

UDAYA PUBLIC SCHOOL, AYODHYA
FIRST – TERM EXAMINATION 2025-26
CLASS XII SUBJECT: HISTORY (027)

Time: 3 Hours

MM: 70

General Instructions:

1. Question paper comprises five sections_ A, B, C ,D and E. There are 34 questions in the question paper. All questions are compulsory.
2. Section 'A' Question number 1 to 21 are MCQ of 1 mark each.
3. Section 'B' Question number 22 to 27 are short answer type questions, carrying 3 mark each. Answer to each question should not exceed 60_80 words.
4. Section 'c' Question number 28 to 30 are Long answer type questions , carrying 8 marks each. Answer to each question should not exceed 300_350 words .
5. Section 'D' Question number 31 to 33 are source based questions with 3 sub questions and are of 4 marks each.
6. Section 'E' Question number 34 is a Map based, carrying 5 marks that includes the identification and location of significant test items. Attach the map with the answer book.
7. There is no over all choice in the question . However an internal choice has been provided in few questions.

SECTION - A

Multiple choice questions

- Q.1)** Which of the following Harappan sites is located in Gujarat?
a) Lothal b) Dholavira c) Banawali d) Both(a) and (b)
- Q.2)** Chanhudaro was a tiny settlement almost exclusively devoted to craft production, which included making.
a) Beads b) Seals c) Weight d) All of these
- Q.3)** the characteristic features of the bricks found in Harappan sites was not among which of these?
a) Sun dried bricks b) Baked bricks c) Bricks exactly of equal size d) Standard ratio of bricks
- Q.4)** Which of the following Empire issued gold coins for the very first time in the first century CE?
a) Gupta empire b) Maurya empire c) Kushana Empire d) Yaudheya empire
- Q.5)** Prabhavati Gupta was the daughter of which king?
a) Chandragupta Maurya b) Chandragupta I c) Rudrasena d) Chandragupta II
- Q.6)** Who deciphered the Brahmi And kharoshthi script?
a) James John b) James Prinsep c) Nicholas d) Edison
- Q.7)** In which of the following language has Allahabad pillar inscription been composed ?
a) Pali b) Hindi c) Sanskrit d) Brahmi
- Q.8)** Identify the name of the historian from the following information .
(i) He was an officer in the Mint of the East India Company.
(ii) He deciphered Brahmi and kharosthi script used in the earliest inscriptions and coins.
(iii) His findings gave a new direction to investigations into early Indian political history.
- Q.9)** Who among the following Gupta rulers was the most powerful and popular ruler?
a) Chandragupta b) Samudragupta c) Kumar Gupta d) Skandgupta
- Q.10)** Who among the following was a Greek ambassador to the court of Chandragupta Maurya?
a) Kautilya b) Fa-Xian c) Megasthenes d) Harisena
- Q.11)** The practice of a woman having several husband is known as_____.
- Q.12)** To justify their claims Brahmanas often cited a verse from a hymn in the Rigveda which was known as____ .
- Q.13)** Which of the following statement is in correct regarding scripts?
a) Almost all scripts used in modern Indian languages have a Brahmi as their main script.
b) Brahmi script is used in the inscriptions of Ashoka.
c) Kharosthi is a script.
d) James Prinsep deciphered the Kharosthi script in 1838.

- Q.14)** Identify the social category of people from in the information given below.
- Their task was to handle corpses and dead animals.
 - They were placed at the very bottom of the hierarchy.
 - They had to live outside the village, used discarded utensils and wear clothes of the dead and ornaments of iron.
 - They could not walk about in villages and cities at night.
- Q.15)** Which one of the following reasons was called as 'Magan' during Harappan period?
- Meluha
 - Bahrain
 - Oman
 - Dilmun
- Q.16)** Who among the following Director Generals of A. S. I. was an ex army Brigadier?
- Walter Eliot
 - R.E.M. Wheeler
 - Dayaram Sahni
 - John Marshall
- Q.17)** Which of the following is true about Harappan religion?
- Nature worship was in vogue.
 - Female deities were not dominant.
 - No cult of mother goddess was found.
 - Temple structures were unheated.
- Q.18)** Who among the following was the author of the book Arthashastra?
- Chanakya
 - Bimbisara
 - Chandragupt
 - Megasthenes
- Q.19)** Remains of canals are found in which site of Harappan civilization?
- Mohenjo Daro
 - Chanhudaro
 - Shortughai
 - Kalibangan
- Q.20)** What was the main occupation of the Indus people?
- Trade and commerce
 - Fishing
 - Agriculture
 - Hunting
- Q.21)** Many Kushana rulers adopted the title Devaputra which means.....
- Son of soil
 - Son of Earth
 - Son of God
 - Son of fire

Section B

Short Answer Type Questions

Q.22) How did architectural features of Mohenjo Daro indicate planning? Support with suitable example

Or

Describe the burial practices prevalent in Harappan civilization.

