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Q64

Consider the following statements : Statement-I The temperature contrast between continents and oceans is greater during summer than in winter. Statement-II The specific heat of water is more than that of land surface. 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: D.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2023 · General Studies · 2 marks · Geography

Physical, Indian and world geography - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation

(a)

Both correct and II explains I. The land-sea contrast is greater in winter, not summer.

(b)

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

(c)

I correct, II incorrect. Water's specific heat is higher than land's.

(d) Official key

I incorrect, II correct. Continents get colder than oceans in winter; water's high specific heat is why.

Summary

Official key is (d). Oceans warm and cool slowly because water's specific heat is high. The sharpest continent-ocean temperature contrast is in winter (very cold interiors, milder seas), not summer. Statement-I reverses the season; Statement-II is true.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Specific heat of water

About $1 \text{ cal g}^{-1} \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}^{-1}$; higher than dry soil or rock.

Continentality

Large annual range inland; small on windward coasts.

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