabinet Committee on Security

- 1) It is headed by the Prime Minister.
- 2) It is responsible for appointments in the national security bodies.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 only
- B) 2 only
- C) Both 1 and 2
- D) Neither 1 nor 2

2. H5N1 virus is sometimes mentioned in the news with reference to which one of the following diseases?

- A) AIDS
- B) Bird flu
- C) Dengue
- D) Swine flu

3. The Pacific Ring of Fire is known for

- A) High volcanic activity and frequent earthquakes.
- B) Being the hottest region on Earth.
- C) Hosting the largest desert in the world.
- D) Having the highest number of tornadoes.

4. The primary characteristic of fatty liver disease is

- A) Accumulation of excess fat in liver cells
- B) Inflammation of the liver due to a viral infection
- C) Scarring of liver tissue
- D) Formation of liver cysts

5. Consider the following statements about measles

- 1) It is a viral disease.
- 2) It's highly contagious and spreads through the air.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 only
- B) 2 only
- C) Both 1 and 2
- D) Neither 1 nor 2

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Solutions:

1. Answer: C

Explanation

- The Cabinet committees are set up to resolve issues and formulate proposals for the consideration of the Cabinet and take decisions on matters assigned to them. The Cabinet is empowered to review such decisions.
- The **Prime Minister sets up Cabinet committees** with selected members of the Cabinet and **assigns specific functions** to these committees.
- The **Prime Minister may change the numbers of committees, and modify the functions assigned to them.**

Membership

- The membership of each committee **varies from three to eight.**
- Usually, only Cabinet ministers are members of these committees. However, there are instances where non-Cabinet ministers can be members or special invitees to committees.
- If the **Prime Minister himself is a member of any such committee, he acts as the head of that committee.**

Cabinet Committees at present

- There are eight Cabinet committees at present
 - Appointments Committee of the Cabinet,
 - Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs,
 - Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs,
 - Cabinet Committee on Investment and Growth,
 - Cabinet Committee on Security,
 - Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs,
 - Cabinet Committee on Employment & Skill Development, and
 - Cabinet Committee on Accommodation.
- **Statement 1 is correct:** All committees except the Cabinet Committee on Accommodation and Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs are headed by the PM.

Cabinet Committee on Security

- The CCS has the **ministers for Finance, Defence, Home Affairs and External Affairs as its members.**
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It is responsible for debates, discussions and appointments of/ in the national security bodies.
- Major decisions with respect to the significant appointments, issues of national security, defense expenditure of India are taken by CCS.
- Besides dealing with defense related issues, the CCS also brainstorms on issues relating to law and order and internal security, and policy matters concerning foreign affairs on security-related issues.
- It also considers matters relating to atomic energy.

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2. Answer: B

Explanation

- Avian influenza (H5N1) also known as **bird flu** is primarily a **disease of birds** that is caused by several types of **influenza viruses**.
- The highly pathogenic avian influenza is a **highly contagious disease** affecting **wild birds and poultry**.
- The different strains of avian influenza viruses can generally be classified into two categories according to the severity of the disease in poultry:
 - **Low pathogenicity avian influenza (LPAI)** that typically causes **little or no clinical signs**;
 - **High pathogenicity avian influenza (HPAI)** that can cause **severe clinical signs** and possible **high mortality rates**.
- Avian influenza is a **zoonotic disease**, meaning it **can spread from animals to humans**. Human cases of avian influenza are rare but the potential for the virus to adapt and spread among humans is a serious public health concern.
- **Certain subtypes** of the virus **can infect humans**, leading to severe **respiratory illnesses**.

Symptoms in humans

- Symptoms of avian influenza in humans are **similar to those of regular flu** and can include:
 - **Fever, cough, sore throat, muscle aches, and severe respiratory distress** in advanced cases.
 - **Severe disease and death may result** from a **complication of pneumonia**.

Transmission

- In **birds**, avian influenza viruses are shed in the **faeces and respiratory secretions**.
- They can all be **spread through direct contact with secretions from infected birds**, especially through faeces or through contaminated feed and water.
- Avian Influenza Viruses have a resistant nature and are able to survive for long periods when temperatures are low, they can also be carried on **farm equipment and spread easily from farm to farm**.

Prevention and Control

- The first line of defense against avian influenza is **early detection**.
- Putting in place **accurate warning systems** is thus essential to **efficiently prevent and control the disease**.
- **Strict biosecurity measures** (measures used by the farm persons to protect their farm from entry and spread of disease) and **good hygiene** practices are essential to prevent avian influenza outbreaks, because of the resistance of the virus in the environment and its highly contagious nature.
 - Relevant measures notably include **keeping poultry away from contact with wild birds**,
 - ensuring good hygiene in poultry housing and equipment and
 - **reporting bird illnesses and deaths** to the Veterinary Services.

3. Answer: A

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Explanation

- The Ring of Fire, also referred to as the Circum-Pacific Belt, is a path along the Pacific Ocean **characterized by active volcanoes and frequent earthquakes**.
- Its length is approximately 40,000 kilometers (24,900 miles).
- It traces boundaries between several tectonic plates—including the Pacific, Juan de Fuca, Cocos, Indian-Australian, Nazca, North American, and Philippine Plates.
- Seventy-five percent of Earth's volcanoes—more than 450 volcanoes—are located along the Ring of Fire. Ninety percent of Earth's earthquakes occur along its path, including the planet's most violent and dramatic seismic events.
- The abundance of volcanoes and earthquakes along the Ring of Fire is caused by the amount of movement of tectonic plates in the area.

4. Answer: A

Explanation

What is Fatty liver disease?

- Liver is the largest organ inside your body. It helps your body digest food, store energy, and remove poisons.
- Fatty liver disease is a **condition in which fat builds up in your liver**. There are two main types:
 - Nonalcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD)
 - Alcoholic fatty liver disease
- Fatty liver may cause no damage, but sometimes the excess fat leads to inflammation of the liver. This condition, called steatohepatitis, does cause liver damage.
- An inflamed liver may become scarred and hardened over time. This condition, called cirrhosis, is serious and often leads to liver failure.

Causes of Fatty liver disease

- **Eating excess calories** causes fat to build up in the liver. When the liver does not process and break down fats as it normally should, too much fat will accumulate. People tend to develop fatty liver if they have certain other conditions, such as **obesity and diabetes**
- **Alcohol abuse, rapid weight loss and malnutrition** may also lead to fatty liver.
- However, some people develop fatty liver even if they have none of these conditions.

Prevention and Treatment

- There are **no specific medical or surgical treatments for fatty liver**.
- Preventive steps include the following
 - Losing weight safely
 - Avoiding alcohol
 - Control over diabetes
 - Eating a balanced, healthy diet
 - Increasing physical activity

5. Answer: C

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Explanation

Both the statements are correct.

- Measles is also called **rubeola, 10-day measles or red measles**.
- Measles (rubeola) is a **viral disease** that causes fever and a rash. It's **highly contagious** and **spreads through the air** when a person with measles talks, coughs or sneezes.
- Symptoms of measles usually begin 10–14 days after exposure to the virus. **A prominent rash is the most visible symptom**.
- There is no specific treatment for measles. However, there is a **vaccine available** to prevent measles.

