

Test Series Question Paper-20-03-2024

Q1. Consider the following pairs

LIST I

Pattachitra Paintings

Paitkar paintings

Thangka Paintings

Manjusha Paintings

LIST II

Bihar

Jharkhand

Gujarat

Odisha

How many of the above pairs is/are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1 is incorrect:** Pattachitra Painting is a traditional painting of Odisha, the name Pattachitra comes from the Sanskrit word patta, which means canvas/cloth, and chitra means picture.
- **Pair 2 is correct:** Paitkar paintings or scroll paintings are considered one of the ancient schools of painting in the country. It is practiced by the tribal people of Jharkhand.
- **Pair 3 is incorrect:** Thangka was originally used as a medium of reverence that evoked the highest ideals of Buddhism. Presently belonging to Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Ladakh region and Arunachal Pradesh.
- **Pair 4 is incorrect:** Manjusha Painting belongs to Bhagalpur region of Bihar. It is also known as Angika art, where 'ang' refers to one of the Mahajan Pada.

Q2. Consider the following pair of different philosophy of Indian Schools and their teachings:

List I	List II
Yoga	Meditation and physical application of yogic techniques
Samkhya	Logical thinking to achieve salvation
Mimasa	Vedas contain the eternal truth
Vedanta	Brahm is the reality of life

How many of the pair given above is/are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1 is correct:** The Yoga school literally means the union of two major entities. They argue that human beings can achieve salvation by combining meditation and physical application of yogic techniques.
- **Pair 2 is incorrect:** This is the oldest school of philosophy and was founded by Kapil Muni who is supposed to have written the Samkhya Sutra. It views reality as composed of two independent principles, Purusa ('consciousness' or spirit) and Prakrti (nature or matter, including the human mind and emotions).
- **Pair 3 is correct:** The word 'Mimamsa' literally means the art of reasoning, interpretation and application. This school focuses on the analysis of the texts of Samhita and Brahmana that are portions of the Vedas.
- **Pair 4 is correct:** Vedanta is made of two words- 'Veda' and 'ant', i.e. the end of the Vedas. This school upholds the philosophies of life as elaborated in the Upanishads. The oldest text that formed the basis of this philosophy was Brahmasutra of Badrayana. The philosophy propounds that Brahman is the reality of life and everything else is unreal or Maya

Q3. Consider the following:

1. Charak Samhita
2. Sushruta Samhita
3. Rasachikitsa system
4. Atharva Veda

Which of the given above is/are associated with Medicine?

- a) Only 1, 2 and 3
- b) Only 2, 3 and 4
- c) Only 1, 3 and 4
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- Atharva Veda was the first book where a mention about the diseases, its cure and medicines can be found. According to it, the diseases were caused by the demons and spirits entering into the human body and can be cured by magical charms and spells. Atharva Veda mentioned cure for many of the diseases which include diarrhoea, sores, cough, leprosy, fever and seizure.
- Charak Samhita mainly deals with use of plants and herbs for medicinal purposes. In a way, it mainly deals with Ayurveda as a science whose description is divided into eight books.
- Sushruta Samhita deals with practical problems of Surgery and Obstetrics. Sushruta studied anatomy in great detail with the aid of a human dead body.
- The Rasachikitsa system dealt with the treatment of diseases using mineral medicines. The Unani System of Medicine came to India with the book Firdous-al-Hikmah written by Ali-ibn-Rabban.
- **So, option (d) is correct.**

Q4. Consider the following statements regarding Ravanachhaya Puppet:

1. It is one of the famous shadow puppets of West Bengal.
2. These puppets have multiple joints.
3. Puppets are made up of deer Skin

How many of the above-given statements is/are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three

d) None

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- The most theatrically exciting is the Ravanachhaya of Odisha. The puppets are in one piece and have no joints. They are not coloured, hence throw opaque shadows on the screen. The manipulation requires great dexterity, since there are no joints. The puppets are made of deer skin and are conceived in bold dramatic poses. Apart from human and animal characters, many props such as trees, mountains, chariots, etc. are also used. Ravanachhaya puppets are smaller in size not more than two feet and have no jointed limbs, they create very sensitive and lyrical shadows. **So, option (a) is correct.**

Q5. Consider the following Martial Arts:

1. Kalaripayattu
2. Silambam
3. Thang Ta

How many of the above given martial arts is/are performed by women?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- The vast majority of contemporary women practitioners of Kalaripayattu are from families who claim a legacy in its practice and performance and used traditionally to own Kalaris. These women have also their own Kalaris and they practice and perform with male members of their families both in Kalaris and on stage.
- Silambam is a traditional weapon based of martial arts of Tamil Nadu. It is practiced by both male and female.
- ★ Thang ta is a famous martial art of Manipur. It is practiced by Man and Women both. **So, option (c) is correct.**

Q6. Consider the following statements:

1. The Greek kings in India used the Pali language in their coins.
2. Satavahana kings mostly used lead as a material for their coins.
3. Gupta rulers issued coins depicting the emperors only in martial activities.

How many of the above-given statements is/are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The coins of the Greek kings in India were bilingual, i.e., written in Greek on the front side and in Pali language (in Kharosthi script) on the back
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Satavahanas rule started after 232 BC and lasted up to 227 AD. The Satavahana kings mostly used lead as a material for their coins. Silver coins were rare. Next to lead, they used an alloy of silver and copper called 'potin'.

- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Gupta rulers issued coins depicting the emperors not only in martial activities like hunting lions/tigers, posing with weapons, etc., but also in leisurely activities like playing a Veena, with reverse side of the coin having images of Goddess Lakshmi, Durga, Garuda and Kartikeya

Q7. Consider the following statements:

1. Jain literature is only in the Prakrit and Sanskrit languages.
2. Karmaprabhrita is a sacred text of the Svetambara sect.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Apart from writing in Prakrit and Ardha Magadhi, Jain monks wrote in many other languages depending on the era, region and the patrons who supported them. They wrote in Tamil during the Sangam Age in South India. They also wrote in Sanskrit, Shauraseni, Gujarati, and Marathi.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Digambaras gave sacred status to two works: the Karmaprabhrita (Discussion on Karma) or Shatkhandagama and the Kashayaprabhrita.

Q8. Consider the following statements regarding lion capital, Sarnath:

1. Built in commemoration of the historical event of the enlightenment of Buddha.
2. The capital with the crowning wheel has been adopted as the National Emblem of Independent India.
3. The abacus is intricately carved with images of a bull, a horse, a tiger and an elephant.

How many of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Built in commemoration of the historical event of the first sermon or the Dhammachakrapravartana by the Buddha at Sarnath, the capital was built by Ashoka.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The capital without the crowning wheel and the lotus base has been adopted as the National Emblem of Independent India.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The abacus has the depiction of a chakra (wheel) having twenty-four spokes in all four directions and a bull, a horse, an elephant and a lion between every chakra is finely carved. The motif of the chakra becomes significant as a representation of the Dhammachakra in the entire Buddhist art.

Q9. Consider the following statements regarding Gandhara and Mathura schools of art:

1. Gandhara School of Art used spotted red sandstone whereas Mathura School of art used bluish grey and grey sandstone.
2. The Halo around the head of Buddha was not decorated generally in Mathura School of Art while it was largely decorated in Gandhara School of art.
3. The Gandhara school of art was influenced by Buddhism while Mathura school of art was Influenced by Hinduism, Buddhism and Jainism.

How many of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Ans:(b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Gandhara School of Art used bluish Grey and grey sandstone whereas Mathura school of Art used spotted red sandstone.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Halo around the head of Buddha was not decorated generally in Gandhara School of Art while it was largely decorated in Mathura School of Art.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Gandhara school of art was influenced by Buddhism while Mathura school of art was Influenced by Hinduism, Buddhism and Jainism.

Q 10. Consider the following pairs:

Bhakti Sect	Bhakti Literature
Ekasarana	Kirtan Ghosha
Warkari	Vachanas
Virshaivas	Abang

How many of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1 is correct:** The Kirtan Ghosha is a collection of poetical works, primarily composed by the medieval saint Srimanta Sankardev in the Braja Bhasha. Ekasarana Dharma is a neo-Vaishnavite monolithic sect propagated by Srimanta Sankardeva in the 15th-16th century in the Indian state of Assam .
- **Pair 2 is incorrect:** At the heart of Virashaiva tradition lie the vachanas—Kannada-language devotional poems. These are attributed to a remarkable gathering of spiritual adepts—called sharanas or “worthy spiritual abodes”—from the 12th and 13th centuries in northern Karnataka.
- **Pair 3 is incorrect:** The Abhanga is a form of devotional poetry sung in praise of the Hindu god Vitthal, also known as Vithoba. word “abhang” comes from *a* for “non-” and *bhanga* for “ending” or “interrupting” ,in other words, a flawless, continuous process, in this case referring to a poem. The Warkari movement includes the worship of Vithoba and a duty-based approach towards life emphasising moral behaviour and strict avoidance of alcohol and tobacco, the adoption of a sattvic diet etc.

Q 11. Consider the following statements:

1. Henry Pelham constructed the first approximately correct map of India in 1783.
2. James Prinsep divided Indian history into three periods viz. Hindu, Muslim, and British.
3. Sir William Jones was the founding editor of the Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three

d) None

Ans: (d)

Statement 1 is incorrect: James Rennell was an English cartographer, geographer, and oceanographer. He was surveyor general (1764–77) of Bengal. He published 'A Bengal Atlas' in 1779. He is known to have constructed the first approximately correct map of India in 1783.

Statement 2 is incorrect: In 1817, James Mill, a Scottish economist and political philosopher, published a massive three-volume work named 'A History of British India'. In this, he divided Indian history into three periods – Hindu Muslim and British.

Statement 3 is incorrect: James Prinsep was an English scholar, orientalist and antiquary. He was the founding editor of the Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal and is best remembered for deciphering the Kharosthi and Brahmi scripts of ancient India.

Q 12 Consider the following statements:

1. Jonathan Duncan was the first to translate the Bhagavad Gita into English.
2. Lord Cornwallis appointed the Amini Commission.
3. Censorship of Press Act of 1799 was passed under the leadership of William Amherst.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Ans: (d)

Statement 1 is incorrect: Charles Wilkins first translated the Bhagavad Gita into English. He opened up Indian culture to the Western world.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Warren Hastings appointed the *Amini Commission* in 1776 to gather systematic information about the Indian agrarian system.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Censorship of Press Act 1799 was passed by Richard Wellesley, the then Governor General of India. The Act was passed to restrict the French people from spreading any news that was against the British government.

