



General Knowledge

First in the World

Achievement

First Country to make a Constitution
First Country to give voting rights to women
First Country to start using paper currency
First Prime Minister of Great Britain
First President of USA
First men to climb Mt Everest
First woman to climb Mt Everest
First Woman Prime Minister of a country
First Woman President of a country
First Country to print books
First Country to ban the death penalty
First University in the world which is still working
First European to visit China and describe his visit there in a book
First man to walk in space
First European invader of Indian soil
First city to be attacked by a nuclear bomb

Name

USA
New Zealand
China
Robert Walpole
George Washington
Tenzing Norgay and Edmund Hillary
Junko Tabei
Sirimavo Bandarnaike (Sri Lanka)
Isabel Martínez de Perón (Argentina)
China
Venezuela
The University of Al-Karaouine in Fez, (Morocco)
Marco Polo
Alexei Leonov of USSR
Alexander the Great
Hiroshima, Japan

First in India

Achievement

First temple constructed from a single rock which is still standing
First church in India
First person to receive the Bharat Ratna

First person to receive the Param Vir Chakra

Name

Kailasa temple, Ellora, Maharashtra

St. Thomas Church, Palayoor, Kerala
Three persons
1. Dr S Radhakrishnan
2. C Rajagopalachari
3. CV Raman
Major Somnath Sharma

Achievement	Name
First person to receive Dadasaheb Phalke Award (for lifetime achievement in Indian cinema)	Devika Rani
First Indian to receive Magsaysay Award	Vinoba Bhave
First Indian to win the Nobel Prize	Rabindranath Tagore (for Literature)
First Indian to win an Oscar Award	Bhanu Athaiya (for Costume Design in the film 'Gandhi')
First Woman IPS Officer	Kiran Bedi
First Deputy Prime Minister	Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
First woman minister in the Indian government	Rajkumari Amrit Kaur
First Indian to go into space	Squadron Leader Rakesh Sharma
First Indian satellite	Aryabhata
First Indian lunar probe	Chandrayaan-I
First state to achieve 100% primary literacy	Kerala

Famous Indian Women (Past and Present)

Name	Why Famous
Rani Lakshmibai of Jhansi	She was one of the leaders of the Indian Rebellion of 1857. She was killed in a battle.
Madam Bhikaiji Cama	She was prominent figure in the Freedom Movement. She was the first woman who hosted India's flag in a foreign country (Germany).
Sarojini Naidu	Popularly known as 'the nightingale of India', she contributed towards the freedom struggle by joining politics in 1905. After independence, she became the first woman Governor of a State, UP.
Aruna Asaf Ali	She was a freedom fighter who participated in the Salt Satyagraha. She did much welfare work after independence and established the National Federation of Women in 1954.
Mother Teresa	She was a nun and charity worker. She dedicated her life to serving the poor and disadvantaged persons in society was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.
Indira Gandhi	She was the Prime Minister of India. She led the country in the War for liberation of Bangladesh in 1971.
Lata Mangeshkar	She is the best-known and most respected playback singer in India. She is referred to as the 'Queen of Melody'. She has been awarded the Bharat Ratna.
Pratibha Patil	She became the first woman President of India.
Kalpana Chawla	She was the first Indian-born woman to go into space. She died when the space shuttle disintegrated over Texas while re-entering the Earth's atmosphere.
Santosh Yadav	She is the first woman in the world to climb Mount Everest twice.

Famous Women of the World (Past and Present)

Name	Why Famous
Joan of Arc	She was a young girl who inspired the French to revolt against British rule.
Florence Nightingale	She was a British nurse who helped improve standards of hospitals and nursing during the Crimean War. She was known as 'The Lady with the Lamp'.
Marie Curie	She was a Polish physicist and chemist and the first person to win the Nobel Prize in both Chemistry and Physics.
Helen Keller	At the age of 19 months, Helen became deaf and blind. Overcoming the frustration of losing both sight and hearing she campaigned tirelessly on behalf of deaf and blind people.

