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NCERT MCQs

Indian History

Class 6-12 (Old+New)

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Sources of Ancient History

New NCERT Class VI (What Books and Burials Tell Us), Old NCERT Class XI (The Importance of Ancient Indian History), Old NCERT Class XI (Modern Historians of Ancient India), Old NCERT Class XI (Types of Sources and Historical Construction), New NCERT Class XII (Bricks, Beads and Bones), New NCERT Class XII (Kings, Farmers and Towns)

Archaeological Excavations

1. Archaeological evidence of a bead-making industry in the Sangam Era, using precious and semi-precious stones, has been found in Kodumanal. It is located in which of the following present day states of India?

(Chap 2, Class-XII, New NCERT)

- (a) Andhra Pradesh (b) Karnataka
(c) Tamil Nadu (d) Kerala

➤ Ans. (c)

Exp. Archaeological evidence of a bead-making industry, using precious and semi-precious stones, has been found in Kodumanal. At present, it is located in Tamil Nadu. The site is located on North bank of river Noyyal. It was an important ancient trade city belonging to the Sangam Era.

2. With reference to the methodology of excavation of mound, which among the following statement(s) is/are correct?

(Chap 3, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

- Vertical excavations results in uncovering the period-wise sequence of cultures.
- Horizontal excavation is generally confined to entire or part of a particular site.

Codes

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

➤ Ans. (c)

Exp. Both the statements (1) and (2) are correct with reference to the methodology of excavation of mound. A mound can be excavated vertically or horizontally.

Vertical excavation is done by doing lengthwise digging to uncover the period-wise sequence of cultures; it is usually limited to a part of the site.

Horizontal excavation means digging the mound's most of the part or entirely. This method enables the excavator to get a complete idea of the site culture in a particular period.

3. The excavation at Chanhudaro was directed by

(Chap-1, Class-XII, New NCERT)

- (a) JH Mackay (b) Sir John Marshall
(c) REM Wheeler (d) Sir Aurel Stein

➤ Ans. (a)

Exp. The excavation at Chanhudaro was directed by JH Mackay. Chanhudaro was tiny settlement (less than 7 hectares) located in Sindh province of Pakistan. This site was almost exclusively devoted to craft production, including bead-making, shell-cutting, metal-working, seal-making and weight-making.

4. Two Indians who were associated with discovery of Indus Valley Civilisation are

(Chap-4, Class-XI, Old NCERT) (CGPSC Pre 2003)

- (a) Rakhil Das Banerjee and Dayaram Sahni
(b) John Marshall and Ishwari Prasad
(c) Ashirwadi Lal Srivastava and Rangnath Rao
(d) Madhosarup Vats and UB Rao

➤ Ans. (a)

Exp. Rakhil Das Banerjee and Dayaram Sahni were two Indian Archaeologist associated with discovery of Indus Valley Civilisation. Dayaram Sahni was involved in excavation of Harappa whereas Rakhil Das Banerjee was involved in excavation of Mohenjodaro. They carried out excavation under Director-Generalship of Sir John Marshall.

NCERT MCQs • Sources of Ancient History 02

5. With reference to John Marshall's stint as Director-General of Archaeological Survey of India, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct? (Chap 1, Class-XII, New NCERT)

1. During his stint, the Indus Valley Civilisation was excavated.
2. He recognised while excavating that it was necessary to follow stratigraphy of the site.
3. He brought his experience of working in Greece and Crete to India.

Codes

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

➤ *Ans. (c)*

Exp. Statements (1) and (3) are correct with reference to John Marshall's stint as Director-General of Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).

John Marshall as Director-General of the ASI worked in the excavations of Indus Valley Civilisation. He was the first professional archaeologist to work in India who brought his experience of working in Greece and Crete to the field of archaeology. He was interested in spectacular findings and was equally keen to look for patterns of everyday life.

Statement (2) is incorrect as Marshall usually excavated along regular horizontal units, measured uniformly throughout the mound, ignoring the stratigraphy of the site.

Coins

6. The history of Punjab and Haryana in first century AD has been reconstructed on the basis of study of several thousand copper coins issued by (Chap 2, Class-XII, New NCERT)

- (a) tribal republics of Kanva
- (b) tribal republics of Yaudheya
- (c) tribal republics of Gandhara
- (d) Karkota dynasty of Kashmir

➤ *Ans. (b)*

Exp. The history of Punjab and Haryana in first century AD has been reconstructed on the basis of several thousand copper coins issued by tribal republics of Yaudheya. This republic was formed in the areas between the Indus river and the Ganges river and was contemporaries to Shunga, Indo-Greek and Kushan Empire. The God *Kartikeya* is depicted on their coins which only utilised Brahmi script.