Q13. Consider the following statements regarding the Songram Sangma revolt of 1906:

1. It was a peasant revolt that took place in Odisha.
2. It was against the high land revenue demand by the Britishers.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans(d)

Statement 1 is incorrect: Songram Sangma was a tribal revolt that took place in 1906 in Assam.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The revolt was due to a new forest law introduced by the Britishers. The forest law enacted by the British declared forests as state property and classified certain forests as reserved forests. Forest dwellers and tribal communities which depended on forest produce, were now not allowed hunting, Jhum cultivation, and gathering activities in the reserve forests. Due to this, tribes in Assam revolted against the British in 1906 and the revolt was the so-called Songram Sangma revolt.

Q14. She joined the Brahmo Samaj and opened Sharda Sadan (Abode of Wisdom) in Bombay. She was accorded with title of Sarasvati for being a great scholar. Inspired by God, whom she found in Jesus Christ after first trying all the religions at her disposal, she founded the Mukti Mission on March 11, 1889. Which great personality is discussed above?

- a) Savitribai Phule
- b) Hilda Mary Lazarus
- c) Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit
- d) Pandita Ramabai

Ans: (d)

Pandita Ramabai was a great scholar of Sanskrit. She felt that Hinduism was oppressive towards women, and wrote a book about the miserable lives of upper-caste Hindu women. She founded a widows' home at Poona to provide shelter to widows. She was the first woman to be accorded the titles of Pandita and Sarasvati. Inspired by God, whom she found in Jesus Christ after first trying all the religions at her disposal, she founded the Mukti Mission on March 11, 1889. **So, option (d) is correct.**

Q15 Consider the following pairs:

- | | Delhi Durbars | Organized under which Viceroy |
|----|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. | First Delhi Durbar | Lord Lytton |
| 2. | Second Delhi Durbar | Lord Dufferin |
| 3. | Third Delhi Durbar | Lord Curzon |

How many of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Ans: (a)

The three Delhi Durbars were held in the years 1877, 1903, and 1911 respectively. The durbars aimed to mark the accession of the British monarch to the title of Empress or Emperor of India.

Pair 1 is correct: The first Delhi Durbar was held in 1877. It was held under the leadership of Lord Lytton as the viceroy of India.

Pair 2 is incorrect: The second Delhi Durbar was held in 1903. It was held under the leadership of Lord Curzon as Viceroy of India.

Pair 3 is incorrect: Lord Hardinge was the Viceroy during the Delhi Durbar of 1911.

Q 16 Consider the following statements:

- 1. Transfer of power of governance in India from East India Company to the British Crown.
- 2. Allowing the ruling chiefs in India to pass on their kingdoms to their adopted sons.
- 3. A member of the British Cabinet to be appointed as Secretary of State for India.

Which of the above were the steps taken by the British government after the end of the Revolt of 1857?

- a) Only 1 and 3
- b) Only 2 and 3
- c) Only 1 and 2

d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (d)

Statement 1 is correct: The British Parliament passed a new Act in 1858 and transferred the powers of the East India Company to the British Crown to ensure a more responsible management of Indian affairs.

Statement 2 is correct: All ruling chiefs of the country were assured that their territory would never be annexed in the future. They were allowed to pass on their kingdoms to their heirs, including adopted sons, thereby ending the doctrine of lapse.

Statement 3 is correct: A member of the British Cabinet was appointed as the Secretary of State for India and made responsible for all matters related to the governance of India. He was given a council to advise him, called the India Council.

Q 17 In the context of Indian history, which one of the following was the main objective of Macaulay's Minutes?

- a) Ensuring that the legislature had no control over the Viceroy's executive council.
- b) Promotion of oriental learning in India.
- c) Promoting English education in India.
- d) To control and regulate the vernacular press in India.

Ans: (c)

Thomas Babington Macaulay in his Macaulay's Minute on Education came up with the idea that English education is not only superior in 'science', but would also inculcate superior morals, etc. among Indians. He therefore introduced the Macaulay's Minute or the English Education Act of 1835.

The decision was to make English the medium of instruction for higher education and to stop the promotion of Oriental institutions like the Calcutta Madrasa and Benaras Sanskrit College. **So, option (c) is correct.**

Q 18 Consider the following statements regarding Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar:

- 1. He laid the foundation of the first degree-awarding university named Serampore University.
- 2. He played a major role in getting the Widow Remarriage Act passed in 1856.
- 3. He started a weekly newspaper called 'Shom Prakash'.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only 1 and 3
- b) Only 2 and 3
- c) Only 2
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (b)

Statement 1 is incorrect: William Carey was a British Christian missionary, translator, social reformer, and cultural anthropologist. He founded the Serampore Mission Press, Serampore College, and Serampore University, the first degree-awarding university in India.

Statement 2 is correct: Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar was one of the most famous reformers who used ancient texts to suggest that widows could remarry in Hinduism. His suggestion was adopted by British officials, and a law was passed in 1856 that permitted widow remarriage.

Statement 3 is correct: 'Shom Prakash' newspaper was started by Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar in 1859 under the editorship of Dwarakanath Vidyabhushan. It was a weekly paper coming from the Sanskrit Press.

Q 19 Consider the following statements about a Tribal Community in India:

1. This tribal community was well known for its indigenous iron smelting technique.
2. This community declined rapidly due to the import of English steel in India during the 20th century.
3. This community predominantly lived in central India, especially in the parts of Madhya Pradesh and Odisha.

Which one of the following tribal communities has been described above?

- a) Agaria
- b) Santhal
- c) Baiga
- d) Munda

Ans: (a)

Many of the Indian tribes are known for Iron smelting through indigenous methods. Among them, Asur Munda and Agaria are the main tribes associated with iron smelting. During the colonial period, Agaria mainly lived in central India and were associated with the iron smelting work. Iron was mainly used for producing weapons during those times.

When the import of English steel into India was promoted during the 20th century then the weapons and utensils made of iron declined. On the other hand, weapons made using English steel increased. This also led to the decline of the Agaria Tribe. **So, option (a) is correct.**

Q 20 Consider the following features:

1. Creating a new executive council of the Governor-General with an equal number of Hindus and Muslims in it.
2. All the members of the new executive council should be Indians except the Viceroy and the Commander-in-Chief.
3. The new Executive Council was to work predominantly on aid and advice of the Secretary of State to India.

Which of the above were the features of the Lord Wavell Plan?

- a) Only 1 and 2
- b) Only 2 and 3
- c) Only 1 and 3
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (a)

Lord Wavell on June 14, 1945, offered a plan of an interim arrangement called the Wavell Plan. The important features of the plan were: -

Statement 1 is correct: A new executive council of the Governor-General was to be constituted consisting of an equal number of Hindus and Muslims.

Statement 2 is correct: All the members of the Executive Council were to be Indians except the Viceroy and the Commander-in-Chief, who retained the responsibility for the defence of India.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The new Executive Council was to work within the framework of the 1935 Act, and the Governor-General retained the power of veto against a majority decision of the Councillors. The interference of the Secretary of State was to be decreased to the minimum.

Q21. Consider the following statements regarding Garba:

1. It is a traditional folk-dance form popular in Punjab state.
2. It fosters social equality by diluting socio-economic, gender, and rigid sect structures.
3. It is included in the Cultural Heritage of Humanity of UNESCO.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct list of Intangible?

- a) Only 1 and 2
- b) Only 1 and 3
- c) Only 2 and 3
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans:(c)

Explanation:

- Recently, UNESCO has inscribed the popular Gujarati folk dance Garba on its Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.
- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Garba is a form of Gujarati folk dance that is performed during the nine-day Hindu festival of Navratri, which celebrates the victory of good over evil.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Over the decades Garba has been an integral and living component of Gujarati culture in India and among the global Indian diaspora. In addition to being a religious ritual, Garba fosters social equality by diluting socio-economic, gender, and rigid sect structures. It continues to be inclusive and participative by diverse and marginalized communities, strengthening community bonds.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The Garba dance form is the 15th cultural item from India to make it to the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) of Humanity list.

Q22. Recently, National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM) documented 52 lakh manuscripts and conserved 90 million folios across country. Consider the following statements regarding NMM:

1. It was established in 2003, by the Ministry of Science and Technology.
2. The Mission has the mandate of identifying, documenting, conserving and making accessible the manuscript heritage of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 Nor 2

Ans:(b)

Explanation:

- Recently, National Mission for Manuscripts documented 52 lakh manuscripts and conserved 90 million folios across country, says Union Culture Minister G Kishan Reddy.
- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The National Mission for Manuscripts was established in February 2003, by the Ministry of Tourism and Culture, Government of India.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The Mission has the mandate of identifying, documenting, conserving and making accessible the manuscript heritage of India. India possesses an estimate of ten million manuscripts, probably the largest collection in the world. These cover a variety of themes, textures and aesthetics, scripts, languages, calligraphies and illustrations.

Q23. Consider the following pairs:

List I

Pithoro Painting
Gond Painting
Warli Painting
Pata Painting

List II

Uttarakhand
Madhya Pradesh
Maharashtra
West Bengal

How many of the above pairs are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1 is incorrect:** Pithoro painting was painted by Rathva Bhils of the Panchmahal region in Gujarat and Jhabua in the neighboring State of Madhya Pradesh, these paintings are done on the walls of houses to mark special or thanksgiving occasions.
- **Pair 2 is correct:** The Gond painting belongs to the Gonds of Madhya Pradesh have a rich tradition with their chiefs ruling over Central India. They worshipped nature. Paintings of Gonds of Mandla and its surrounding regions have recently been transformed into a colorful depiction of animals, humans, and flora.
- **Pair 3 is correct:** Warli painting is a tribal art mainly painted by the Warli tribal community. This community inhabits in the west coast of Northern Maharashtra around the north Sahyadri range with a large concentration in the district of Thane. Married women play a central role in creating their most important painting called Chowk to mark special occasions.
- **Pair 4 is correct:** Pata painting done on fabric, palm leaf, or paper, scroll painting is another example of an art form practiced in different parts of the country, especially, Gujarat and Rajasthan in the West and Odisha and West Bengal in East. It is also known as Pata, Pachedi, Phad, etc.

Q24. Consider the following statements:

1. Suktagandor is the southernmost site of Indus Valley civilization.
2. Banawali was situated on the bank of river Ghaggar.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Daimabad (Maharashtra) is the southernmost site of Indus Valley civilization.

Northernmost site	Mand (Jammu & Kashmir)
Westernmost site	Suktagandor (Pakistan)
Southernmost site	Daimabad (Maharashtra)
Easternmost site	Alamgirpur (Uttar Pradesh)

- **Statement 2 is correct:** Banawali is an archaeological site of Indus Valley Civilization period located in Haryana. It was situated on the bank of river Ghaggar, which now dried up.