Q.23) Critically examine the limitations of the inscriptional evidences in understanding political and economic history of India.

Q.24) "The 6th century BCE is often regarded as a major turning point in early Indian history." Justify this statement.

Q.25) How do historians come to know about Mauryan period? Explain the administrative structures of the Mauryan Empire.

Q.26) Explain the language and content of Mahabharata.

Q.27) Describe any three features of Harappan drainage system. **Or**

Mention any three limitations of inscriptional evidence to construct the past.

Section C

Long Answer Type Questions

Q.28) What factors in your opinion are responsible for the collapse of a mature Harappan civilization by 1800 BC?

Or

Explain with examples the layout design of the great bath on the citadel in Mohenjo Daro.

Q.29) Explain the agricultural practices followed by the cultivators to increase productivity from 600 BCE to 600 CE.

Or

Describe the administrative features of the Mauryan Empire.

Q.30) What are the rules of gotra as given in Brahmanical practice? Give some examples to show that these rules were not always followed.

Or

Describe some of the distinctive features of Harappan civilization in detail.

Section D

Source based questions

Q.31) In the 1960s, the evidence of a massacre in Mohenjodaro was questioned by an archaeologist named George Dales. He demonstrated that the skeletons found at the site did not belong to the same period. Whereas a couple of them definitely seem to indicate a slaughter,... the bulk of the bones were found in contexts suggesting burials of the sloppiest and most irreverent nature. There is no destruction level covering the latest period of the city, no sign of extensive burning, no bodies of warriors clad in armour and surrounded by the weapons of war. The citadel, the only fortified part of the city, yielded no evidence of a final defence.

From G. Dales, "The Mythical Massacre at Mohenjodaro, Expedition, 1964.

As you can see, a careful re-examination of the data can sometimes lead to a reversal of earlier interpretations.

- (i) Why is the lane called Deadman Lane? How did John Marshall tend to excavate?
- (ii) Why are earlier interpretations sometimes reversed?
- (iii) According to REM Wheeler, what were the reasons for the decline of Harappan's civilization.

Q.32) Draupadi's Questions:

Draupadi is supposed to have asked Yudhishthira whether he had lost himself before staking her. Two contrary opinions were expressed in response to his question. Once, that even if Yudhishthira had lost himself earlier, his wife remained under his control, so he could stake her. Two, that an unfree man (as Yudhishthira was when he had lost himself) could not stake another person. The matter remained unresolved; ultimately, Dhritarashtra restored to the Pandavas and Draupadi their personal freedom.

- (i) How did Draupadi's questions unsettle everyone in the assembly?
- (ii) What was the implication of her questions?
- (iii) What makes Draupadi's question admirable?

The Sudarshana (beautiful) lake in Gujarat

Q.33) The Sudarshana lake was an artificial reservoir. We know about it from a rock inscription (c. second century CE) in Sanskrit, composed to record the achievements of the Shaka ruler Rudradaman. The inscription mentions that the lake, with embankments and water channels, was built by a local governor during the rule of the Mauryas. However, a terrible storm broke the embankments and water gushed out of the lake. Rudradaman, who was then ruling in the area, claimed to have got the lake repaired using his own resources, without imposing any tax on his subjects.

Gupta dynasty got the lake repaired once again.

Another inscription on the same rock (c. fifth century) mentions how one of the rulers of the (i) Mention about the irrigation system of the Mauryan Empire.

(ii) Explain about the achievements of Rudradaman during the 2nd century CE.

(iii) Mention the values demonstrated by Rudradaman that can be seen from the passage.

Q.34) Map based questions:

On the given political outline map of India, locate and label the following with appropriate symbols.

- (i) Rakhigarhi-Indus Valley site.
- (ii) Kalibangan
- (iii) Lothal
- (iv) Kot Diji
- (v) Harappa