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Q12

Consider the following statements: Statement-I: Marsupials are not naturally found in India. Statement-II: Marsupials can thrive only in montane grasslands with no predators. Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements? (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I (c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect (d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct Official key: C.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2023 · General Studies · 2 marks · Environment and Ecology
Environment, ecology, climate, biodiversity - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation

(a)

Both correct and II explains I. Marsupials are not confined to predator-free montane grassland.

(b)

Both correct but II does not explain I. II is false.

(c) Official key

I correct, II incorrect. No native Indian **marsupial**; kangaroos and opossums occupy many habitats, not only montane grassland.

(d)

I incorrect, II correct. India has no wild marsupials.

Summary

Official key is (c). Marsupials (kangaroos, koalas, opossums) are native to Australasia and the Americas, not India. They live in forest, woodland, desert and grassland - not only montane grassland without predators. Statement-II is the false limb.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Marsupial

Pouched mammal; young complete development in a pouch.

Wallace Line

Faunal break between Asian placentals and Australasian marsupials.

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