Q25. With reference to Dravidian style of temple architecture, consider the following statements:

1. Absence of high boundary walls.
2. The spire is in the form of a stepped pyramid.

3. Brihadeeswara Temple at Thanjavur is example of Dravidian style temple.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Ans:(b)

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is incorrect: The Dravidian temples were surrounded by high boundary walls.
- Statement 2 is correct: Under Dravidian style, the spire is in the form of a stepped pyramid that rises up linearly rather than curved. It is known as vimana.
- Statement 3 is correct: Brihadeeswara Temple at Thanjavur (built by Raja Raja I in 1011 AD), Gangaikondacholapuram Temple are examples of Dravidian style temple.

Q26. Consider the following personalities:

- 1. Chanakya
- 2. Charak
- 3. Panini

How many of the above is/are belong to Takshashila University?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Ans:(c)

Explanation:

- Takshashila is located in modern-day Pakistan. Noted teachers and students from Takshashila include :-
 - ✓ Chanakya
 - ✓ Charak
 - ✓ Panini
 - ✓ Jivaka
 - ✓ Prasenajit

Q27. Consider the following statements:

- 1. Vihars were residential halls for the Buddhist and Jain monks.
- 2. Chaitya were the prayer halls.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans:(c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Vihars were residential halls for the Buddhist and Jain monks and were developed during the time of the Mauryan Empire.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Chaitya were quadrangular chambers with flat roofs and used as prayer halls.

Q28. Consider the following pairs:

Mudra	Significance
Bhumisparsha Mudra	Calling the Earth to Witness the Truth
Dhyana Mudra	Teaching phase of preaching
Vitarka Mudra	Attainment of spiritual perfection

How many of the pairs given above is/are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Ans:(a)

Explanation:

Bhumisparsha Mudra	Dhyana Mudra	Vitarka Mudra
Significance: 'Calling the Earth to Witness the Truth' and it represents the moment of Buddha attaining enlightenment.	It signifies attainment of spiritual perfection.	It signifies the teaching phase of preaching in Buddhism. The circle formed by the thumb and index finger maintains the constant flow of energy, as there is no beginning or end, only perfection.

Q29. Consider the following temples:

1. Dasavatar temple at Deogarh
2. Durga temple at Aihole
3. Parvati temple at Nachna Kuthara

How many of the above temples is/are made in Panchayatan Style?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans:(b)

Explanation:

- In the Panchayatan style of temple making, there were four subsidiary shrines along with the temple of the principal deity. Dasavatar temple at Deogarh, Durga temple at Aihole are made in Panchayatan style.
- So, option (b) is correct.

Q30. Consider the following statements:

1. Shalimar Bagh is the largest Mughal Garden in the valley.
2. The gardens built by Mughal kings were inspired by the Persian designs.
3. Chashme Shahi is built around a fresh spring.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two

- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans:(b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Nishat Bagh is the largest mughal garden in the valley. It is near Dal Lake and has 12 terraces.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The Mughal kings built a lot of gardens and were inspired by the Persian designs. They were constructed in Char Bagh style. Water streams, fountains and trees form an important part of the gardens.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Chashme Shahi, built around a fresh spring in Persian style.

Q 31 Consider the following statements regarding the Sapru Committee Report published in 1945:

1. It rejected the partition formula and suggested a single United Constitution with safeguards for minorities.
2. It had a section on fundamental rights.
3. It rejected separate electorates for Muslims and proposed joint electorates with reservation of seats.
4. It introduced a 'Minorities Commission'.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

Ans: (d)

Tej Bahadur Sapru was the Chairman of the committee that presented the report. The report was prepared by a committee appointed by the Non-Party Conference in November 1944. Tej Bahadur Sapru was a well-renowned lawyer who convened the first meeting of the Non-Party Conference.

Statement 1 is correct: The committee rejected the Partition formula and suggested a single United Constitution with safeguards for minorities.

Statement 2 is correct: The Report had a section on fundamental rights like that in the Nehru Report, 1928. It had provisions like freedom of speech, freedom of the press, religious freedom, and equality. It called for the future constitution body to precisely formulate these rights.

Statement 3 is correct: This Sapru committee report was not accepted by the Muslim League because it rejected separate electorates for Muslims for the Union Legislature. It proposed joint electorates with reservation of seats.

Statement 4 is correct: It introduced a 'Minorities Commission' that would assess the welfare of minorities and had powers to recommend measures to the government.

Q32. Consider the following features:

1. Bicameralism at the central legislature and all eleven provinces.
2. Retention of the Communal Electorate.
3. Reorganization of provinces.
4. Federal Railway Authority.

Which of the above were the features of the Government of India Act of 1935?

- a) Only 1, 2 and 3
- b) Only 2, 3 and 4
- c) Only 1, 3 and 4
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Ans: (b)

- The Government of India Act of 1935 was one of the lengthiest Acts at that time as it contained 321 sections and 10 schedules.
- Bicameralism: It led to the reorganization of states. It introduced bicameralism in six out of eleven provinces.
- Thus, the legislatures of Bengal, Bombay, Madras, Bihar, Assam, and the United Provinces were made bicameral
- consisting of a legislative council (upper house) and a legislative assembly (lower house).
- Retention of the communal electorate: The Act extended the principle of communal representation by providing
- separate electorates for depressed classes (scheduled castes), women, and labour (workers). The Muslims got 33
- percent of the seats in the Federal Legislature although their number was much less than one-third of the total
- population of British India.
- Federal Railway Authority- This Act led to the establishment of the Federal Railway Authority to control railways
- in India.
- Reorganization of provinces- This Act also led to restructuring or reorganization of certain provinces. A province
- was separated from Bombay and named as Sindh. Similarly, the split of Bihar and Orissa took place. **So, option**
- **(b) is correct.**

Q 33 In the context of Modern Indian History, which one of the following was the main motive behind introducing the 'Ilbert Bill'?

- To shift the pattern of education in India from oriental education to Western learning
- To Prevent seditious meetings and revolutionary activities.
- To Introduce a system of communal representation through the concept of a 'separate electorate'.
- To allow Indian Judges to try cases involving Englishmen.

Ans: (d)

The *Ilbert Bill* was a bill introduced to the Imperial Legislative Council of India on 9 February 1883.

It allowed the senior Indian magistrates to preside over cases involving British subjects in India.

Before this, the British subjects in 1873 had been exempted from trial by Indian magistrates. Ilbert Bill came under the leadership of Lord Rippon. **So, option (d) is correct.**

Q 34 With reference to the Indian National Congress (INC), consider the following statements:

- Annie Besant was the first woman President of the INC.
- Badruddin Tyabji was the first Muslim president of the INC.
- The INC session of Belgaum in 1924 under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi marked the first public recital of Jana Gana Mana.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- Only one
- Only two
- All three
- None

Ans: (b)

Statement 1 is correct: Annie Besant was the first woman President of the Indian National Congress. She presided over the 1917 Calcutta session of the Indian National Congress.

Statement 2 is correct: Badruddin Tyabji was the first Muslim president of the INC. He was also one of the

founding members of the Indian National Congress.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Jana Gana Mana was first sung in the Calcutta Session of the Indian National Congress on 27 December 1911. It was officially adopted by the Constituent Assembly as the Indian national anthem on 24 January 1950.

Q 35 Consider the following statements about Mahatma Gandhi:

1. He was one of the prominent members of the Constituent Assembly.
2. He was accorded the title 'Father of the Nation' by the Government of India.
3. The title 'Mahatma' was given to him by his mentor Gopal Krishna Gokhale.
4. He supported Britain during the First World War.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only 4
- b) Only 2 and 4
- c) Only 2 and 3
- d) Only 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (a)

Statement 1 is incorrect: Mahatma Gandhi was not a member of the Constituent Assembly of India. The members of the Constituent Assembly were chosen by indirect election by the members of the Provincial Legislative Assemblies. On the other hand, Gandhi chose to keep away from the provincial elections.

Statement 2 is incorrect: As stated by the Union Cultural Ministry, Mahatma Gandhi was never accorded the 'Father of the Nation' title by the Government of India and no rule or ordinance has ever passed in this regard. It was Subash Chandra Bose who first addressed Mahatma Gandhi as the 'Father of the Nation'.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Renowned poet and philosopher Rabindranath Tagore bestowed the honorific title 'Mahatma' to Gandhi.

Statement 4 is correct: Gandhi supported the British crown with resources by recruiting Indian soldiers to fight the war in Europe on the British side.

Q36. Consider the following pairs:

Associations/Groups

1. Indian Independence League, 1942
2. Indian National Association
3. All-India Muslim League

Founders

- Aruna Asaf Ali
Sohan Singh Bhakna
Muhammad Ali Jinnah

How many of the pairs given above is/are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Ans: (d)

Pair 1 is incorrect: Rash Behari Bose founded the Indian Independence League in 1942 during a conference in Tokyo.

Pair 2 is incorrect: The Indian National Association is also known as the Indian Association. It was founded in 1876 by Surendranath Banerjee and Ananda Mohan Bose.

Pair 3 is incorrect: Nawab Khwaja Salimullah founded the All-India Muslim League in 1906. The other co-founders were Vikar-ul-Mulk, Syed Amir Ali, Syed Nabiullah, Khan Bahadur Ghulam, and Mustafa Chowdhury.

Q37. Consider the following individuals:

1. Satish Chandra Basu
2. Pramath Nath Mitra
3. Rash Behari Bose
4. Bankim Chandra Chatterjee
5. Surya Sen

Which of the above were members of the 'Anushilan Samiti'?

- a) Only 1, 2 and 3
- b) Only 2, 3 and 4
- c) Only 1, 3, 4 and 5
- d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Ans: (a)

Anushilan Samiti was launched on 24 March 1902 by lawyer Pramathanath Mitra.

Other members include Barindra Kumar Ghosh, Aurobindo Ghosh, Bhupendra Natha Datta, Desha Bandhu Chittaranjan Das, Surendranath Tagore, Pulin Bihari Das, Sarala Devi, Rash Behari Bose, Jatindranath Mukherjee (Bagha Jatin) and Sachindranath Sanyal.

Bankim Chandra Chatterjee and Surya Sen were not associated with the Anushilan Samiti. **So, option (a) is correct.**

Q 38 Consider the following famine commissions:

1. Strachey Commission
2. Lyall Commission
3. Campbell Commission

The correct chronological order of these commissions is:

- a) 1-3-2
- b) 1-2-3
- c) 3-1-2
- d) 2-3-1

Ans: (c)

Campbell Commission, 1866: In 1865-66, a famine engulfed Odisha, Bengal, Bihar, and Madras and took a toll of 20 lakhs of lives with Odisha alone losing 10 lakh lives. It was followed by the appointment of a committee under the chairmanship of Sir George Campbell.

Strachey Commission, 1880: In 1880, Lytton appointed a commission under Richard Strachey to formulate general principles and suggest measures of preventive or protective character.