Name	Why Famous
Agatha Christie	She was a best selling crime fiction author, and the creator of the Hercule Poirot and Miss Marple detective series.
Margaret Thatcher	She was the British Prime Minister and was known for her strong leadership style.
Anne Frank	She was a Jewish girl who maintained a diary of her life in hiding in an Amsterdam attic during the Nazi occupation (1942-1944). She died in a German concentration camp.
Benazir Bhutto	She was the Prime Minister of Pakistan. She became the first woman to head a democratic government in a Muslim majority nation.
Aung San Suu Kyi	She was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for her non-violent struggle for democracy and human rights in Myanmar. She is currently the State Counsellor of Myanmar.
Malala Yousafzai	She is a Pakistani schoolgirl who was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for campaigning for the right to education for girls. She is the youngest person ever to have won the Nobel Prize.

Superlatives in the World

Superlative	Name and other information	Superlative	Name and other information
▪ Largest Island	Greenland	▪ Largest inland salt water body	Caspian Sea
▪ Largest fresh water lake	Lake Superior (USA)	▪ Largest delta	Sunderbans (W.Bengal/Bangladesh)
▪ Deepest lake	Lake Baikal (Russia)	▪ Lowest water body	Dead Sea (Israel, Jordan and Palestine)
▪ Highest extinct volcano	Chimborazo	▪ Lake at highest location	Lake Titicaca (Bolivia and Peru)
▪ Largest country by area	Russia	▪ Longest bridge	Lake Pontchartrain Causeway, New Orleans, (USA)
▪ Tallest office building	Petronas Towers, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	▪ Largest mosque	Jama Masjid (Delhi)
▪ Largest airport	King Khalid International Airport, Riyadh (Saudi Arabia)	▪ Longest railway platform	Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh, India
▪ Largest temple	Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple, Tiruchirapalli, Tamil Nadu	▪ Hardest naturally occurring substance	Diamond
▪ Highest melting point material	Tungsten		

Superlatives in India

Superlative	Name and other information	Superlative	Name and other information
▪ Largest fresh water lake	Wular lake (Jammu & Kashmir)	▪ Largest saline water lake	Lake Chilka (Odisha)
▪ Largest man-made lake	Govind Vallabh Pant Sagar (Rihand Dam, Uttar Pradesh)	▪ Highest mountain peak	Kanchenjunga
▪ Longest river bridge	Bhupen Hazarika Setu, Tinsukia (Assam)	▪ Tallest statue	Statue of Unity (Gujarat)
▪ Largest dome	Gol Gumbaz, Bijapur (Karnataka)	▪ Longest dam	Hirakud (Odisha)

Superlative	Name and other information
▪ Largest district	Kutch (Gujarat)
▪ Longest national highway	NH 44 from Srinagar (Jammu and Kashmir) to Kanyakumari (Tamil Nadu)
▪ Least populated state	Sikkim
▪ Longest river	Ganga
▪ Highest rock and earth-fill dam	Tehri Dam (Uttarakhand)
▪ Longest road tunnel	Chenani-Nashri Tunnel (Jammu and Kashmir)

Superlative	Name and other information
▪ State with longest coastline	Gujarat
▪ Smallest state in area	Goa
▪ Largest animal fair	Sonepur (Bihar)
▪ Highest straight gravity dam	Bhakra dam (Himachal Pradesh)
▪ Largest river island	Majuli (Assam)
▪ Most populated city	Mumbai (Maharashtra)

Indian States and their Capitals

S.No.	Name of State	Capital
1	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad (temporary) Amravati (new city to be built)
2	Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar
3	Assam	Dispur
4	Bihar	Patna
5	Chhattisgarh	Raipur
6	Goa	Panaji
7	Gujarat	Gandhinagar
8	Haryana	Chandigarh
9	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
10	Jharkhand	Ranchi
11	Karnataka	Bengaluru
12	Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram
13	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
14	Maharashtra	Mumbai
15	Manipur	Imphal
16	Meghalaya	Shillong
17	Mizoram	Aizawl
18	Nagaland	Kohima
19	Odisha (Orissa)	Bhubaneswar
20	Punjab	Chandigarh

