QUESTION BANK: 515 questions

Q1: He received Padmashri in the year 2008. Born in Mahe, he is a first generation immigrant to the US. He started out by directing and starring in his own venture 'Praying with Anger.' Has a wife called Bhavna and recently quipped 'My belief in ghosts is not 100%, but I am open to the idea.' He was also involved with the project Stuart Little. Who?

Ans: Manoj Night Shyamalan

Q2: India's first international biosphere reserve is called what?

Ans: Nilgiri biosphere reserve

Q3: One of the largest makers of cycles in the world Hero Cycles began their journey from which town?

Ans: Ludhiana

Q4: The Park was created to protect its Keystone species, the Nilgiri Tahr. As a part of Western Ghats it is a part of the UNESCO world heritage site. Name the park

Ans: Mukurthi National Park

Q5: In 1713, he was given a death sentence by emperor Farukhsiyar for criticising him in Sikka (verses made for commemorating the minting of a new coin). His real name Mir Muhammad Jafar. He had a brillant command over Persian, Hindi and Rekhta. Name the poet

Ans: Zatalli

Q6: Name the accomplished eldest daughter of Emperor Shah Jahan under whose instruction Chandni Chowk was constructed?

Ans: Jahanara Begum

Q7: Emomali Rakhmonov-the president of Tajikistan's visit to this tomb opposite Purana Quila is commemorated in a tablet. The tombs here were sanctioned by Khwaja Sheikh Nooruddin and in one of them rest one of the greatest masters of "Sabk-e-Hindi" school of poetry Mirza Abdul Qadir. How do we know him better?

Ans: Bedil
Q15: This picturesque town circled by the majestic Myntdu River and serves as the headquarters of the district. Caves in Lumshnong and Syndai in this district is one of the largest cave networks in Asia. Name the headquarter town

Ans: Jowai

Q16: Near to this town is the Eaglesnest Wildlife Sanctuary. Part of the West Kameng district, the Tawang gompa is a part of this town inhabited by a few tribes including the Monpas. Name the town?

Ans: Bomdilla

Q17: He did the country proud by winning the gold in the 800-metre event at the 1966 Bangkok Asian Games. He was the first Arjuna Award winner from the region. Name the athlete?

Ans: Bhogeshwar Baruah

Q18: He was captain of the Indian team in the first official football game in its history. He had a nine-year career as a professional footballer with Mohun Bagan. After his retirement from football, he studied medicine and in 1978 became the director of Nagaland Health Services. Name the legend?

Ans: Dr Talimaran Ao (January 28, 1918 – September 13, 1998)

Q19: In 2005 he was a winner of a Whiteley Award for outstanding leadership in nature conservation. From this fund he created the Agumbe Rainforest Research Station for the study of king cobras and their habitat. Can you name this living legend?

Ans: Romulus Whitaker

Q20: With which legendary Bollywood personality's film Hum Naujawan did Tabu make his debut in Bollywood in 1985?

Ans: Dev Anand

Q21: We often buy CTC tea. What does CTC stand for?

Ans: Cutting, Tearing Curling
Q160: Sarvadamana also known as Bharata was the son of which famous pair in Hindu mythology?

Ans: Shakuntala and Dushyanta

Q161: Which former NASA scientist directed the recent film Chittagong?

Ans: Bedabrata Pain

Q162: If one were to look at Gandhiji’s career at the Bar in South Africa, there are two distinct phases. One is the Natal phase which one is the other?

Ans: Transvaal phase

Q163: H. Abdur Raqeeb is a part of an important non-profit body called NCIB have proposed certain changes in a certain sector. This sector currently has 26 public sector, 20 private sector and 41 foreign entities. The total assets of 40 listed entities as of March 31, 2012 is Rs 71.64 trillion. Work out the full form of NCIB

Ans: National Committee on Islamic Banking

Q164: Which king composed songs under the name Akhtari Pia?

Ans: Nawab Wajed Ali Shah

Q165: When Radhanath Sikdar can his trip of Hindu College-Kolkata (now Presidency University) calculated Peak 15 of the Himalayas as the tallest peak of the world (later to be renamed as Mount Everest), he was a part of which organisation?

Ans: Great Trigonometric Survey of India

Q166: Ville Blanche and Ville Noire once made up which Indian town?

Ans: Pondicherry

Q167: With which Indian state would you associate the legacy of Chogyal dynasty?

Ans: Sikkim

Q168: Which place connects Dr B.R. Ambedkar with Indian hockey captain Kishen Lal (1948 Olympics in London)?

Ans: Mhow near Indore
Q178: Which Indian city was designed by Vidyadhar Bhattacharya through nine rectangular blocks, strictly according to Shilpa Shastra?