7. With reference to the coins issued in ancient India, which of the following statements is/are incorrect? (Chap 3, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

1. Ancient coins are made up of metals such as copper, silver, gold and lead.

2. Coin moulds of burnt clay have been discovered in large numbers in India.
3. The coin moulds belonging to the post-Gupta period has been discovered in largest number.

Codes

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

➤ *Ans. (c)*

Exp. Statement (3) is incorrect with reference to the coins issued in ancient India as most of the discovered coin moulds belong to the Kushan period between the first to third century AD.

In Post-Gupta times, use of such moulds disappeared. Ancient coins found in India were made mostly of copper, gold, silver in lead. Coin moulds have also been found at many sites in large numbers which are usually made of burnt clay.

8. Consider the following statements regarding coins in ancient India. (Chap 3, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

1. The coins mentioned the names of kings, gods or dates.
2. Coins were issued by the guilds of merchants and goldsmiths with the permission of ruler.
3. Coins of major dynasties have been catalogued and preserved in various museums in India.
4. Coins belonging to the Harappa Civilisation carried symbol of humped bull.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1, 2 and 4 (b) 2, 3 and 4
(c) 1, 2 and 3 (d) All of these

➤ *Ans. (c)*

Exp. Statements (1), (2) and (3) are correct regarding coins of ancient India.

Earliest coins of ancient India's have a few symbols, but the later coins have the names of kings, gods or dates. The areas where they are found indicate the region of their circulation. Some coins were issued by the guilds of merchants and gold-smiths with the permission of the rulers. This shows that crafts and commerce had become important.

Coins helped transactions on a large scale and contributed to trade. Coins of the major dynasties have been catalogued and published most notably in Indian Museum at Kolkata and British Museum at London.

Statement (4) is incorrect as coins belonging to the Harappa Civilisation have not been discovered yet. The trade and commerce in Harappa Civilisation was done through barter and humped bull is found on a seal not on coins.

NCERT MCQs • Sources of Ancient History 03

- 9. Match the following lists correctly and choose the correct code.** (Chap 3, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

List I (Ingredients of the Coins)	List II (Historical Reconstruction)
A. Names of kings and dates	1. Flourishing trade and commerce.
B. More circulation of gold coins	2. Ruling dynasties and their extent
C. Religious symbols and gods	3. Socio-economic aspect of history
D. Coins used for donations	4. Art and religion

Codes

- | | | | | |
|-----|---|---|---|---|
| | A | B | C | D |
| (a) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| (b) | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| (c) | 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| (d) | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 |

➤ *Ans. (c)*

Exp. The correct matching is A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3.

Names of kings, gods and dates on coins help in finding the area of their circulation and about ruling dynasties at that time. It had helped in reconstruction of history of tribal republic of Yaudheyas based in Haryana and Punjab between first to second century AD.

More circulation of gold coins indicates flourishing trade and communication as it helped in large scale of transactions and helped commerce in the areas. For instance, the large circulation of gold coins in Gupta era attested the flourishing trade with Roman Empire. Religious symbols and gods help us understand the people's culture and religious traditions. It also portrayed their artistic sense. The portrayal of god and goddesses helps in figuring out the religion patronised by the ruling dynasty.

Coins used for donations tell about the socio-economic conditions of the period. For instance, land and monetary grants (through coins) by ruler of Satavahana dynasty.

Inscriptions

- 10. The study of the old writing used in inscriptions and other old records is called** (Chap 3, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| (a) Epigraphy | (b) Palaeography |
| (c) Ethnography | (d) Palaeontology |

➤ *Ans. (b)*

Exp. Palaeography is the study of old writings used in inscriptions and other old records. Study of writing on inscriptions is known as epigraphy.

- 11. The earliest inscriptions in India was recorded on which of the following material ?**

(Chap 3, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

- (a) Copper (b) Iron (c) Stone (d) Wood

➤ *Ans. (c)*

Exp. The earliest inscription in India was recorded on stone. These inscriptions were commissioned by the rulers as well as by guilds and provincial governors. They give an useful insight into the socio-political and economic progress in ancient India. Large number of stone inscriptions belonging to the megalith and Sangam Era had been discovered from South India.

- 12. The Hathigumpha inscription gives year-wise account of the reign of**

(Chap 3, Class-XI, Old NCERT) (UPPSC Pre 2018)

- (a) Narasimhavarman II of Kanchipuram
 (b) Pulakeshin II of Vatapi
 (c) Kharavela of Kalinga
 (d) Baladitya of Kashmir

➤ *Ans. (c)*

Exp. The Hathigumpha inscription gives year-wise account of the reign of king Kharvela of Kalinga. This inscription is near Udayagiri hills in Bhubaneswar, Odisha and is dated between second century BC to first century AD. This inscription also highlights the patronage of Jainism by the king Kharavela.