S.No.	Name of State	Capital
21	Rajasthan	Jaipur
22	Sikkim	Gangtok
23	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
24	Telangana	Hyderabad
25	Tripura	Agartala
26	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
27	Uttarakhand	Dehradun
28	West Bengal	Kolkata

Union Territories and their Capitals

Name of Union Territory	Capital
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Port Blair
Chandigarh	Chandigarh
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Silvassa
Daman and Diu	Daman
Delhi (National Capital Territory)	New Delhi
Lakshadweep	Kavaratti
Puducherry	Puducherry
Jammu Kashmir	Srinagar
Ladakh	—

Major Countries, their Capitals and Currencies

Name of Country	Capital	Currency
Afghanistan	Kabul	Afghani
Argentina	Buenos Aires	Argentine Peso
Australia	Canberra	Australian Dollar
Bangladesh	Dhaka	Taka ()
Bhutan	Thimphu	Ngultrum
Brazil	Brasilia	Real
Canada	Ottawa	Canadian Dollar
China	Beijing	Chinese Yuan
Egypt	Cairo	Egyptian Pound
France	Paris	Euro; CFP Franc
Germany	Berlin	Euro
India	New Delhi	Indian Rupee (₹)
Japan	Tokyo	Yen (¥)
Malaysia	Kuala Lumpur	Ringgit
Maldives	Male	Maldivian Rufiyaa
Myanmar (Burma)	Nypyidaw	Kyat
Pakistan	Islamabad	Pakistani Rupee
Russia	Moscow	Rouble
Saudi Arabia	Riyadh	Saudi Riyal
Sri Lanka	Colombo	Sri Lankan Rupee
United Kingdom	London	Pound Sterling (£)
United States of America	Washington DC	US Dollar (\$)

Days Celebrated (India)

Date	Known as	Date	Known as
9th Jan	Pravasi Bhartiya Divas	7th Dec	Armed Forces Flag Day
12th Jan	Youth Day	23rd Dec	Kisan Diwas
15th Jan	Army Day	24th Jan	Rashtriya Balika Diwas (National Girl Child Day)
26th Jan	Republic Day	30th Jan	Martyr's Day
28th Feb	National Science Day	5th April	National Maritime Day
9th Aug	Quit India Day	15th Aug	Independence Day
20th Aug	Sadbhavna Divas	5th Sept	Teachers' Day
29th Aug	National Sports Day	8th Oct	Indian Air Force Day
2nd Oct	Gandhi Jayanti	14th Nov	Children's Day
20th Oct	National Solidarity Day	16th Dec	Vijay Diwas

Days Celebrated (International)

Date	Known as	Date	Known as
10th Jan	World Hindi Day	8th March	International Women's Day
3rd March	World Wildlife Day	7th April	World Health Day
22nd March	World Water Day	1st May	International Labour Day
22nd April	World Earth Day	23rd May	World Biodiversity Day
8th May	World Red Cross Day	5th June	World Environment Day
21st June	International Yoga Day	11th July	World Population Day
8th Sep	International Literacy Day	27th Sep	World Tourism Day
2nd Oct	International Non- violence Day	16th Oct	World Food Day
11th Oct	International Girl Child Day	1st Dec	World AIDS Day
24th Oct	United Nations Day	10th Dec	Human Rights Day
3rd Dec	World Disabled Day		

Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Full form	Abbreviation	Full form
AIDS	Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome	IST	Indian Standard Time
ATM	Automated Teller Machine	LOC	Line of Control
ASEAN	Association of South East Asian Nations	LPG	Liquefied Petroleum Gas
BC	Before Christ	MBA	Master of Business Administration
B Ed	Bachelor of Education	MBBS	Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery
BP	Blood Pressure	NCERT	National Council of Educational Research and Training
BSF	Border Security Force	NCC	National Cadet Corps
CA	Chartered Accountant	OBC	Other Backward Class
CBI	Central Bureau of Investigation	OS	Operating System
CBSE	Central Board of Secondary Education	OPD	Out Patient Department
DM	District Magistrate	NRI	Non-Resident Indian
DTP	Desk Top Publishing	PAN	Permanent Account Number
EMI	Equated Monthly Instalment	Ph D	Doctor of Philosophy
EVM	Electronic Voting Machine	PIN	Postal Index Number
FAQ	Frequently Asked Questions	RBI	Reserve Bank of India
FIR	First Information Report	TB	Tuberculosis
GDP	Gross Domestic Product	TDS	Tax Deduction at Source
GST	Goods and Services Tax	UGC	University Grants Commission

Abbreviation	Full form	Abbreviation	Full form
HIV	Human Immuno-Deficiency Virus	UN	United Nations
IAF	Indian Air Force	UPSC	Union Public Service Commission
IAS	Indian Administrative Service	VIP	Very Important Person
IFS	Indian Foreign Service	VRS	Voluntary Retirement Scheme
IPS	Indian Police Service	WHO	World Health Organisation
IQ	Intelligence Quotient	WTO	World Trade Organisation

Books and their Authors (International)

Name of Book	Name of Author
The Illiad, The Odyessey	Homer
A Tale of Two Cities	Charles Dickens
Macbeth, Hamlet, Julius Caesar	William Shakespeare
A Tale of Two Cities	Charles Dickens
Gulliver's Travels	Jonathan Swift
Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde	RL Stevenson
The Time Machine, The Invisible Man	HG Wells
Adventures of Sherlock Holmes	Arthur Conan Doyle
Around the World in eighty days	Jules Verne
Das Kapital	Karl Marx
War and Peace, Anna Karenina	Leo Tolstoy
On the Origin of Species	Charles Darwin
The Diary of a Young Girl	Anne Frank
Long Walk to Freedom	Nelson Mandela
Mein Kampf (My Struggle)	Adolf Hitler
The Story of My Life	Helen Keller
Up From Slavery	Booker T Washington
The Canterville Ghost	Oscar Wilde
Moby Dick	Herman Melville
The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn	Mark Twain
All the King's Men	Robert Penn Warren

Books and their Authors (Indian)

S.No.	Name of Books	Name of Author
1.	Ram Charit Manas	Tulsidas
2.	Bhagwad Gita, The Mahabharata	Maharshi Ved Vyas
3.	Meghdoot, Kumarasambhava	Kalidas
4.	Arthashastra	Kautilya
5.	Gitanjali	Rabindra Nath Tagore
6.	Godan	Munshi Premchand
7.	The Discovery of India	Jawaharlal Nehru
8.	My Experiments with Truth	MK Gandhi
9.	The Guide	RK Narayan
10.	Wings of Fire	Dr APJ Abdul Kalam
11.	Kalpana Chawla – A Life	Anil Padmanaban
12.	The God of Small Things	Arundhati Roy
13.	What Young India Wants, Two States	Chetan Bhagat
14.	Train To Pakistan	Khuswant Singh
15.	The Broken Wing: Songs of Love, Death & Destiny	Sarojini Naidu
16.	Devdas, Parineeta	Sharat Chandra Chattopadhyaya
17.	You Can Win: A Step by Step Tool for Top Achievers	Shiv Khera
18.	The Sleeping Giant	Swami Vivekananda
19.	Half a Life	VS Naipaul
20.	The Golden Gate, A Suitable Boy	Vikram Seth
21.	Pinjar, The Other Dimension	Amrita Pritam
22.	A Brush with Life	Satish Gujral
23.	A Tunnel of Time An Autobiography	RK Laxman
24.	A Voice of Freedom	Nayantara Sehgal
25.	Between the Lines	Kuldip Nayar
26.	Exam Warriors	Narendra Modi
27.	Hind Swaraj	MK Gandhi
28.	The coalition years	Pranab Mukherjee
29.	Why I am a Hind	Shashi Tharoor
30.	“Indian Parliamentary Diplomacy–Speaker’s Perspective”	Meira Kumar