Lyall Commission, 1896-97: A commission presided over by Sir James Lyall, ex-Lt Governor of Punjab, adhered to the views expressed by their predecessors in 1880. **So, option (c) is correct.**

Q39 With reference to Savitribai Phule, consider the following statements:

1. She was the first female teacher in India.
2. She started Bharat Mahila Parishad, to raise awareness about women's rights.
3. She initiated the first Satyashodhak marriage.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Ans:(b)

Statement 1 is correct: Savitribai Jyotirao Phule was a prominent Indian social reformer, educationist and poet

who played an instrumental role in women's education and empowerment during the nineteenth century. She was the first female teacher in India and by 1848, the Phules started a school for girls, Shudras and Ati-Shudras in Poona.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Savitribai Phule started Mahila Seva Mandal, to raise awareness about women's rights. Whereas Bharat Mahila Parishad was founded by Ramabai Ranade and its objectives included the promotion of education for women, abolition of the purdah system and improvement in the socio-economic and political status of women all over India.

Statement 3 is correct: Savitribai Phule initiated the first Satyashodhak marriage ie. a marriage without a dowry, Brahmin priests or Brahminical rituals in 1873.

Q40. Consider the following options:

1. Gitanjali
2. Ghare-Baire
3. Gora
4. Manasi

How many of the above is/are the work of Rabindranath Tagore?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All Four

Ans: (d)

Rabindranath Tagore's notable works include

- Gitanjali,
- Ghare-Baire,
- Gora,
- Manasi,
- Balaka,
- Sonar Tori,

He is also remembered for his song 'Ekla Chalo Re'.

So, option (d) is correct.

Q41. With reference to Carnatic Music, consider the following statements:

1. The first or the second thematic lines of the composition are referred to as 'Pallavi'.
2. Charana is the final and the longest verse.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans:(c)

Explanation:

- The Carnatic branch creates music that is played in the traditional octave. The music is kriti based and focuses more on the saahitya or the lyric quality of the musical piece.
- **Statement 1 is correct:** The first or the second thematic lines of the composition are referred to as 'Pallavi'. This portion is often repeated in each saptatana.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Charana is the final and the longest verse which concludes the Song.

Q42. Recently, Three Hoysala-era temples in Karnataka made it to UNESCO's World Heritage List. Consider the following statements with reference to the Hoysala Temples:

1. These temples had a stellate plan.
2. These temples were completely based on the Dravida style.
3. The Airavatesvara temple complex was one of the fine examples of this style.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The most characteristic feature of these temples is that they grow extremely complex with so many projecting angles emerging from the previously straightforward square temple, that the plan of these temples starts looking like a star, and is thus known as a stellate-plan.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Hoysaleswara temple (Lord of the Hoysalas) at Halebidu in Karnataka was built in dark schist stone by the Hoysala king in 1150. Hoysala temples are sometimes called hybrid or vesara as their unique style seems neither completely Dravida nor Nagara, but somewhere in between.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The Airavatesvara temple complex, built by Rajaraja II, at Darasuram, features a 24-m vimana and a stone image of Shiva. The temples testify to the brilliant achievements of the Chola in architecture, sculpture, painting, and bronze casting.

Q43. With reference to Siang Unying Festival, consider the following statements:

1. It is an important festival of Adi community.
2. It is celebrated to mark beginning of Adi community's new year.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Siang Unying Festival is an important festival of Adi community was celebrated at Boleng, Arunachal Pradesh.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It is celebrated to mark beginning of Adi community's new year i.e., arrival of spring season; and to strengthen the bond among community. Adi constitutes a major group and inhabit lower part of Lower Dibang Valley district especially Roing and Dambuk areas.

Q44. In the context of the cultural history of India, Garadi, Cheraw, and Hojagiri are well known for:

- (a) Indian theatre
- (b) Folk dances
- (c) Tribal languages
- (d) Indian music

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- Folk dances of India:
 - ✓ Garadi
 - ✓ Cheraw
 - ✓ Hojagiri
 - ✓ Fugdi
 - ✓ Dumhal
- So, option (b) is correct.

Q45. Consider the following pairs:

List I

Patta Chitra
Paitkar
Manjusha
Phad

List II

Odisha
Jharkhand
Bihar
Karnataka

How many of the above given pairs is correctly match?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

- Phad is predominantly found in Rajasthan and is a scroll-type art. It is religious in nature and comprises of drawings of local deities, Pabuji and Devnarayan.
- Painted with vegetable colours on a long piece of cloth called phad, they are 15 ft or 30 ft long. The subjects have large eyes and round faces. They are of pompous and joyful narrative and scenes of procession are common.
- So, option (c) is correct.

Q46. With reference to Bhim Rao Ambedkar, consider the following statements:

1. He started the 'Bahishkrit Bharat' newspaper to address the cause of the depressed classes.
2. He participated in the First and Third Round Table Conferences.
3. He was conferred with the title of "Bodhisattva" by the Buddhist monks in 1954.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Ans: (b)

Statement 1 is correct: BR Ambedkar started the Bahishkrit Bharat newspaper in 1927 to address the cause of the depressed classes.

Statement 2 is incorrect: BR Ambedkar participated in all three Round Table Conferences.

Statement 3 is correct: Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar was conferred with the title of "Bodhisattva" by the Buddhist monks at the "Jagatik Buddhism Council" in 1954 in Kathmandu, Nepal.

Q47. Consider the following literary works:

1. The story of My Deportation
2. Young India
3. Unhappy India

How many of the above work(s) is/are written by Lala Lajpat Rai?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Ans: (c)

- Lajpat Rai's most important writings include
- The Story of My Deportation
- Arya Samaj
- The United States of America: A Hindu's Impression
- England's Debt to India: A Historical Narrative of Britain's Fiscal Policy in India
- Unhappy India
- **So, option (c) is correct.**

Q48. Consider the following statements regarding Ram Mohan Roy's thoughts and beliefs:

1. He attempted the creative combination of secularism and spirituality.
2. He objected to Hinduism's polytheism and promoted monotheism.
3. He was a strong supporter of English education and supporter of British rule.

How many of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Ans: (d)

Raja Ram Mohan Roy (1772-1833) was one of the makers of modern India. He is generally hailed as "the father of Modern India".

Statement 1 is correct: Roy was modernist in his approach, he always tried to link modernity with tradition. He attempted the creative combination of secularism and spirituality, of Western and Eastern philosophy.

Statement 2 is correct: His attitude towards religion was eclectic. He objected to Hinduism's alleged polytheism and promoted monotheism. In 1815 Roy founded the Atmiya-Sabha (Friendly Society) to propagate his doctrines of monotheistic Hinduism.

Statement 3 is correct: He mastered the English language and acquainted himself with political developments and ideas like rationalism and liberation in England and Europe. The knowledge of English not only facilitated Roy's contacts with Englishmen but also opened up a whole new world to him. In Roy's own words, he now gave up his initial prejudices against the British and realized that it was better to seek help from these enlightened rulers in ameliorating the condition of the ignorant and superstitious masses. He became a strong advocate of English education and a supporter of British rule.

Q 49. Consider the following pairs:

State	Founder
1. Hyderabad	Quli Qutub Shah
2. Awadh	Murshid Quli Khan
3. Bengal	Saadat Khan

How many of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Ans (a)

Pair 1 is correct: The state of Hyderabad was founded by Quli Qutub Shah in 1724 A.D., during the reign of Muhammad Shah Rangila.

Pair 2 is incorrect: The founder of the Awadh was Saadat Khan, popularly known as Burhan-ul-Mulk. Awadh was founded in 1722.

Pair 3 is incorrect: Bengal was founded by Murshid Quli Khan.

Q 50. With reference to the Nehru Report 1928, consider the following statements:

- 1. This report was prepared by a committee under the headship of Jawahar Lal Nehru.
- 2. The report recommended the reservation of seats for Muslims only in provinces where they were in the minority.
- 3. Delhi's proposal was a major outcome of the Nehru Report.

How many of the statements given above are is/correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Ans: (a)

Statement 1 is incorrect: The report was a document that laid out a constitutional framework for the future of independent India and called for the immediate transfer of power from the British to the Indians. Jawaharlal Nehru served as secretary while Motilal Nehru served as chairman of committee.

Statement 2 is correct: The Nehru Report confined itself to British India, as it envisaged the future link-up of British India with the princely states on a federal basis. For the dominion, it recommended:

- ✓ Dominion status on lines of self-governing dominions as the form of government desired by Indians
- ✓ Rejection of separate electorates which had been the basis of constitutional reforms so far; instead, a demand for joint electorates with reservation of seats for Muslims at the Centre and in provinces only where they were in minority
- ✓ Linguistic provinces
- ✓ Nineteen fundamental rights including equal rights for women, the right to form unions, and universal adult suffrage
- ✓ Full protection of cultural and religious interests of Muslims
- ✓ Complete dissociation of the State from religion

Statement 3 is incorrect: Before Nehru's report in December 1927, a large number of Muslim leaders had met in Delhi at the Muslim League session and evolved four proposals for them

demands to be incorporated into the draft constitution. These proposals, which were accepted by the Madras session of the Congress (December 1927), came to be known as the 'Delhi Proposals'.

Q51. Consider the following statements regarding "Virashaiva Tradition":

1. Its followers did not believe in the cycle of rebirth.
2. Sayings of men and women saints of Virashaiva tradition are known as Abhangas.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (b)

The Virashaiva tradition is a devotional movement that emerged in the 12th century in Karnataka, India. It emphasized the worship of Lord Shiva and rejected the caste system. The followers of this faith are known as Lingayats.

The Chalukya dynasty ruled from the 6th to the 12th century in Karnataka, India. However, there is no evidence to suggest that the Virashaiva tradition began during the age of the Chalukya dynasty.

Statement 1 is correct: Lingayatism, which is a part of the Virashaiva tradition, rejects the concept of rebirth.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The sayings of men and women saints of the Virashaiva tradition are known as Vachanas. Abhangas are devotional poetry composed by the Marathi saint-poet Tukaram

Q 52. In its description of Samudragupta's reign, the Prayag Prashasti inscription offers valuable insights into ancient Indian history. Consider the following statements with reference to this:

1. The inscription was written in Champu kavya style.
2. The inscription mention that he had a cordial relation with Ceylonese king.
3. He was given the name of Vikramanka.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Ans: (c)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is correct: Allahabad Pillar Inscription (Prayag Prasasti) was issued by Samudragupta and was composed by Harisena. It is written in very simple and refined Sanskrit in Champu kavya style. It lists achievements of Samudragupta.

Statement 2 is correct: The inscription does mention

Samudragupta's friendly relationship with the king of Simhala (Sri Lanka), indicating cordial relations.