- 13. The office of Chief Epigraphist of India which contains the largest number of inscriptions is located at which of the following places?**

(Chap 3, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| (a) Kolkata | (b) New Delhi |
| (c) Chennai | (d) Mysore |

➤ *Ans. (d)*

Exp. The largest number of inscriptions are found in the office of the Chief Epigraphist at Mysore. It was established in 1886 in Bangalore with Dr. E Hultzsch as the head of the office.

- 14. With reference to the cultural history of India, what is the significance of 'Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum'?** (Chap 3, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

- (a) It is a series of collection containing inscriptions belonging to Maurya, Post-Maurya and Gupta times.
 (b) It is a collection of inscription containing history of ancient and medieval India.
 (c) It is a series of collection containing inscriptions belonging to the Mauryan Emperor Ashoka.
 (d) It is a museum in London dedicated to the inscriptions containing history of India.

NCERT MCQs • Sources of Ancient History 04

➤ *Ans. (a)*

Exp. 'Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum' is a published series of collection. It has records on the history of Mauryan, Post-Mauryan and Gupta times. No such compilation is available for post-Gupta times.

15. Consider the following statements.

(Chap-3, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

1. An epigraphist can decipher most inscription of the country up to about 7th century AD, if he had carefully learnt Brahmi script.
2. Kharosthi script was written from left to right and was prevalent in North-Western part of Indian subcontinent.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

➤ *Ans. (a)*

Exp. Statement (1) is correct as knowledge of Brahmi script is essential for an epigraphist to decipher most inscription of the country up to about 7th century AD. This script was used by rulers of major dynasties including Ashoka for engraving their inscriptions in Indian subcontinent. After the 7th century AD, there were strong regional variations in the script.

Statement (2) is incorrect as Kharosthi script was written from right to left. This script was used by Ashoka to engrave his inscriptions in North-Western part of Indian subcontinent. Later, it was also used by rulers of Indo-Greeks and Kushans.

16. Consider the following statements regarding inscriptions in India.

(Chap 3, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

1. The earliest inscriptions are found on the seals of Harappa belonging to about 2500 BC.
2. Ashokan inscriptions were engraved in the Brahmi script, which was written from left to right.
3. The oldest inscriptions deciphered so far were issued by Harappans in India.

Which of the statements above is/are correct?

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

➤ *Ans. (a)*

Exp. Statements (1) and (2) are correct regarding inscriptions in India.

The earliest inscriptions are found on the seals of Harappa belonging to about 2500 BC. They have not been deciphered so far. They are written in pictographic form.

Ashokan inscriptions were written in Brahmi script, which is written from left to right. Though some of them

were also written in Kharosthi script which is written from right to left.

Statement (3) is incorrect as the oldest inscriptions deciphered so far were issued by Ashoka in the third century BC.

17. The Girnar rock inscription states that repair of Sudarshana lake was undertaken by the rulers of various dynasties of ancient India. The kings of which among the following dynasties were associated with Girnar rock inscriptions?

(Chap 2, Class-XII, New NCERT)

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Mauryan Empire | 2. Saka Empire |
| 3. Gupta Empire | 4. Kushan Dynasty |

Codes

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| (a) 1, 2 and 3 | (b) 2, 3 and 4 |
| (c) 1, 2 and 4 | (d) All of these |

➤ *Ans. (a)*

Exp. The kings of Mauryan Empire, Saka Empire and Gupta Empire are associated with the Girnar inscription. This inscription mentions that Sudarshana 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.

Then, Saka ruler Rudradaman, who was then ruling in the area, got the lake repaired using his own resources, without imposing any tax on his subjects. Another inscription on the same rock (c. fifth century) mentions how one of the rulers of the Gupta dynasty got the lake repaired once again.

Kushan dynasty was associated with the Rabatak inscription.

18. The Allahabad Pillar Inscriptions helped in historical reconstruction of which of the following Kingdoms/ Empires of ancient and medieval India?

(Chap 7, Class-VI, New NCERT) (UP RO/ARO Pre 2016)

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 1. Maurya Empire | 2. Gupta Empire |
| 3. Delhi Sultanate | 4. Mughal Empire |

Codes

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| (a) 1, 2 and 3 | (b) 2, 3 and 4 |
| (c) 1, 2 and 4 | (d) All of these |

➤ *Ans. (c)*

Exp. Allahabad Pillar Inscription helped in historical reconstruction of Maurya Empire, Gupta Empire and Mughal Empire.

This inscription also known as Prayag Prashasti. It was commissioned during the reign of Ashoka. It also has eulogy about Samudragupta and his exploits as king. It also had writings about Mughal Emperor Jahangir.