Wonders of the World and other Famous Places

Name	Location	Why Famous
The Great Wall	China	It is the only human construction visible from the moon. It was mostly built during the 15th and 16th centuries.
The Colosseum	Rome	It is the largest amphitheatre ever built.
Great Pyramid of Giza	Near Cairo, Egypt	It was the tallest man-made structure in the world.
The Leaning Tower	Pisa, Italy	It is a bell tower of the cathedral in the city of Pisa, known worldwide for its tilt.
Stonehenge	England	It is a ring of standing stones. It is a World Heritage Site.
Potala Palace	Lhasa, China	It was the residence of the Dalai Lama.
Christ the Redeemer statue	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	It is listed as one of the New Seven Wonders of the World.
Taj Mahal	Agra, India	It is an ivory-white marble mausoleum for Mumtaz Mahal, wife of Shahjahan, a Mughal emperor.
Machu Picchu	Peru	It was constructed as an estate for an Inca emperor.
Ely Cathedral	England	It is a major tourist destination built originally in 672 AD.
Petra	Jordan	It is a historical and archaeological city.
Chichen Itza	Yucatan, Mexico	It is a large city built by the Maya people.
Temple of Artemis	Ephesus, Turkey	It was originally built during the 7th century BC.
Statue of Liberty	New York, USA	It is a statue constructed at the entrance of New York harbour
Eiffel Tower	Paris, France	It is a 324 metre high tower built as the entrance to the World's Fair held in Paris.
Burj Khalifa	Dubai	It is the tallest building in the world.
Niagara Falls	USA-Canada border	A combination of height and water flow makes Niagara Falls beautiful.
Victoria Falls	Zambia-Zimbabwe border	It is the largest waterfall in the world during the wet season.

Explorers and their Discoveries

- **Hsuan-tsang** He was a Chinese Buddhist monk. To find the origin of Buddhism, he crossed the Himalayas through the Khyber Pass and came to India. His journey to India took around 17 years.
- **Marco Polo** He was an Italian who travelled for 24 years through Persia, Afghanistan, Mongolia and China. The path he took is now known as the 'Silk Route'. He sailed back to Italy after exploring Singapore, Sumatra and India.
- **Ibn Battuta** He was a Moroccan who travelled for 30 years across Africa, Asia and South-Eastern Europe. He crossed the Himalayas to reach India, China and South-East Asia.
- **Christopher Columbus** He is famous as the discoverer of the American continent in 1492. He crossed the Atlantic Ocean several times and established prominent trade links between Europe and America.
- **Amerigo Vespucci** The continents of America were named after this Spanish explorer. He explored most parts of the eastern coastline of South America and discovered the mouth of Amazon river.
- **Vasco de Gama** He was the first person to sail around the Cape of Good Hope and thus link Europe and Asia through a sea route in 1498. He reached Calicut (now Kozhikode) in Kerala.
- **Ferdinand Magellan** He was the first person to find his way through North and South America to reach the Pacific Ocean. He died in the middle of his voyage to go round the world on the sea.

- **Francis Drake** He is known for being the second man to go round the world over the sea.
- **James Cook** He discovered Australia and Hawaii. He also went to New Zealand. He led three voyages to lands in the Pacific Ocean.
- **David Livingstone** He discovered the Victoria Falls on the River Zambezi and explored Central and South Africa to find the source of the River Nile.
- **Robert Peary** He travelled to the Arctic and was the first person to reach the North Pole.
- **Roald Amundsen** He travelled to Antarctica and was the first person to reach the South Pole.
- **Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB)** The SSB guard the Indo-Nepal and Indo-Bhutan borders. Their job also includes controlling anti-national activities. Government has now allowed women to be recruited for combat roles in this force.
- **Indian Coast Guard (ICG)** It aims to protect the maritime and other national interests in the sea and ocean borders of India.