Ans: Jaipur

Q179: Newham Council believes the memorable rendezvous is a prime example of how the borough was a hotbed for community cohesion as far back as 1931, when the picture was taken. On September 22, 1931, at renowned Indian medic Dr Katial's house in Beckton Road, Canning Town the meeting happened. One of them is Gandhi. Name the other

Ans: Charlie Chaplin

Q180: Hazrat Shahid Shahul Hameed Wali and Kanduri festival. Which dargah?

Ans: Nagore dargah

Q181: Food heritage. X was first conceived in the ancient Punjab region, but soon became popular all over India. The south-Indian states have their own versions of X. In Myanmar (Burma) it is eaten with curries or cooked with either egg or mutton, or as a dessert with white sugar. X in Trinidad and Tobago is generally larger and thinner. Give the common Indian name

Ans: Parantha

Q182: Bholu with a lamp in his hand is a mascot of which organisation?

Ans: Indian Railways

Q183: Which is the oldest mountain range in India?

Ans: Aravallis.

Q184: Dolphins can be seen in two large Goa rivers. One is Mandovi. Name the other.

Ans: Zuari

Q185: Which Indian football team plays its league home matches in Tilak Maidan-Vasco?

Ans: Churchill Brothers
Q210: Which artiste’s directorial debut ‘Through the eyes of the painter’ won the Golden Bear for the best short film in Berlin Film Festival-196?

Ans: M.F. Hussain

Q211: Where will you find the Baichung Bhutia stadium in Sikkim?

Ans: Namchi

Q212: In Mahabharata, Arjuna was nicknamed “Sabyasachi”. Why?

Ans: For his ability to fight with both hands

Q213: In the cricket stadium in Indore, there is a huge concrete bat. Why was it built?

Ans: To commemorate India’s first win against England in England in 1971

Q214: When Krishna was accidentally killed by Jara, Vishwakarma on instruction from Vishnu started building an image with Krishna’s bones which he placed inside the frame. The image however could not be completed and is therefore worshipped in its unfinished form. Which idol are we talking about?

Ans: Jagannathdev of Puri

Q215: Connection - Ananthavijaya, Paundraka, Devadatta, Sughosha and Manipushpaka.

Ans: Conches of the Pandavas

Q216: Who founded the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry along with Purushottam Thakur in 1927?

Ans: GD Birla

Q217: The Captive Ladie and Visions of the Past are English books of poems by which Indian author?

Ans: Michael Madhusudan Datta

Q218: ‘An only son of prosperous parents is apt to be spoilt, especially so in India’. Start of which eminent person’s autobiography?

Ans: Jawaharlal Nehru
Q219: In the TV cartoon series "The Simpsons", what is the name of the Indian convenience store owner who lives in the same street as the Simpsons?

Ans: Apu

Q220: The Ganga flows from the south to the north here. Which city gets it’s name?

Ans : Uttarkashi

Q221: What unique cricketing first is held by Amay Khurasia in terms of international norms in Indian cricket?

Ans : First cricketer to be dope-tested

Q222: What did Rev Jonathan Scobie, a Baptist minister living in Yokohama, develop in 1869 for his invalid wife?

Ans : The rickshaw

Q223: What performing art finds mention in the Ramayana and is thus sometimes considered to be the oldest of performing arts?

Ans : Mimicry – Mareecha’s mimic of Sri Ram in the forest to lure Sita out of the magic circle

Q224: Earlier known as, “Mrs. Monk’s boarding house”. How is it better known today?

Ans : Oberoi Grand hotel, Kolkata.

Q225: In 1969, who became the first President of India to die in office?

Ans: Zakir Hussain

Q226: Who was the first of 24 Jain tirthankaras?

Ans: Adinath Rishabha

Q227: Name Akbar’s finance minister, who from 1560 onwards overhauled the revenue system in the kingdom?

Ans: Raja Todarmal
Q228: Hatipota and Talsonapur formed the backdrop of which immortal novel (made into multiple acclaimed film versions)?

Ans: Devdas

Q229: Government owned Mysore paints and Varnishes Ltd is the exclusive supplier of which product in India?

Ans: Indelible Ink

Q230: According to Hindu myth, who was Vishnu’s first incarnation?

Ans: Matsya

Q231: Which university's educational channel, launched on 26 January 2000, is titled Gyandarshan?

Ans: IGNOU

Q232: Which city in the Indian sub-continent was formerly known as Jahangir Nagar under Mughal Rule (named after Emperor Jahangir) and now an university called Jahangirnagar University is situated on the outskirts of the city?

Ans: Dhaka

Q233: In 1950, Sukumar Sen became the first person to hold which office in India?

Ans: Chief Election Commissioner

Q234: Which monument in Delhi was designed by Fariburz Sahba?

Ans: Lotus temple

Q235: Who was the last Indian cricket captain to win a Test Series Overseas in South Africa?

Ans: Anjum Chopra

Q236: In London it is Lombard Street, in the US it is Wall Street. What street is it in Mumbai?

Ans: Dalal Street

Q237: This classical dance form is named after a village of Divi Taluq of Krishna district of Andhra Pradesh?