NCERT MCQs • Sources of Ancient History 05

19. With reference to limitations of inscriptions as a source of historical reconstruction, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

(Chap 2, Class-XII, New NCERT)

1. The content of the inscriptions only projects the perspective of the person(s) who commissioned them.
2. History regarding socio-cultural life of the common people is often missing in the inscriptions.
3. As all of them are recorded on perishable materials which provides scope for alteration.

Codes

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

➤ **Ans. (a)**

Exp. Statements (1) and (2) are correct with reference to limitations of inscriptions as a source of historical reconstruction. Inscriptions were commissioned by people who were kings or in power and usually contain what they wanted to show or perspective of the ruling elites. The history regarding socio-cultural life of people is often missing in the sculptures.

Statement (3) is incorrect as some of the inscriptions were also recorded on non-perishable materials such as stones and metals.

20. Match the following lists correctly and choose the correct code.

(Chap 2, Class-XII, New NCERT)

List I (Types of Inscriptions)	List II (Characteristics)
A. Votive	1. Highlights the achievements of conquerors and rulers
B. Royal	2. Gifts of money and cattle by artisans and merchants
C. Eulogy	3. Gifts made to religious institutions
D. Donative	4. Decree issued by the Kings and Princes

Codes

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| A B C D | A B C D |
| (a) 1 2 3 4 | (b) 2 3 1 4 |
| (c) 2 1 4 3 | (d) 3 4 1 2 |

➤ **Ans. (d)**

Exp. The correct matching is A-3, B-4, C-1, D-2.

Votive By the second century BC, short votive inscriptions were found. These mention the name of the donor, and sometimes specify his/ her occupation as well. They tell us about people who lived in towns i.e., weavers, scribes, carpenters, potters, goldsmiths, blacksmiths, officials, religious teachers, merchants and kings.

Royal inscriptions as evident from the name were the orders and decree which were issued in the form of inscription.

Eulogy was written in praise of kings and warriors in inscription form. It was usually written in exaggeration and tells about the exploits of the King.

Donative inscriptions had records of donations made by women and men to religious institutions. These people were mostly merchants and traders.

Literary Sources

21. The ancient manuscripts of India were written on which of the following materials?

(Chap 3, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

- (a) Wooden tablets (b) Copper plate
(c) Sheep leather (d) Birch bark

➤ **Ans. (d)**

Exp. The ancient manuscripts of India were written on birch bark. Although the ancient Indians knew writing as early as 2500 BC, most ancient manuscripts, not older than the fourth century AD have been found in Central Asia. In India, they were written on birch bark and palm leaves, but in Central Asia, where the Prakrit language had spread from India, manuscripts were also written on sheep leather and wooden tablets.

22. In which of the following texts the list of the sixteen great states (Shodasa Mahajanapadas) of ancient India occur?

(Chap-2, Class-XI, Old NCERT) (RAS, RTS 2016)

1. Arthashastra 2. Anguttara Nikaya
3. Digha Nikaya 4. Bhagavati Sutra

Codes

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

➤ **Ans. (b)**

Exp. Among the given options, the Buddhist text, *Anguttara Nikaya* and *Digha Nikaya* give the list of sixteen great states (Shodasa Mahajanapadas) of ancient India. These sixteen Mahajanapadas occurred around 600 BC and is referred as the period of second urbanisation in India. The list of sixteen Mahajanapadas is also found in Jaina text *Bhagavati Sutra*.

Arthashastra is treatise on statecraft written by Kautilya. It gives information regarding the state of polity prevalent in Mauryan Empire.

23. The best example of the earliest historical writing is provided in the Rajatarangini written by

(Chap 3, Class-XI, Old NCERT) (BPS Pre 2011)

- (a) Kalhana (b) Bilhana
(c) Kalidasa (d) Panini

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➤ *Ans. (a)*

Exp. One of the best and earliest example of historical writing found in Rajatarangini, meaning ‘The Stream of Kings’ was written by Kalhana in the 12th century AD. It is a series of biographies of the kings of Kashmir and has traits of history as it is understood in present.

24. Consider the following statements regarding Mahabharata. (Chap 3, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

1. It was composed by the sage Vyasa and is older than Ramayana.
2. Originally, it consisted 24,000 verses and was called Jaya Samhita.
3. The final compilation brought the verses to 100,000 which came to be known as Satasahasri Samhita.

Which of the statement(s) given above are correct?

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

➤ *Ans. (c)*

Exp. Statements (1) and (3) are correct regarding Mahabharata.

The two epics (Ramayana and Mahabharata) seem to have been compiled around the 4th century AD. Mahabharata written by sage Vyasa is older in age and reflects the state of affairs from 10th century BC to 4th century AD. Its final compilation brought the verses to 100,000 which came to be known as Satasahasri Samhita.