Sports

Olympics

- First ancient Olympic Games were held in honour of Greek God Zeus.
- First modern olympic games were held in 1896 in Athens, Greece.
- Olympic motto is 'Citius-Altius-Fortius' (Swifter, Higher, Stronger).
- Olympic emblem is composed of five intertwined rings each of different colour, representing five continents of the world.
- The olympic game is held in two categories namely winter olympics and summer olympics.
- The 2016 summer olympic was held in Rio-de-Janeiro (Brazil) and the next will held in 2020 in Tokyo (Japan).
- The 2018 winter olympic will be held in Pyeongchang (South Korea) and 2022 olympics to be held in Beijing (China).
- In 2016 summer olympics, India won two medals one in Badminton (Silver Medal) and other in wrestling (Bronze Medal).

Performance of Indian Players in Olympics

- Indian Hockey Team (Gold Medal) Amsterdam.
- Abhinav Bindra (Shooting, Gold Medal) Beijing.
- Saina Nehwal (Badminton, Bronze Medal) London.
- Mary Kom (Boxing, Bronze Medal) London.
- PV Sindhu (Badminton, Silver Medal) Rio-de-Janario.
- Sakshi Malik (Wrestling, Bronze Medal) Rio-de-Janario.

Commonwealth Games

- The event was first held in 1930 at Hamilton (Canada) and has taken place every four years since then.

Para-Military & Reserve Armed Forces in India

- **Assam Rifles (AR)** Assam Rifles is the oldest of all paramilitary forces. Its role is to counter insurgency and hold border security operations. After 2002 they are also guarding the Indo-Myanmar border.
- **Border Security Force (BSF)** It came up after the Indo-Pakistan War of 1965 to ensure the security of the borders of India. It is also called as the 'First Wall of Defence of Indian Territories'.
- **Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)** It provides security to over 300 Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs).
- **Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)** It looks after the internal security of every part of India, helping in countering insurgency, assisting the State and Union Territories in police operations to maintain law and order, as well as helping with the UN peace-keeping missions.
- **Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)** It was established after the 1962 Indo-China war to guard India's northern borders, detect and prevent border violations and help the locals feel secure. They also keep a check on illegal immigration and trans-border smuggling.
- **National Security Guard (NSG)** It was raised to combat terrorist activities and to ensure the states do not witness any internal disturbances. They are also referred to as 'Black Cats'.

- Only commonwealth nations can take part in these games.
- It was in 1934 that India participated for the first time in Commonwealth Games held at London.
- The most recent Commonwealth Games were held in Glasgow, Scotland (2014). The next Commonwealth Games will be held in 2018 at Coast City (Australia).

Asian Games

- It is also known as Asiad and is held in every 4 years.
- The first Asian Games were held in New Delhi (India).
- The 2018 Asian Games will be held in Jakarta (Indonesia).

Hockey

- Blackheath Rugby and Hockey club is the first Hockey club in the world set up in England.
- The first Hockey world cup was played in Barcelona.
- The 2018 Hockey world cup will be held in Bhubaneswar (India).
- The 2018 women's hockey world cup will be held in London, England.
- Important tournaments of Hockey in India are Agha Khan cup, Bombay Gold cup, Dhyanchand trophy, Nehru trophy.
- Some important terms of Hockey are bully, carry, green card, shooting, penalty, free hit.
- There are 11 players in a Hockey match.
- Famous Hockey stadiums are Aishbagh Stadium (Bhopal), Dhyanchand National Stadium (New Delhi), Sector 42 Stadium (Chandigarh).

Cricket

- The first cricket club was established in London, England.
- The first one day international cricket was played between England and Australia.
- The first cricket test match was played between England and Australia.
- The first cricket world cup was played in London in which West Indies won. The 2019 world cup will be held in England.
- ICC under-19 cricket world cup is a tournament played by national under-19 teams. India won the 2018 under-19 world cup. The next will be held in 2020 in South Africa.

