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Q58

Consider the following statements : 1. There are no parables in Upanishads. 2. Upanishads were composed earlier than the Puranas. 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 Official key: B.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2024 · General Studies · 2 marks · Art and Culture

Indian art, architecture, culture - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation

(a)

1 only. **Upanishads** do contain parables and dialogues.

(b) Official key

2 only. **Upanishads** are earlier than the **Puranas**.

(c)

Both. Statement 1 is false.

(d)

Neither. Statement 2 holds.

Summary

Official key is (b) 2 only. The principal **Upanishads** belong to the later Vedic / early philosophical layer; the **Puranas** are a much later genre. Statement 1 is false: **Upanishads** use stories and parables (Yama-Nachiketa, Yajnavalkya dialogues). So only 2 is correct.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Upanishads

Vedanta layer of the Vedic corpus; knowledge (jnana) texts.

Puranas

Later encyclopaedic Hindu texts; myths, dynasties, pilgrimage.

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