Statement 3 is correct: The term used by Harisena for Samudragupta was Kaviraja. Samudragupta also assumed the title of Vikramanka

Q 53. Consider the following statements regarding the socio-economic conditions of Rigvedic period:

1. Women slaves existed during the Vedic period.
2. There was absence of a serving order in form of Sudras.
3. A war booty was the substantial source of revenue to the chief.
4. The most common gift given to the priests was cereals.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only 1 and 4
- b) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- c) Only 2, 3 and 4
- d) Only 1 and 3

Ans: (b)

Statement 1 is correct: Evidence suggests the existence of women slaves during the Vedic period. Some hymns in the Rigveda mention captive women ("dasi") and the term "avasatha" refers to enslaved women.

Statement 2 is correct: The social division of the Vedic period was primarily based on three varnas: Brahmins, Kshatriyas, and Vaishyas. While the existence of slaves is documented, the specific "Sudra" caste as a serving order likely developed later in the post-Vedic period.

Statement 3 is correct: Raids and wars were common during the Vedic period, and the spoils of war, including cattle, land, and women, served as a significant source of revenue for the chief and his warriors.

Statement 4 is correct: While cereals were certainly part of the agricultural life and economy, the most common offerings to priests likely included cows, bulls, and other valuable possessions. These offerings were seen as a means to appease the gods and ensure prosperity.

Q54. Consider the following statements regarding the literature of the Gupta period:

1. Puranas during Gupta periods existed in the form of bardic literature.
2. Participant in the play, irrespective of their caste use same language.
3. The plays produced in the Gupta period were mostly comedies.
4. Visnudharmottara Purana deals with painting.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

Ans: (b)

Sanskrit was the court language of Guptas as a result of which Sanskrit literature flourished under them.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Puranas had existed much before the time of the Guptas in the form of bardic literature; in the Gupta age they were finally compiled and given their present form.

Statement 4 is correct: A section of the Visnudharmottara Purana deals with painting and gives detailed instructions about surface preparation in fresco paintings and the use of different colors in them.

Statement 3 is correct: The plays produced in India during the Gupta period are mostly comedies; no tragedies are found.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The characters of the play whether higher and lower classes do not speak the same language; women and shudras featuring in these plays use Prakrit whereas the higher classes use Sanskrit.

Q 55. Consider the following statements regarding Stone Age in India:

1. Different periods are identified on the basis of the type and technology of stone tools.
2. There are no regional variations in the type and technology of tools in different periods.
3. Stone Age cultures of different periods evolved uniformly all over the subcontinent.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Ans: (a)

Statement 1 is correct: Archaeologists identify different periods of the Stone Age (Paleolithic, Mesolithic, and Neolithic) based on the type and technology of stone tools found at various sites. Studying the evolution of tool technology helps understand the changing lifestyles and capabilities of early humans.

Statement 2 is incorrect: There were regional variations in the type and technology of tools within the same period. Different regions had access to different resources and faced different environmental conditions, leading to variations in tool design and use.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Stone Age cultures did not evolve uniformly or in a neat unilinear fashion. Different regions experienced different rates of development and innovation, and local adaptations played a significant role in shaping cultural evolution.

Q56. Consider the following statements:

1. The patterns used to decorate the buildings were from plastic art.
2. Its architecture is unique in the use of three-arched facade and bulbous dome.
3. **Jumna Mosque, Jal Manzil, Jod Gumbaz and Anand Mahal** is one the finest example of this architecture.

Which of the following schools of architecture is best described by the above statements?

- a) Malwa school
- b) Jaunpur School
- c) Bijapur School
- d) Bengal School

Ans: c

Statement 1 is correct: Bijapur architecture combines the element of Persian, Ottoman Turkish and Deccan architectural style. The Indo Islamic architectures of Bijapur province were also famous for their sculptural element. The patterns which they used to decorate their buildings were from plastic art, so individual in character.

Statement 2 is correct: Under the patronage of Adil Shah, Bijapur style or the Deccan style of

architecture developed. He constructed a number of mosques, tombs and palaces which were unique in the use of 3-arched facade and bulbous dome, and were almost spherical with a narrow neck. He also introduced the use of cornices.

Statement 3 is correct: Indo Islamic architecture in Bijapur, a city in the state of Karnataka flourished under the Muslim rulers in the medieval period. The city's greatest architectural remains are minarets, domes and echoing burial chambers like Gol Gumbaz, Ibrahim Rauza, Malik-e-Maidan, Upri Buruj, Chand Bawdi, Asar Mahal, Gagan Mahal, Barakaman, Jumna Mosque, Jal Manzil, Sat Manzil, Jod Gumbaz and Anand Mahal. **So, the correct answer is option (c)**

Q57. Consider the following statements regarding Nayakas in the Vijayanagara Empire:

1. They enjoyed both military and revenue powers.
2. Their rise led to the considerable rise of village autonomy and administration.
3. The post was hereditary.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1, 2 and 3
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1 and 2 only

Ans (d)

Statement 1 is correct: Nayakas were appointed as military governors by the Vijayanagara kings. They were responsible for the defense of their assigned territories and commanded their own armies. Additionally, they were entrusted with collecting taxes and managing land revenue within their jurisdictions.

Statement 2 is correct: The rise of Nayakas did coincide with a notable increase in village autonomy and administration. They often decentralized power by delegating administrative responsibilities to village headmen and councils. This empowered villages to make decisions regarding local affairs, agriculture, and resource management.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Nayaka post was not strictly hereditary. While sons of Nayakas often received preferential treatment and training for military and administrative roles, their appointment ultimately rested with the Vijayanagara kings. The kings could choose to appoint individuals based on merit, loyalty, or political considerations, even if they weren't from a Nayaka lineage.

Q58. Consider the following statements regarding Portuguese trade in India during the Vijayanagara Empire

1. Indian exports by the traders mainly included saltpeter, sugar, rice, spices, and textiles.
2. Traders helped in transmitting potato, tobacco, maize, and cashew from America to India.
3. Trade in pepper, arms, and ammunition and war horses in India was a royal monopoly and no private traders were allowed to engage in the trade of these goods.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Ans: (c)

Statement 1 is correct: Indian exports to the Portuguese during the Vijayanagara Empire

primarily

consisted of saltpeter, sugar, rice, spices (especially pepper), and textiles. These were valuable commodities

in Europe and formed the bulk of Portuguese trade with India. They also tried to control sea routes and

provided safeguards to other nationals against sea pirates.

Statement 2 is correct: Portuguese did introduce some new crops from America to India like tobacco,

maize, potato, cashew and chilies to India.

Statement 3 is correct: As a policy measure, trade in pepper, arms, and ammunition and war horses in

India was a royal monopoly and no private traders were allowed to engage in the trade of these goods.

Even though the Portuguese tried to change this but due to the presence of a strong

Vijayanagara empire,

they failed to achieve success

Q 59. Consider the following statements regarding the art and architectural developments during the Delhi

Sultanate period:

1. Qutub minar and Alai Darwaja are example of Delhi Sultanate architecture.
2. New style of music known as Qawwalis was created by Amir Khosrow.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (c)

Statement 1 is correct: The Delhi Sultanate is known for its monumental architecture, including the Qutub

Minar, the Alai Darwaza, the Jama Masjid, and the Tomb of Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq. These structures reflect

a fusion of Indian, Persian, and Islamic architectural styles.

Statement 2 is correct: Amir Khusro is regarded as the “father of qawwali”. He is also credited with

enriching Indian classical music by introducing Persian and Arabic elements in it, and was the originator of the khayal and tarana styles of music

Q60. Consider the following statements regarding Sufism:

1. Sufism marked its advent into India during the Mughal Rule.
2. Sufi saints established a new religion based on humanity and tolerance.
3. They boycotted the Quran to emphasize upon free thought and liberal ideas.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three

d) None

Ans: (d)

Statement 1 is incorrect: Sufism entered India much earlier than the Mughal rule, around the 10th and 11th centuries under the Delhi Sultanate. It gained further prominence during the Mughal era, but wasn't entirely new to the region.

Statement 2 is incorrect: While Sufi saints preached tolerance, humanity, and love for all, they didn't establish a new religion separate from Islam. Sufism can be understood as a mystical branch within Islam, emphasizing personal experience and connection with God.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Boycotting the Quran is completely against the core principles of Sufism. Sufi teachings and practices are deeply rooted in Islamic traditions, including the Quran and other religious texts. While they may have interpreted scriptures in their own ways and emphasized different aspects, they didn't advocate for abandoning or boycotting any part of the holy book.

Q61. The terms Samabhangha, Aabhanga, Atibhanga are related to

- a) Temple architecture
- b) Dance postures
- c) Colour combinations
- d) Musical ragas in Hindustani Music

Ans: (b)

Samabhangha, Aabhanga, and Atibhanga are terms used in Indian classical dances like Bharatanatyam and Odissi to describe different body postures. **So, option (b) is the correct answer.**

Samabhangha: Literally translates to "even bend," representing a balanced and upright posture with all body parts aligned along a central axis.

Aabhanga: Means "off-center" or slightly bent, where the body is not perfectly aligned but creates a graceful curve.

Atibhanga: Signifies "extreme bend," indicating a strong leaning or tilting of the body, often with bent knees, creating a dynamic and expressive posture

Q62. Consider the following statement regarding cultural history of Mughals in India:

1. The Indo-Islamic architecture in India began with the rule of Mughals.
2. The decorative motifs in Akbar's tomb in Sikandra include elements like lotus and swastika.
3. Buland Darwaza was built by Akbar to commemorate his victory over Gujarat.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Ans: (b)

Statement 1 is incorrect:

Although the Mughals significantly influenced and enriched Indo-Islamic architecture, it predates their arrival in India. The earliest examples can be traced back to the Ghaznavid and Ghurid dynasties in the 11th and 12th centuries.

Statement 2 is correct: Akbar's tomb in Sikandra does indeed feature decorative motifs like lotus

flowers and swastikas. These elements reflect the fusion of Islamic and Hindu artistic traditions that characterized Mughal architecture.

Statement 3 is correct: The Buland Darwaza, a monumental gateway in Fatehpur Sikri, was built by Akbar to commemorate his victory over Gujarat in 1575. The inscription on the gate confirms this historical context.

Q63. Consider the following statements regarding the religious policy of Akbar:

1. He abolished the pilgrim tax on bathing at holy places.
2. He abolished the practice of forcibly converting prisoners of war to Islam
3. He founded "Din-i-Ilahi" based on the common points of all religions.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Ans: (c)

Statement 1 is correct: Akbar famously abolished the jizya, a tax levied on non-Muslims in his empire. He also abolished the pilgrimage tax on bathing at holy places such as Prayag and Banaras. This act of religious tolerance was appreciated by his Hindu subjects and strengthened his position as a just ruler.

Statement 2 is correct: While there were some instances of conversion among prisoners of war during Akbar's reign, his policy generally discouraged forced conversions. He emphasized religious freedom and dialogue, even employing scholars from different faiths in his court.