- Twenty-20 (T-20) cricket world cup is a form of one-day cricket. The 2020 T-20 world cup will be held in Australia.
- Women's cricket world cup is a championship of women's one day cricket game.
- The other important tournaments of cricket in India are Ranji trophy, Duleep trophy, Irani trophy etc.
- Some important terms used in cricket are leg bye, doosra, catch, run out, appeal, hat-trick.
- There are 11 players in a cricket match.
- Some famous cricket stadiums are Feroz Shah Kotla Ground (Delhi), Wankhede Stadium (Mumbai), Eden Garden (Kolkata).

Football

- The first football club of the world was sheffield football club.
- The first football world cup (FIFA) was organised at Montevideo, Uruguay.
- The 2018 FIFA will be held in Russia.
- Important Indian Football tournaments are Durand Cup, Santosh Trophy, Federation Cup.
- Important terms in football are extra time, centre forward, drop ball, hand ball.
- There are 11 players in a football team.

Badminton

- The first International Badminton competition was held in 1948.
- Important India tournament is senior National Badminton Championships.
- Some important terms in Badminton are service court, smash, rally, rotation, drop shot.
- There can be either two or four players on a badminton court.
- Thomas cup (male), Uber Cup (female), National Badminton Championship are the important Indian Badminton Tournaments.

Awards (India)

- **Mahatma Gandhi Peace Prize** Government of India gives it to encourage and promote Gandhian values worldwide.
- **Bharat Ratna** It is India's highest civilian Award. The last two recipients of the award were Madan Mohan Malaviya (posthumously) and Atal Behari Vajpayee, both in 2015.
- **Padma Vibhushan** It is the second highest civilian award. It is awarded to recognise exceptional and distinguished service to the nation in any field.

- **Padma Bhushan** It is the third highest civilian award. It is awarded to recognise exceptional and distinguished service to the nation in any field.
- **Padma Shri** It is the fourth highest civilian award. It is awarded to recognise the contribution of Indian citizens in various spheres of activity.
- **Param Vir Chakra** It is India's highest military decoration. It is awarded for most conspicuous bravery, daring, valour or self-sacrifice during war.
- **Maha Vir Chakra** It is second highest military decoration in India. It is awarded for acts of gallantry in the presence of the enemy on land, at sea, or in the air during war.
- **Vir Chakra** It is awarded for acts of bravery in the battlefield during war.
- **Ashok Chakra** It is India's highest peacetime military decoration. It is awarded for most conspicuous bravery, daring, valour or self-sacrifice other than in the face of the enemy, i.e. during peacetime.
- **Kirti Chakra** It is awarded for conspicuous gallantry other than in the face of the enemy, i.e. during peacetime.
- **Shaurya Chakra** It is awarded usually for bravery during counter insurgency operations against the enemy during peacetime.
- **Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award** It is awarded for exceptional sporting performance, whether by an individual or a team, in any sporting discipline in a year.
- **Dhyan Chand Award** It is awarded as the highest lifetime achievement award in sports and games in India
- **Dronacharya Award** It is awarded for brilliance in sports coaching.
- **Arjuna Award** It is awarded for excellent performance by sportspersons in any field for the last three years.
- **National Film Awards** These are awarded for excellence in various fields of Indian cinema every year.
- **Sahitya Akademi Award** It is a literary honour given to writers of outstanding works in any of 24 major Indian languages.
- **Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Awards** These are awarded for notable and outstanding research, applied or fundamental, in various fields of Science to persons below 65 years of age.

Awards (International)

- **Nobel Prize** Awarded each year in six fields: Peace, Economics, Literature, Medicine, Physics and Chemistry. The last Indian to receive a Nobel Prize was Kailash Satyarthi in 2014, who received the Peace Prize for his struggle against child labour.
- **Oscar Awards** (also called Academy Awards) These are awarded for excellence in the field of cinema.
- **Grammy Awards** These are awarded for outstanding achievements in the field of music.
- **Golden Globe Awards** These are awarded for excellence in the fields of film and television.
- **Pulitzer Prize** This is awarded for excellence in newspaper journalism, literary achievements and musical composition.
- **Man Booker Prize** This is awarded for best full length English novel.
- **Ramon Magsaysay Award** These are awarded to Asian persons for outstanding contributions in six categories: government service; public service; community leadership; peace and international understanding; Journalism, Literature, and Creative Communication Arts; and emergent leadership.
- **Right Livelihood Award** This is awarded for practical and exemplary solutions to the most urgent challenges facing the world today.