Statement (2) is incorrect as originally Mahabharata consisted 8,000 verses and was known as ‘Jaya’ stories of victories.

25. Consider the following statements regarding Ramayana. (Chap 3, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

1. It was composed by the sage Valmiki and originally consisted of 6000 verses.
2. Contrary to Mahabharata, it contains only narrative portion.
3. Its composition was started in the fifth century BC and since then it passed through five stages.

Which of the statements above is/are correct?

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

➤ *Ans. (c)*

Exp. Statements (1) and (3) are correct regarding Ramayana.

Ramayana, composed by Valmiki originally consisted of 6,000 verses and its final compilation contains 24,000 verses. The Ramayana composition started in 5th century BC and since then it is passed through five stages, and the fifth stage is as late as the 12th century AD.

Statement (2) is incorrect as Ramayana also had its own didactic portions which were added to it later.

26. With reference to the earliest Buddhist texts, which of the following statements is/are correct?

(Chap 3, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

1. They helps in historical reconstruction of the Magadha, North Bihar and Eastern Uttar Pradesh.
2. They were written in Pali language and were finally compiled in the second century BC in Sri Lanka.
3. The Buddhist canonical literature, Jataka throws invaluable light on social and economic conditions ranging from the fifth to second century BC.

Codes

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

➤ *Ans. (a)*

Exp. Statements (1) and (2) are correct with reference to earliest Buddhist text.

The earliest Buddhist texts tell us not only about the life of the Buddha but also about some of his royal contemporaries who ruled over Magadha, North Bihar and Eastern Uttar Pradesh.

They were written in the Pali language, which was spoken in Magadha or South Bihar. They were finally compiled in the second century BC in Sri Lanka.

Statement (3) is incorrect because the most important and interesting portion of the ‘non-canonical’ literature is provided by the stories of the previous births of Gautama Buddha. Each birth story is called a Jataka which is a folk tale. These Jatakas throw invaluable light on social and economic conditions.

27. With reference to earliest Jaina literature, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

(Chap 3, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

1. They were written in Prakrit and were finally compiled in the sixth century AD in Shravanabelagola in Karnataka.
2. They help in reconstructing the political history of Eastern Uttar Pradesh and Bihar in the age of Mahavira.
3. It also throws light on the state of trade and crafts and repeatedly refers to trade and traders.

Codes

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

➤ *Ans. (b)*

Exp. Statements (2) and (3) are correct with reference to earliest Jaina literature.

The Jaina texts contain political history of Eastern Uttar Pradesh and Bihar in the age of Mahavira.

It also has details and information which provides valuable data about trade, crafts, and about traders.

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Statement (1) is incorrect as the Jaina texts were written in Prakrit and were compiled in Vallabhi, Gujarat, in sixth century AD.

- 28. Match the following lists correctly and choose the correct code.** (Chap 3, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

List I (Biographical Accounts)	List II (Authors)
A. Harshacharita	1. Sandhyakara Nandi
B. Ramacharita	2. Banabhatta
C. Vikramanakadevacharita	3. Bilhana
D. Mushika Vamsha	4. Atula

Codes

A B C D	A B C D
(a) 1 2 3 4	(b) 2 3 1 4
(c) 2 1 3 4	(d) 3 1 4 2

➤ **Ans. (c)**

Exp. The correct matching is A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4.

Harshacharita is a biographical account of Harshavardhana. It was written by his court poet Banabhatta in 7th century AD.

Ramacharita was written by Sandhyakara Nandi in 12th century AD. It tells the story of conflict between the Kaivarta peasants and the Pala Prince Ramapala.

Vikramanakadevacharita was written by Bilhana, which tells the achievements of his patron Vikramaditya VI (1076-1127 AD). He was a Chalukyan king.

Mushika Vamsha was written in the 11th century by Atula. It gives record of dynasty of Mushikas which ruled in Northern Kerala.

- 29. Match the following lists correctly and choose the correct code.** (Chap 3, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

List I (Ancient Literature)	List II (Characteristics)
A. Srutasutras	1. Domestic rituals
B. Grihasutras	2. Philosophical speculations
C. Sulvasutras	3. Royal coronation ceremonies
D. Upanishad	4. Measurements for construction of sacrificial altars

Codes

A B C D	A B C D
(a) 1 2 3 4	(b) 2 3 1 4
(c) 2 1 4 3	(d) 3 1 4 2

➤ **Ans. (d)**

Exp. The correct matching is A-3, B-1, C-4, D-2.

Srutasutras provide for many pompous royal coronation ceremonies. They mention that it big public sacrifices meant for princes.

Grihasutras listed out domestic rituals related to birth, naming, marriage, funerals etc.

Sulvasutras prescribed various kinds of measurements for construction of sacrificial platforms.

