



Daily Article (Bharath's Reading list) - Answers and Explanations 05.10.2023

Article link : [Link](#) (Why are world leaders racing to the Pacific Islands?)

1. The article gives all the following reasons why Pacific Island nations are valuable partners for nations looking to emerge as regional powers except:

- A. These nations sit astride vital maritime shipping routes
- B. In any future Indo-Pacific military conflicts, they could be key outposts to dock and fuel ships
- C. Their vast exclusive economic zones in the Pacific Ocean make them critical partners for deep-sea minerals, food etc
- D. They have traditionally been close partners of China and are now looking to maintain a more non-aligned stance

Explanation : D

All options except D are stated. Option D is false based on the line, 'The 14 Pacific Island countries...have traditionally been close partners of the US and its allies, in particular Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom'.

2. Which of the following is not true, based on the article?

- A. India's actions in the Pacific Island region are mostly driven by its own national interests and not solely aimed at countering China
- B. The Pacific Islands Forum, solely comprising the 14 Pacific Island countries, was formed to advocate for the shared interests of the region globally
- C. China, Japan, Singapore, the US and India are among the biggest markets of the Pacific Island nations
- D. Climate change is a key area of focus for India in its relations with the Pacific Island region

Explanation: B

Note the line, 'Along with Australia, New Zealand and French overseas territories New Caledonia and French Polynesia, they are members of the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF), a grouping formed in 1971 to advocate for the shared interests of the region globally.'

3. The region's success in getting multiple major nations is viewed by the Pacific Island nations, according to Tarte, as an opportunity to:

- A. Improve their military power
- B. Strengthen their geopolitical dominance
- C. Gain focus on their own agenda with greater bargaining power
- D. Balance ties between the US and China

Explanation: C

Refer to the last few lines of the article.