Practice Exercise

1. When is Teachers' day celebrated every year in India?
(a) 29th August (b) 26th November
(c) 4th December (d) 5th September
2. Buenos Aires is the capital of which country?
(a) Argentina (b) Brazil
(c) Canada (d) France
3. A maximum of how many players of the fielding side can be on the field at any time in an official game of Cricket?
(a) 12
(b) 11
(c) 13
(d) As allowed by the umpires
4. What is lowest ranked Indian Air Force officer called?
(a) Wing Commander
(b) Flying officer
(c) Pilot officer
(d) Test pilot
5. The novel 'A Tale of Two Cities' was written by
(a) George Orwell (b) RL Stevenson
(c) Jonathan Swift (d) Charles Dickens
6. Match the games with the total number of players allowed in a team in each game.

Name of Game	Total number of players allowed in a team
A. Volleyball	1. Seven
B. Kabaddi	2. Six
C. Hockey	3. Five
D. Basketball	4. Eleven

Select the correct answer using the code given below

(a) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3 (b) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
(c) A-4, B-3, C-2, D-1 (d) A-4, B-1, C-3 D-2
7. Which is the lowest ranked officer in the Indian Army?
(a) Sub - Lieutenant (b) Lieutenant
(c) Captain (d) Infantryman
8. On which date is National Girl Child Day celebrated in India each year?
(a) 26th July (b) 24th January
(c) 30th January (d) 9th August
9. What is the full form of OPD, a section found in most hospitals?
(a) Our Pathology Destination
(b) Original Patient Department
(c) Original Pathological Division
(d) Out Patient Department
10. Who was the first person to reach the South Pole?
(a) F Nansen (b) Roald Amundsen
(c) Robert Scott (d) David Livingstone
11. How often is the Champions Trophy in Hockey conducted?
(a) Every year
(b) Every two years
(c) Every three years
(d) Every four years
12. Shillong is the capital of state.
(a) Meghalaya (b) Tripura
(c) Manipur (d) Assam
13. What is the currency used by Saudi Arabia?
(a) Saudi Rupee (b) Saudi Riyal
(c) Arab Farthing (d) Arabian Kyat
14. Diego Maradona played which game?
(a) Tennis (b) Basketball
(c) Football (d) Volleyball
15. In which of the following fields is the Nobel Prize not awarded?
(a) Economics (b) Mathematics
(c) Peace (d) Literature

- 16.** Where were the first Winter Olympics held?
 (a) Stockholm, Sweden
 (b) Lake Placid, USA
 (c) Chamonix, France
 (d) Sapporo, Japan
- 17.** For what is Azteca stadium in Mexico City famous?
 (a) It is known as the 'Home of Cricket'.
 (b) It is a very picturesque stadium.
 (c) It is the biggest football venue in the world.
 (d) It is known as the 'Birthplace of the Ashes'.
- 18.** The name of the world's first Space Station was
 (a) Hubble
 (b) Sputnik I
 (c) Salyut I
 (d) Columbia
- 19.** The abbreviation 'OS' used in the computer field means
 (a) Optical Sensor
 (b) Operating System
 (c) Open System
 (d) Open Software

Answers

- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|
| 1 | (d) | 2 | (a) | 3 | (b) | 4 | (b) | 5 | (d) | 6 | (a) | 7 | (b) | 8 | (b) | 9 | (d) | 10 | (b) |
| 11 | (b) | 12 | (a) | 13 | (b) | 14 | (c) | 15 | (b) | 16 | (c) | 17 | (c) | 18 | (c) | 19 | (b) | | |