Upanishada had philosophical speculation about the nature of the world and social realities.

Foreign Accounts

- 30. The identification of an Indian king who was contemporary of Alexander as 'Sandrokottas' by Greek writers has served sheet-anchor in the ancient Indian chronology.**

Which Indian ruler is described in the description given above? (Chap 3, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

- (a) Ashoka
(b) Chandragupta Maurya
(c) Samudragupta
(d) Harshavardhana

➤ **Ans. (b)**

Exp. Indian ruler Chandragupta Maurya is described at Sandrokottas by Greek writers. The Greek writers mention Sandrokottas, a contemporary of Alexander the Great who invaded India in 326 BC. Sandrokottas is identified with Chandragupta Maurya, whose date of accession is fixed at 322 BC. This identification has served as the sheet-anchor in ancient Indian chronology.

- 31. Which among the following ancient text originally written in Latin, provides information about trade between India and Roman Empire in first century AD?** (Chap 3, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

- (a) Indika written by Megasthenes
(b) Geography written by Ptolemy
(c) *Naturalis Historia* written by Pliny
(d) *Periplus of Erythrean Sea* by an anonymous writer.

➤ **Ans. (c)**

Exp. *Naturalis Historia* written by Pliny that belongs to the first century AD, was originally written in Latin, and provides information about trade between India and Roman Empire.

Indika written by Megasthenes describes the state of society and polity during the reign of Chandragupta Maurya.

Ptolemy was Greek Geographer, who in his *Geography of India* described about flora and fauna of the country.

Periplus of Erythrean Sea was written by an anonymous Greek writer. It provides information regarding trade relation between South India and Roman Empire.

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- 32. Match the following lists correctly and choose the correct code.** (Chap 3, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

List I (Foreign Travellers/ Writers)	List II (Historical Reconstruction of)
A. Megasthenes	1. Trade between India and Roman Empire
B. Ptolemy	2. India in fourth century BC
C. Fa-Hien	3. India in fourth and fifth century AD
D. Hiuen Tsang	4. India in seventh century AD

Codes

- | | | | | |
|-----|---|---|---|---|
| | A | B | C | D |
| (a) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| (b) | 2 | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| (c) | 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| (d) | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 |

➤ *Ans. (b)*

Exp. The correct matching is A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4.

Megasthenes's Indika tells about Maurya rule in the time of Chandragupta Maurya in the 4th century and helps reconstruct the history of the period.

Ptolemy's Geography was written in Greek and provides information about ancient geography and commerce between India and the Roman empire around 150 AD.

Fa-Hien a Chinese traveller/pilgrim came in the age of Guptas in fifth century AD and describes the social, religious and economic situations.

His writing inspired other Buddhist scholars and travellers from China to visit India in subsequent years.

Hiuen Tsang came to India in the seventh century AD. He gave an elaborate account of state of polity, society, economy and culture of India during the reign of Harshavardhana.

Historians of Ancient India

- 33. Which among the following authors is credited with the first systematic history of Ancient India?** (Chap 2, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

- (a) Vincent Arthur Smith
- (b) William Hawkins
- (c) Max Mueller
- (d) William Jones

➤ *Ans. (a)*

Exp. Vincent Arthur Smith is credited with the first systematic history of Ancient India. He has prepared the first systematic history of ancient India in 1904.

His book which was based on a deep study of the available sources gave primacy to political history. It served as a text book for nearly fifty years and is still used by scholars.

- 34. 'A History of South India' is the first modern book to give a detailed historiography of the South India. It was written by**

- (a) R C Majumdar (Chap 3, Class-XI, Old NCERT)
- (b) K A Nilakanta Sastri
- (c) Devdatta Ramakrishna Bhandarkar
- (d) Pandurang Vaman Kane

➤ *Ans. (b)*

Exp. 'A History of South India' is written by K A Nilakanta Sastri (1892-1975). Most writers on early Indian history did not give adequate attention to South India.

Even KA Nilakanta Sastri, the great historian from South India, followed the same approach in his 'A History of Ancient India'. This was more than rectified in 'A History of South India' written by him.

- 35. With reference to the contributions of Max Mueller in Indian historiography, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?**

(Chap 2, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

1. Under his editorship ancient Indian scriptures were translated on the massive scale and were published under the Sacred Books of the East Series.
2. He opposed the popular belief that ancient Indian lacked a sense of chronology and were accustomed to the despotic rule.

Codes

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

➤ *Ans. (a)*

Exp. Only statement (1) is correct with reference to the contribution of Max Mueller in the Indian historiography.

The greatest push to Indological or Indian studies was given by the German-born scholar F. Max Mueller (1823-1902) who spent most of his time in England.