Statement 3 is correct: Akbar did establish Din-i-Ilahi, which aimed to unify elements from various religions like Islam, Hinduism, Jainism, and Christianity. While it didn't gain widespread acceptance, it reflected Akbar's personal quest for religious harmony and understanding.

Q64. Consider the following pairs:

Types of land	Description
1. Shalabhoga	Land gifted to temples
2. Pallichchandam	Land for the maintenance of a school
3. Vellanvagai	Land of non-Brahmana peasant proprietors

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Ans: (a)

Chola inscriptions mention several categories of land. These are:

Vellanvagai: Land of non-Brahmana peasant proprietors, **So, option 3 is correct.**

Brahmadeya: Land gifted to Brahmanas

Shalabhoga: Land for the maintenance of a school.

So, option 1 is incorrect.

Devadana: Land gifted to temples

Pallichchhandam: Land donated to Jaina institutions. **So, option 2 is incorrect.**

Q 65. Consider the following statements regarding the architectural sharing of ideas between regions:

Statement I:

The elephant stables of the Vijayanagar rulers were influenced by the Bangla dome.

Statement II:

Architectural style of temples constructed in Vrindavan was similar to that of Mughal palaces.

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 and Statement-II is incorrect.
- d) Statement-I is incorrect and Statement-II is correct.

Ans: (d)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect: The elephant stables of the rulers of Vijayanagara were influenced by the styles of architecture of adjoining Sultanates of Bijapur and Golconda

Statement 2 is correct: The architecture of the temples of Vrindavan was similar to Mughal palaces in Fatehpur Sikri. Many buildings in Akbar's capital Fatehpur Sikri were influenced by the architectural styles of Gujarat and Malwa. The roof of the Jodh Bai palace follows the style of the Gujarat region. A style of roof used by local rulers in Bengal, "Bangla dome", which resembled a thatched hut was adopted by the Mughals

Q66. Who among the following was/were associated with the Virashaivas movement?

- 1. Basavanna
- 2. Allama Prabhu
- 3. Akkamahadevi

Select the correct answer using option given below:

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) 3 Only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (d)

Basavanna (1105-1160 AD) is considered the founder of the Virashaivas movement, Basavanna was a philosopher, social reformer, and poet. He advocated for social equality, rejected caste discrimination, and emphasized individual devotion to Shiva (represented by the Linga symbol).

Allama Prabhu (1130-1215 AD) is a close disciple of Basavanna, Allama Prabhu was a scholar, theologian, and writer. He contributed significantly to Virashaiva philosophy and literature, composing numerous vachanas (mystical poems) and commentaries on Basavanna's teachings.

Akkamahadevi (12th century AD) was a revered poet and mystic, Akkamahadevi challenged societal norms and embraced a non-conformist lifestyle. Her vachanas, known for their

passionate and unorthodox expressions of devotion to Shiva, continue to inspire followers of the Virashaivas movement.

Q67. Consider the following statements regarding the literary sources of ancient India.

1. The Yajurveda elaborates on the ancient period's folk traditions and represents the times popular religion.
2. The Atharvaveda mainly contains the rituals which usually accompany the recitation of hymns documenting the socio-political milieu of the times.

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

Ans: (d)

The term 'Veda' signifies 'superior knowledge.' The Vedic literature consists of the four Vedas – Rig, Yajur, Sama and Atharva.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Yajurveda elaborates on the rituals which accompany the recitation of hymns. The rituals and hymns in this Samhita document this period's social and political milieu. The Rig Veda is the earliest of the four Vedas, and it consists of 1028 hymns. The hymns were sung in praise of various gods. The Yajur Veda consists of various details of rules to be observed at the time of sacrifice.

The Sama Veda is set to tune for the purpose of chanting during the sacrifice. It is called the book of chants, and the origins of Indian music are traced in it. The Atharva Veda contains details of rituals

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Atharvaveda contains the folk tradition of this period and represents popular religion. It is a good source for understanding the socio-religious conditions of the common people

Q68. The ancient terms Vrihi, Tandula, and Sali, often used during the Vedic period, referred to which of the following options

- a) Sugarcane
- b) Barley
- c) Rice
- d) Wheat

Ans: (c)

The growth of agriculture in the Later Vedic period was made possible by the availability of vast tracts of fertile alluvial lands of the Ganga-Yamuna Doab and the middle Ganga valley-an area, which was slowly settled throughout the first millennium BC. However, the later Vedic texts reflect the continued importance of pastoralism. Both archaeological and literary sources document the introduction of rice as the staple diet of the people. The PGW Painted Grey ware and Banas culture yield charred rice grains from the excavated sites.

The Vedic texts mention Vrihi, Tandula and Sali, all denoting rice. It appears that cropping is practiced now, and the fields grew barley and rice. The elaborate sacrifices of this period, e.g., the raja suya, include. Offerings of grain along with milk, ghee and animals. The twelve sacrifices

prescribed in the Atharvaveda for acquiring material benefits. So, option (c) is the correct answer.

Q69. Consider the following statement regarding Mahajanapadas:

1. Standing army came into being for the first time during this period.
2. Bhagadugha collected Bhaga, i.e., a share of the agricultural produce.
3. Rajjugahaka surveyed agricultural land.
4. Mahajanapadhas bear the name of the dominant Kshatriya lineage in most cases.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

Ans: c

Statement 1 is correct: The cattle raids of the preceding period were replaced by organised campaigns in which territory was annexed, and agriculturists and traders were forced to pay taxes.

Thus, in the period of mahajanapadhas, the standing army was established for the first time.

Statement 2 is correct: An official called bhagadugha collected bhaga, i.e., a share of the agricultural produce. Taxes on crops were the most important. This was because most people were farmers. Usually, the tax was fixed at 1/6th of what was produced.

Statement 3 is correct: A survey of the agricultural land was done by an official called Rajjugahaka. The

Jatakas mention royal officials measuring grain to send it to the King's granary.

Statement 4 is incorrect: The Mahajanapadas did not bear the name of the dominant Kshatriya lineage.

For example, Kosala, Magadha, Avanti and Vatsa were not named after any Kshatriya lineages.

Q70 Consider the following statement regarding Mauryan Architecture:

Statement I:

Mauryan pillars were carved from single massive sandstone blocks.

Statement II:

The capitals were devoid of sculptures, giving them a simplistic appearance.

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 and Statement-II is incorrect
- d) Statement-I is incorrect and Statement-II is correct

Ans: (c)

Statement 1 is correct: The Mauryas made a remarkable contribution to art and architecture, and introduced stone masonry on a wide scale. After the decline of the Indus valley civilization, it is only in the

Maurya period that monumental stone sculpture and architecture appear on the scene again.

The Ashokan

pillars were made of a single piece of buff-colored sandstone as free-standing pillars.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Mauryan capitals are known for their intricate carvings and symbolism. The

Lion Capital of Sarnath is a prime example, featuring a majestic lion figure atop a bell-shaped capital adorned

with animal and floral motifs. Other capitals depict elephants, bulls, and various mythical creatures

Q71 Consider the following statements regarding the sect of Ajivikas.

1. It was popularised by Makkaliputra Gosala.
2. Unlike Buddhism and Jainism, they believed in the theory of Karma.
3. They believed that the thought and deeds of an individual were predetermined.
4. They advocated human free will and urged followers to fight destiny.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 4 only
- b) 2 and 4 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 2 and 3 only

Ans: (c)

Statement 1 is correct: Makkaliputra Gosala was a contemporary of Mahavira and the Buddha and played a significant role in popularizing Ajivika philosophy.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Ajivikas did not believe in the concept of Karma, which emphasizes the impact of past actions on present and future lives. Instead, they held the principle of niyati, absolute determinism, where everything, including an individual's fate, is predetermined by cosmic forces.

Statement 3 is correct: This statement aligns with the Ajivika belief in niyati, suggesting that free will is an illusion and actions have no bearing on one's destiny.

Statement 4 is incorrect: This contradicts the core principle of niyati and goes against the Ajivika worldview. They believed in accepting one's predetermined fate, not fighting it

Q72. Consider the following statements regarding the Gupta period:

1. The land grants significantly improved the position of ordinary cultivators.
2. The practice of vishti, or unpaid labor, was in force during this period.
3. Decreased taxes and their rationalization led to a rise in disposable income among the common people.

Which among the above statements is/are incorrect?

- a) 2 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1 and 2 only

Ans: b

Statement 1 is not correct: Compared with the land recipients from the rulers and the influential categories of land owners in villages, ordinary cultivators' conditions may be considered rather bad.

Some historians believe that because of the practice of land grants, the peasant population was reduced to a

very low position in society. This is not entirely untrue. The ordinary cultivators, known by various terms such

as Krishibala, Karshaka or Kinass, had low economic and social status. Among the actual cultivators, some

filled the lands of others and received only a share of the produce. Hence, the status was not improved.

Statement 2 is correct: There were some reasons were the condition of the ordinary cultivators declined.

Small kingdoms of new rulers and their officials and sections of people who did not take part in agriculture. Further, the practice of imposing vishti (unpaid labor) was also in vogue, although we do not know how essential it was for agricultural production. All in all, the condition of the ordinary cultivators seems to have become worse than in the earlier periods.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The number of taxes imposed by the state on the producers also increased in this period. Hence, there was no decrease in tax.

Q73. Consider the following statements:

1. Persecution of Hindus by the Muslim rulers.
2. Ill-treatment of the lower classes in Hindu society by the persons of upper castes.
3. Enthusiasm and the inspiration of the Bhakti saints.
4. Availability of fertile land and increase in iron production.

How many of the above factors helped the development of Bhakti movement?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

Ans: (c)

Statement 1 is correct: The persecution of Hindus by the Muslim rulers, who tried to convert them to

Islam and imposed Jaziya if they were not prepared to become followers of Islam helped the development of

Bhakti movement.

Statement 2 is correct: The ill-treatment of the lower classes in Hindu society by the persons of upper

castes, the people of the lower caste had to suffer injustice and cruelties. So, the teachings of the Bhakti saints who preached equality of castes as far as the devotion to God was concerned appealed to the people of lower castes.

Statement 3 is correct: The enthusiasm and the inspiration of the Bhakti saints. They tried to remove the evils of Hindu society and gave it a new Vigor and vitality.

Statement 4 is incorrect: During the 6th to 4th century BCE agriculture flourished due to the availability of fertile lands and iron production increased due to availability of iron ore in large quantities which helped for emergence of Mahajanpadas.

Q74. Consider the following:

1. Nicolo de Conti
2. Abdur Razzaq
3. Al-Biruni
4. Duarte Barbosa

Which of the following travellers arrived India during the era of Vijayanagar empire?