Ans: Kuchipudi
Q254: Mangal Pande of the 34th Native Infantry Regiment was sentenced and hanged on April 8, 1857. The rest of the infantry was disarmed and disbanded. Who was the only other person to be executed from this regiment?

Ans: Ishwari Prasad, the head guard

Q255: Surabhi the cow, Uchchhaishrava the horse, a bevy of apsaras, the parijata tree, varuni, the goddess of wine, Shree the goddess, halahala a poison and Dhanvantari the divine physician....what is common?

Ans: All arose from the churning of the ocean by the asuras and devas (Dhanvantri carried the nectar of immortality) "

Q256: This great Indian philosopher suggested that the world was real instead of illusory. He therefore put forward a fresh ontological classification of reality into two orders. Svantantra and Paratantra - independent and dependant. God alone is the independent reality. Who?

Ans: Madhvacharya

Q257: He succeeded his elder brother Veera Narasimha as king. As an accomplished poet and a patron of the arts, his literary court was adorned by eminent poets and scholars. He himself wrote a Telugu classic Amukta Malyada and a play in Sanskrit, Jambavati Kalyana. Who?

Ans: Krishnadeva Raya, king of Vijayanagar

Q258: Author of Vikramarjuna Vijaya. 1st retelling of the Mahabharata in a non-sanskrit language. Who?

Ans: Pampa Mahakavi

Q259: The Ghost Road by Pat Barker, Last orders by Graham Swift, _______, Amsterdam by Ian McEwan. Complete the series.

Ans:"The God of Small things by Arundhati Roy – Booker's in 95, 96, 97 & 98"

Q260: It is said that Brahma, the Creator, created this, taking literature from the Rig Veda, song from the Sama Veda, abhinaya or expression from the Yajur Veda and rasa or aesthetic experience from the Atharva Veda.?

Ans: Natya or dance
Q284: The city is believed to have derived its name from Maya Rashtra, the capital of the kingdom of Mayasura (Ravana’s father-in-law). Name the city

Ans: MEERUT

Q285: As per the Mahabharata Parikshit was enthroned here and the first oral rendition of the Mahabharata was done by Vaishampayana during the rule of Janamejaya. Identify this world heritage site.

Ans: TAKSHILA

Q286: Vishnuprayag is the confluence of Alaknanda and which other river?

Ans: DHAULI GANGA

Q287: A gold medallist in discus held in the 1966 and 1970 Asian Games. Also hold the Asian Games record of 56.76 metre also a silver medallist in the 1966 Commonwealth Games held in Kingston and the 1974 Asian Games in Tehran. He also competed in the 1968 Summer Olympics and in the 1972 Summer Olympics. Incidentally the nation identifies with him better for his work in the field of entertainment rather in the domain of Television. Name the person?

Ans: PRAVEEN KUMAR

Q288: The ruler commissioned bricks to be made from the soil brought from Mecca and used them in the construction of the central arch of the mosque, thus giving the mosque its name. Who formed the centre piece around which the city was planned. Name the ruler.

Ans: MOHAMMED QULI QUTB SHAH

Q289: Who is the Hindu God of Medicine/Ayurveda?

Ans: DHANVANTARI

Q290: The garden is located in a radius of 300 Km from Delhi. It was created in the 17th century by architect Nawab Fidai Khan during the early reign of his foster brother Aurangzeb. Now it has been named after one of the rulers of the former princely state of Patiala. How is the garden known as now?

Ans: PINJORE (YADAVINDRA GARDENS)
Q473: The whole creation took place in exactly 6 hours notice when Lala Hardayal was invited to give a lecture as a result of factionalism within the YMCA. Pandit Ravi Shankar later put it to music?

Ans: Muhammad Iqbal’s *Saare Jahan Se Acha* 

Q474: During Taimur the Lame’s invasion, his forces were reported to have a slayed almost a million residents in this hill area in Delhi during a bloody fortnight. Which hill?

Ans: Raisina Hill

Q475: Which *raag* is George Harrison playing in his sitar in the composition *Norwegian Woods*?

Ans: Raag Bageshree

Q476: Munshi Premchand started the newspaper *Hans*. Now, it is edited by a famous writer. Who?

Ans: RAJENDRA YADAV

Q478: Two clues. It is the national game of Bangladesh. One of the former India internationals to have played the sport and captained the country is Bishwajit Palit. Name the sport.

Ans: Kabaddi

Q479: Samar Jodha’s important public art installation partially titled A Silent Picture has been installed in London around the same time as the Olympics. What is the theme?

Ans: Bhopal Gas Tragedy

Q480: Which city in India would you be if you are boarding a bus from the Maharana Pratap Inter State Bus Terminus?

Ans: Delhi

Q481: Which element was discovered by a team of astronomers who had camped near Bellary, Karnataka in 1868?

Ans: Helium

Q482: Which national park in north-east is famous for the dancing dear?

Ans: Keibul Lamjao in Manipur