Ancient scriptures were translated on a massive scale under the editorship of Max Mueller. Altogether fifty volumes, some in several parts were published under the Sacred Books of the East Series.

Statement (2) is incorrect as he didn't oppose but put down the popular belief that ancient Indians lacked a sense of chronology and were accustomed to despotic rule.

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36. With reference to the Colonial school of historiography, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct? (Chap 2, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

1. It believed that India did not experienced political modern unity until the establishment of British rule in India.
2. It made generalisation to serve as propaganda material for perpetuation of the despotic British rule in India.
3. It didn't write about the prevalence of caste system in early Indian society.

Codes

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

➤ **Ans. (a)**

Exp. Statements (1) and (2) are correct with reference to the colonial school of historiography.

British colonial historians stated that the ancient Indians lacked a sense of history especially of the factor of time and chronology. They added that the Indians were accustomed to despotic rule.

The Western scholars stressed that the Indians had neither experienced feelings of nationhood nor any kind of self-government. So, they justified the British rule over India.

Statement (3) is incorrect as they wrote about caste systems, and considered it as worst form of discrimination.

37. With reference to the Nationalist school of historiography, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct? (Chap 3, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

1. They exploded the myth of Indian despotism and highlighted that republic existed in ancient India and enjoyed a measure of self-government.
2. They focused on the political history alone and ignored the cultural and social history.
3. They reconstructed ancient Indian history in such a manner as to make a case for social reforms and self-government.

Codes

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

➤ **Ans. (c)**

Exp. Statements (1) and (3) are correct with reference to the Nationalist school of historiography.

Historians and scholars from nationalist approach took upon themselves not only the mission to reform Indian society but also to reconstruct ancient Indian history in such a manner as to make a case for social reforms and, more importantly, for self-government.

They wrote about republics which had self-governments to highlight this perspective.

Statement (2) is incorrect as they wrote about ancient culture and social history of Indo-Aryans, Vaishnavism and others.

38. Match the following lists correctly and choose the correct code. (Chap 2, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

	List I (Scholars related with Nationalist School of Historiography)	List II (Books)
A.	Rajendra Lal Mitra	1. History of Institutions of Marriage
B.	R G Bhandarkar	2. Political history of Deccan under Satavahanas
C.	V K Rajwade	3. Indo-Aryans
D.	Pandurang Vaman Kane	4. History of the Dharamasastra

Codes

- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|-------|---|---|---|-------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|-------|---|---|---|-------|---|---|---|
| <table style="border: none;"> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">A</td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">B</td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">C</td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">D</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(a) 1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(c) 2</td> <td>1</td> <td>4</td> <td>3</td> </tr> </table> | A | B | C | D | (a) 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | (c) 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 | <table style="border: none;"> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">A</td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">B</td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">C</td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">D</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(b) 2</td> <td>3</td> <td>1</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(d) 3</td> <td>2</td> <td>1</td> <td>4</td> </tr> </table> | A | B | C | D | (b) 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | (d) 3 | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| A | B | C | D | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (a) 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (c) 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| A | B | C | D | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (b) 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (d) 3 | 2 | 1 | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

➤ **Ans. (d)**

Exp. The correct matching is A-3, B-2, C-1, D-4.

Rajendra Lal Mitra (1822-1891) wrote a book named 'Indo-Aryans'. He took rational view of ancient society.

RG Bhandarkar (1837-1925) reconstructed the political history of the Deccan under Satavahanas and History of Vaishnavism and other sects.

VK Rajwade (1869-1926) wrote a book named 'History of Institutions of Marriage'.

Pandurang Vaman Kane (1880-1972) wrote 'History of Dharamasastra' for which he received Bharat Ratna in 1963. It is 6500 pages research work conducted in 40 years.

Pre-History of India

New NCERT Class VI (From Hunting-Gathering to Growing Food), Old NCERT Class VI (Early Man), Old NCERT Class IX (Life in Prehistoric Times), New NCERT Class XI (The Dawn of History in the Deep South), Old NCERT Class XI (The Geographical Setting), Old NCERT Class XI (The Stone Age : The Early Man), Old NCERT Class XI (Chalcolithic Farming Cultures), New NCERT Class XII (Kings, Farmers and Towns)

1. The Palaeolithic phase of the cultural evolution of man is also referred as (Chap 4, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

- (a) Old Stone age
- (b) Ice age
- (c) Both 'a' and 'b'
- (d) First revolution of mankind

➤ *Ans. (c)*

Exp. The old stone age is known as palaeolithic age. In India, it is divided into three phases according to the nature of the stone tools used by the people and also according to the nature of change in climate. This period is also known as Ice age, as the stone age started during the Pleistocene period of ice age.