- a) 1, 2, and 3 only
- b) 2, 3, and 4 only
- c) 1, 3, and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, and 4 only

Ans: (d)

From 1414 until 1438, Nicolo de Conti, a Venetian merchant, travelled throughout the eastern regions. During Dev Raya II, he travelled to the Vijayanagar Kingdom and wrote a note in Nicolo Conti's Travels. During the reign of Dev Raya II, the Persian scholar and chronicler Abdur Razzaq made a visit to the Vijayanagara Kingdom. He gave a description of the reign of Devaraya II. He was sent by Shahrukh, the Timurid Dynasty's Persian king, to the court of King Zamorin of Calicut in 1442.

Al-Biruni, a celebrated mathematician and astronomer, came to India in the wake of the invading forces of Mahmud of Ghazni in the eleventh century (11 AD). He stayed in India from 1017- 1030 to study deeper Indian sciences and philosophies. Duarte Barbosa was a Portuguese writer and Portuguese India officer between 1500 and 1516–1517.

After his arrival in Goa with the first Portuguese fleet in 1501, Barbosa made the journey to Vijayanagara soon after. His writings give a detailed account of the layout, the inhabitants, the nature of trade conducted in Vijayanagara, the size of Kings army at the time

Q75. With reference to the Medieval India, "Bandobast system" is associated with which of the following?

- a) Land revenue
- b) Judiciary
- c) Religious policy
- d) Slavery

Ans: (a)

The Bandobast system, also known as the Zabti system was introduced by Raja Todarmal, the who had honed his skills under his first master Shershah Suri. Under this, the average produce of different crops, as well as the average prices prevailing over the last ten years, were calculated. The land was divided into four categories:

Polaj: cultivated every year.

Parati: cultivated once in two years.

Chachar: cultivated once in three or four years.

Banjar: cultivated once in five or more years

Q76. Consider the following departments established during the Delhi Sultanate:

1. Diwan-i-Mustakhraj
2. Diwan-e-Amir Kohi
3. Diwan-e-Bandagan
4. Diwan-i-Riyasat
5. Diwan-i-Khairat
6. Diwan-i-Arz

Which of the above were established during the reign of Firoz Shah Tughlaq?

- (a) Only 1, 2 and 5
- (b) Only 2 and 4
- (c) Only 3 and 5
- (d) Only 3, 4 and 6

Ans (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Delhi first became the capital of a kingdom under the Tomara Rajputs, who were defeated in the middle of the twelfth century by the Chauhans of Ajmer. Before this period, there was no mention of a kingdom with Delhi as its capital because Delhi became an important city only in the twelfth century.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Rather than appointing aristocrats and landed chieftains as governors of provinces, the early Delhi Sultans, favored their special slaves purchased for military service, called bandagan in Persian. They were carefully trained to man some of the most important political offices in the kingdom.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The Sultans appointed military commanders as governors of territories of varying sizes. These lands were called Iqta and their holder was called Iqtadar. Their duty was to lead military campaigns and maintain law and order in their iqtas.

Q77. With reference to the Khalji Dynasty, which once ruled over the Delhi Sultanate, consider the following statements:

1. The Khaljis on coming to power ensured high offices reserved for the Turkish noble class.
2. Jalauddin Khalji predominantly tried to convert India into an Islamic state.
3. This dynasty became the longest-ruling Dynasty of the Delhi Sultanate.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The Khaljis on coming to power did not exclude the Turks from high offices but just ended the Turks monopoly that existed earlier over high offices.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Jalauddin Khilji was the first ruler of the Delhi Sultanate who put forward the view that a state was based on the willing support of the government. As per him, since the majority of people in India were Hindus, a state in India could not be truly an Islamic State.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The longest ruling Dynasty of Delhi Sultanate was Tughlaq Dynasty.

Q78. Consider the following statements regarding the Bhakti Movement in South India:

1. Nayanars were leaders who were devotees of Shiva.
2. Nalayira Divyaprabandham was one of the major anthologies of compositions by the Alvars.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Some of the earliest bhakti movements (c. sixth century) were led by the Alvars (literally, those who are immersed in devotion to Vishnu) and Nayanars (literally, leaders who were devotees of Shiva).
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The importance of the traditions of the Alvars and Nayanars was sometimes indicated by the claim that their compositions were as important as the Vedas. For instance, one of the major anthologies of compositions by the Alvars, the Nalayira Divyaprabandham, was frequently described as the Tamil Veda, thus claiming that the text was as significant as the four Vedas in Sanskrit that was cherished by the Brahmanas.

Q79. Consider the following statements:

1. The caves at Barabar hills were patronized by Chandragupta Maurya for the Ajivika sect.
2. The facade of the caves at Barabar hills is decorated with the semicircular chaitya arch as the entrance.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Ajivika is one of the nāstika or "heterodox" schools of Indian philosophy. Makkhali Gosala is considered as its founder in 5th century BCE. Several rock-cut caves belonging to Ajivika are dated to the times of the Mauryan emperor Ashoka who patronized the Ajivika sect.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The rock-cut cave carved at Barabar hills near Gaya in Bihar is known as the Lomas Rishi cave. The facade of the cave is decorated with the semicircular chaitya arch as the entrance. The elephant frieze carved in high relief on the chaitya arch shows considerable movement. The interior hall of this cave is rectangular with a circular chamber at the back.

Q80. Consider the following statements with respect to Sangam literature:

1. Sangam texts were predominantly secular in nature.
2. Sangam poems describe the military exploits of the kings and chiefs.
3. It provides information about trade with Yavanas.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only 1 and 2
- (b) Only 2 and 3
- (c) Only 1 and 3
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans (d)

Explanation:

- Sangam literature is the compilation of the earliest available Tamil literature. The word “Sangam” literally means association. It implies an association of Tamil poets that flourished in ancient southern India.
- **Statement 1 is correct:** First Sangam texts are different from the Vedic texts, particularly the Rig Vedic texts. They do not constitute religious literature. The short and long poems were composed by numerous poets in praise of numerous heroes and heroines. Thus, they are secular in nature.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Sangam literature are not primitive songs, but they show a high quality of literature. Many poems mention a warrior or a chief or a king by name and describe his military exploits in detail. The gifts made by him to bards and warriors are celebrated. These poems may have been recited in the courts.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The Sangam texts refer to many settlements including Kaveripattanam whose flourishing existence is now attested archaeologically. They also speak of the Yavanas (foreigners) coming in their own vessels purchasing pepper with gold and supplying wine and women slaves to the natives. This trade is not known only from Latin and Greek writings but also from archaeological records.

Q81. Which of the following types of villages were found during the ancient period in South India?

- 1. Ur
- 2. Sabha
- 3. Nagaram

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1, 2 and 3
- (b) Only 2 and 3
- (c) Only 1 and 2
- (d) Only 1 and 3

Ans (a)

Explanation:

- Rural expansion: In South India, during the ancient period we come across three types of villages; ur, sabha, and nagaram.
- Ur was the usual type of village inhabited by peasant castes, who perhaps held that in common; it was the responsibility of the village headman to collect and pay taxes on their behalf. These villages were mainly found in Southern Tamil Nadu.
- The sabha type of village consisted of brahmadeya villages or those granted to the Brahmanas, and of agrahara villages. The brahmana owners enjoyed individual rights in the land but carried on their activities collectively.
- The nagaram type of village consisted of the village settled and dominated by combinations of traders and merchants.
- **So, option (a) is correct.**

Q82. Consider the following statements regarding the Vijayanagar Empire:

- 1. The empire consisted of seven lines of forts that encircled not only the city but also its agricultural hinterland and forests.
- 2. No mortar or cementing agent was employed anywhere in the construction of walls.
- 3. Water tanks and canals were a striking feature of the empire.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Abdur Razzaq, an ambassador sent by the ruler of Persia to Calicut (present-day Kozhikode) in the fifteenth century and mentioned seven lines of forts. These encircled not only the city but also its agricultural hinterland and forests. The outermost wall linked the hills surrounding the city.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The massive masonry construction was slightly tapered. No mortar or cementing agent was employed anywhere in the construction. The stone blocks were wedge-shaped, which held them in place, and the inner portion of the walls was of earth packed with rubble. Square or rectangular bastions projected outwards.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Due to the surrounding areas being arid, elaborate arrangements had to be made to store rainwater and conduct it to the city. The most important such tank was built in the early years of the fifteenth century and is now called the Kamalapuram tank. One of the most prominent waterworks to be seen among the ruins is the Hiriya canal. This canal drew water from a dam across the Tungabhadra and irrigated the cultivated valley.

Q83. Consider the following sites:

1. Kandhar
2. Manshera
3. Kalsi
4. Meerut

Which of the places above were the sites where major rock edicts of the Ashokan period are found?

- (a) Only 1, 3 and 4
- (b) Only 1, 2 and 3
- (c) Only 2 and 4
- (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Ans (b)

Explanation:

- King Asoka, the third ruler of the Indian Mauryan dynasty, has come to be regarded as one of the most exemplary rulers in Indian history.
- In 1837, James Prinsep succeeded in deciphering an ancient inscription on a large stone pillar in Delhi belonging to Ashokan rule. Several other pillars and rock edicts (major and minor) with similar inscriptions had been found scattered in more than thirty places throughout India, Nepal, Pakistan and Afghanistan.
- There are about 14 major rock edicts providing information about Ashokan policy and his dhamma. These 14 major Rock edicts are found in ancient sites of Kandahar (Kandhar), Manshera, Shahbazgarhi, Kalsi, Girnar, Sopara, Sannati, Jaugada, Shishupalgarh, etc.
- The Meerut pillar (not rock edict) is now situated in Delhi. It was shifted from Meerut to Delhi by Feruz Shah and erected at a location in the northern ridge of Delhi.
- **So, option (b) is the correct.**

Q84. Consider the following statements regarding a Sufi saint:

1. He was Baba Farid's most famous disciple.
2. He was responsible for making Delhi an important center of the Chishti silsilah.

3. He preferred to shun the company of rulers and nobles and kept aloof from the state.

Which one of the following Sufi saints have been described in the statements given above?

- (a) Shaikh Nizamuddin Auliya
- (b) Sheikh Nasiruddin Mahmud
- (c) Qutubuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki
- (d) Sheikh Fariduddin of Ajodhan

Ans (a)

Explanation:

- The Chishti order was founded in a village called Khwaja Chishti (near Herat). In India, the Chishti silsilah was founded by Khwaja Muinuddin Chishti (born c. 1142) who came to India around 1192. He made Ajmer the main centre for his teaching.
- Baba Farid's most famous disciple Shaikh Nizamuddin Auliya (1238-1325) was responsible for making Delhi an important center of the Chishti silsilah.
- He came to Delhi in 1259 and during his sixty years in Delhi, he saw the reign of seven sultans.
- He preferred to shun the company of rulers and nobles and kept aloof from the state.
- For him, renunciation meant the distribution of food and clothes to the poor. Amongst his followers was the noted writer, Amir Khusrau.
- **So, option (a) is the correct.**

Q85. Consider the following:

1. Aramaic script
2. Kharosthi script
3. Brahmi script

How many of the above script is/are correct in which Ashoka's inscriptions were written?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans (c)

Explanation:

- The inscriptions of Ashoka were written in four different scripts. In Afghanistan area they were written in Greek and Aramaic languages and scripts, and in Pakistan area, in Prakrit language and Kharosthi script. Inscriptions from all other areas are in Prakrit language, written in Brahmi script.
- **So, option (c) is correct.**

Q86. Consider the following pairs:

List I

Adhyakshas
Yukta
Pradeshika

List II

Head of district administration
Superintendents
Officer incharge of the revenues of the king

How many of the above pairs is/are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Ans (d)

Explanation:

- Adhyakshas : Superintendents ,large number of superintendent like those of gold, store houses, commerce, agriculture, ships, cows, horses, elephants, chariots, infantry, passports, the city, etc.
- Yukta: Officer incharge of the revenues of the king, who was the subordinate officer.
- Pradeshika: Head of district administration who toured the entire district every five years to inspect the administration of areas under his control.

So, option (d) is correct.

Q87. With reference to Satavahanas, consider the following pairs:

List I	List II
Jyestha	Districts
Aharas	Advisors of the king
Amatyas	A headman of craft vocations

How many of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Ans (d)

Explanation:

- Jyestha: A headman of craft vocations.
- Aharas: Districts; Satavahana kingdom was divided into subdivisions called aharas or rashtras, meaning districts.
- Amatyas: Ministers Or advisors of the king.

So, option (d) is correct.

Q88. All the three Sangams (Academy of Tamil poet) took place at different places under the patronage of which of the following dynasties?

- (a) Cholas
- (b) Mauryas
- (c) Pandyas
- (d) Cheras

Ans (c)

Explanation:

- The Sangam age refers to that period in the early history of south India when large numbers of poems in Tamil were composed by a number of authors. The term Sangam refers to an assembly or "meeting together" of Tamil poets. All the three Sangams took place at different places under the patronage of the Pandya kings of Madurai.
- **So, option (c) is correct.**

Q89. Consider the following statements about the social class of Sangam age:

1. The Arasars owned large tracts of land and constituted the peasant class.
2. Agricultural operations were generally carried on by kadaisiyar.
3. Social inequalities were absent in the Sangam era.

How many of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** In Sangam age, the ruling caste was called the Arasar, and its members had marriage relations with the Vallalas, who constituted the fourth caste. Vallalas held the bulk of the land and thus constituted the peasantry, divided into the rich and the poor.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The rich did not plough the land themselves but employed labourers for this purpose. Agricultural operations were generally carried on by women of the lowest class (kadaiyar), whose status appears to have differed little from that of the slave.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** There were sharp social inequalities in the age of the Sangam. Several outcastes and forest tribes suffered from extreme poverty and lived from hand to mouth. The rich lived in houses of brick and mortar, and the poor in huts and humbler structures. In the cities the rich merchants lived in the upper storey of their houses.

Q90. Consider the following statements:

1. The word used for Sufism in Islamic texts is Tasawwuf.
2. Sufis were against the growing materialism of the Caliphate as a religious and political institution.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Sufism is an English word coined in the nineteenth century. The word used for Sufism in Islamic texts is Tasawwuf.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** In the early centuries of Islam a group of religious minded people called Sufis turned to asceticism and mysticism in protest against the growing materialism of the Caliphate as a religious and political institution.

Q91. Consider the following pairs:

Term	Description
Vellalar	Large landowners
Uzhavar	Slaves
Adimai	Ploughmen

How many of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans (a)

Explanation:

- Differences in rural society:
- Early Tamil literature (the Sangam texts) mentions different categories of people living in the villages – large landowners or Vellalar, ploughmen or uzhavar, and slaves or adimai. It is likely that these differences were based on differential access to land, labor, and some of the new technologies. In such a situation, questions of control over land must have become crucial, as these were often discussed in legal texts.
- **So, option (a) is correct.**

Q92. Which of the following texts were written by Ashvaghosha?

1. Saundarananda
2. Buddhacharita
3. Milinda panho

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) Only 2
- (b) Only 1 and 2
- (c) Only 2 and 3
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans (b)

Explanation:

Ashvaghosha:

- Ashvaghosha was a Mahayana scholar and poet who lived from the first through the second century. Originally a follower and scholar of Brahmanism, he converted to Buddhism. He was reputed to be an outstanding poet, an excellent composer of music, and an author of literary works. He propagated Buddhism in northern India under the patronage of Kushan King Kanishka. He wrote epics such as Buddhacharita and **Saundarananda**.
- Buddhacharita recounts the Buddha's life and is considered a masterpiece of Indian literature.
- Saundarananda is the story of Nanda, a cousin of the Buddha, who severed his relationship with his beloved and beautiful wife and became a monk.
- ★ The Milinda Pañha is a Buddhist text which dates from sometime between 100 BC and 200 AD. It purports to record a dialogue between the Buddhist sage Nāgasena, and the Indo-Greek king Menander I (Pali: Milinda) of Bactria, who reigned in the 2nd century BC.
- **So, option (b) is correct.**

Q93. Consider the following conditions:

1. Control over western sea ports
2. Fertile and populous areas
3. Large amounts of gold and silver accumulated in this region
4. Iron mining in the region

Which of the above were the reasons for the rulers of the Delhi Sultanate launching several expeditions to the Gujarat and Malwa regions?

- (a) Only 1, 2 and 3
- (b) Only 2, 3 and 4
- (c) Only 1, 2 and 4
- (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Ans (a)

Explanation

- The reasons for the rulers of the Delhi Sultanate launching several expeditions to Gujarat and Malwa regions were:

- The region was fertile and populous
- Western Sea ports allowed easy trade, especially horses from Iraq, Arab, and Turkey.
- Due to heavy trade in the regions, the rulers and merchants of the Gujarat and Malwa regions, accumulated large amounts of gold and silver.
- The Gujarat and Malwa regions were not famous for Iron mining. So, option (a) is correct.

Q94. In the context of Medieval India, the 'Karori experiment' is associated with which of the following?

- (a) Military administration
- (b) Religious system
- (c) Revenue administration
- (d) Painting School

Ans (c)

Explanation:

- Under karori experiment, measurement of all provinces took place. Bamboo rods with iron rings called tanab were used instead of hempen ropes.
- On the basis of productivity and prices prevailing in different regions they were divided for revenue purposes into dastur circles.
- **So, option (c) is correct.**

Q95. Consider the following statements:

1. In 1575 CE, Akbar constructed the Ibadat Khana at Delhi.
2. Shaikh Mubarak was a contemporary of Akbar.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (b) ★

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** In 1575 CE, he constructed the Ibadat Khana (Hall of prayers) at his new capital Fatehpur Sikri wherein Akbar invited learned scholars from all religions like Hinduism, Jainism, Christianity, and Zoroastrianism and used to conduct religious discussions with them.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Three great scholars and liberal minded Sufis i.e. Shaikh Mubarak and his sons Faizi and Abul Fazl exercised tremendous influence on the religious outlook of Akbar.

Q96. With reference to Madurai (capital of Pandyas), consider the following statements:

1. It was an important centre of fine textile and ivory working.
2. Sangam poems describe Madurai, as a large city enclosed by a wall.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (c)

Explanation:

- **Statements 1 and 2 are correct:** Madurai, the capital of the Pandyas, is described in the Sangam poems as a large city enclosed by a wall. It was an important centre of fine textile and ivory working. Korkai, in the Tirunneveli district of Tamil Nadu, was an important Pandya port. It was famous for its pearls.

Q97. Consider the following statements:

1. The Marathas developed organised judicial department.
2. The military strength of the Marathas declined under the Peshwa.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only 1
- (b) Only 2
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The Marathas failed to develop any organised judicial department. At the village level, civil cases were heard by the village elders (panchayat) in patil's office or in the village temple. Criminal cases were decided by the patil.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Under the peshwas that discipline was gone. The Maratha armies were now full of luxuries and comforts. This sows distinct decline in the military strength of the Marathas under the peshwas.

Q 98. Kalidasa is widely regarded as the greatest Sanskrit poet and dramatist of all time. Which of the following are drama written by Kalidas?

1. Raghuvansham
2. Kumarasambhavam
3. Abhijnanashakuntala
4. Vikramorvashi
5. Malavikagnimitra

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) Only 1 and 2
- (b) Only 1, 2, 3 and 4
- (c) Only 3, 4 and 5
- (d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Ans (c)

Explanation:

- The six works identified as genuine are the dramas Abhijnanashakuntala ("The Recognition of Shakuntala"), Vikramorvashi ("Urvashi Won by Valour"), and Malavikagnimitra ("Malavika and Agnimitra").
- The epic poems of Kalidas are Raghuvamsha ("Dynasty of Raghu") and Kumarasambhava ("Birth of the War God"); and the lyric "Meghaduta" ("Cloud Messenger").
- **So, option (c) is correct.**

Q 99. Consider the following statements:

1. Guru Nanak Dev rejected the authority of the Vedas.
2. Guru Gobind Singh conceptualised god as Nirguna and Nirankar.
3. Guru Ramdas started the tradition of Mall Akhara.

How many of the above given statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All Three
- (d) None

Ans (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Gurunank rejected the authority of the Vedas and preached the new idea of God as the supreme, universal, all-powerful, truthful, formless, fearless, without hate, self-existent, everlasting creator of all things, the eternal and absolute truth.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Guru Nanak Dev God conceptualised god as Nirguna (attribute less) and Nirankar (formless).
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Guru Angad's real name was Bhai Lehna. He started the tradition of Mall Akhara for physical as well as spiritual development. He standardised and popularised the Gurumukhi script of the Punjabi language.

Q 100. Consider the following pairs regarding Gupta Empire:

List I	List II
Vinayasthitisthapakas	Purohit
Mahasandhivigrahika	Foreign Minister
Dandapasikas	Superintendent of the police department

How many of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Ans (c)

Explanation:

- Important ministers and administrative officials under the Guptas are as follows:
- **Pair 1 is correct:** Vinayasthitisthapakas: He was a kind of purohit of earlier times. Kamandaka mentions Rajaguru in Nitisara. He was empowered to influence the decisions of the Council of Ministers.
- **Pair 2 is correct:** Mahasandhivigrahika: He was the foreign minister and worked in close cooperation with the king and the military department.
- **Pair 3 is correct:** Dandapasikas: He was the superintendent of the police department.