2. With reference to the Pre-history, the three major tool types- hand axes, choppers and flake implements are associated with which phase of human cultural evolution? (Chap 1, Class-IX, Old NCERT)

- (a) Neolithic
- (b) Palaeolithic
- (c) Mesolithic
- (d) Chalcolithic

➤ *Ans. (b)*

Exp. With reference to the Pre-history, the three major tool types- hand axes, choppers and flake implements are associated with Palaeolithic Phase. The Lower Palaeolithic or the Early Old Stone age covers the greater part of the Ice age. Its characteristic feature is the use of hand-axes, cleavers and choppers.

The axes found in India are more or less similar to those of Western Asia, Europe and Africa. Stone tools were used mainly for chopping, digging and skinning.

3. Which one the following pre-historic sites of India, is not related with Lower Palaeolithic age? (Chap 5, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

- (a) Soan Valley
- (b) Bhimbetka
- (c) Sarai Nahar Rai
- (d) Didwana

➤ *Ans. (c)*

Exp. Among the given options sarai Nahar Rai is not related with Lower Paleolithic age. It is a Mesolithic site discovered from Pratapgarh district of Uttar Pradesh.

Soan or Sohan valley is among the earliest discovered Lower Palaeolithic Site in India. It was discovered under Yale-Cambridge expedition and is presently found in Pakistan. Sites belonging to Lower Paleolithic age have also been discovered from Didwana in Rajasthan and Bhimbetka, Adamgarh and Narsinghpur in Madya Pradesh.

4. With reference to pre-historic site of 'Kurnool caves', which of the following statements is/are correct? (Chap-2, Class-VI, New NCERT)

1. This cave is located in Andhra Pradesh and belongs to Palaeolithic phase of early history of South India.
2. People belonging to this site were acquainted with the knowledge of fire.

Codes

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

➤ *Ans. (c)*

Exp. Both the statements (1) and (2) are correct regarding pre-historic site of 'Kurnool Caves'. This cave is located in Andhra Pradesh and belongs to Palaeolithic phase of early history of South India. One of the remarkable facts associated with the Kurnool cave is that people living near the cave site were acquainted with the knowledge of fire.

5. Which of the following Indian archaeologist first visited 'Bhimbetka caves' and discovered pre-historic significances of its rock paintings?

(Chap-1, Class-XI, New NCERT Art and Culture) (UPPSC Pre 2020)

- (a) Madho Swaroop Vatsa (b) HD Sankalia
(c) VS Wakankar (d) VN Mishra

➤ *Ans. (c)*

Exp. Among the given options, VS Wakankar first visited 'Bhimbetka caves' and discovered pre-historic significances of its rock paintings. He spent several years in surveying these inaccessible hills and jungles to study these paintings.

Bhimbetka located in the Vindhyan hills in Madhya Pradesh contains about eight hundred rock shelters, five hundred of which bear rock paintings belonging to Middle and Upper Palaeolithic Age.

6. With reference to the cultural phase of Lower Palaeolithic in India, which of the following statement(s) is/are incorrect?

(Chap 5, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

1. It was characterised by glaciations and covered greater part of ice age.
2. During this phase, rock shelters served as seasonal camps for human beings.
3. The cultivation of crops and domestication of animals started in Lower Palaeolithic age.

Codes

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

➤ *Ans. (c)*

Exp. Statement (3) is incorrect with reference to the cultural phase of Lower Palaeolithic in India as in the Lower Palaeolithic period there wasn't domestication of animals or any kind of agricultural activities, it only started in the Mesolithic Age.

7. With reference to culture phase of Middle Palaeolithic in India, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

(Chap 5, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

1. It occurred between 500,000 BC to 50,000 BC.

2. The important tools of this phase were varieties of blades, points, borers and scrapers.

3. The artefacts of this age are found at several places near Narmada river basin.

Codes

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

➤ *Ans. (b)*

Exp. Statements (2) and (3) are correct.

The important tools in the Middle Palaeolithic phase were varieties of blades, points, borers and scrapers made of flakes. There were also found a large number of borers and blades-like tools. The geographical horizon of the Middle Palaeolithic sites coincides roughly with that of the Lower Palaeolithic sites.

The artefacts of this age are also found at several places around the Narmada river and South of the Tungbhadra river.

Statement (1) is incorrect as the Middle Palaeolithic phase is placed between 50,000 BC and 40,000 BC.

8. The modern *Homo sapiens* emerged in which phase of Human's cultural history?

(Chap 5, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

- (a) Neolithic (b) Upper Palaeolithic
(c) Middle Palaeolithic (d) Lower Palaeolithic

➤ *Ans. (b)*

Exp. The modern *Homo sapiens* emerged in Upper Paleolithic phase. In this period, the climate became warmer and it coincided with the last phase of the Ice age.

9. The Upper Palaeolithic phase of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka gives evidences of which of the following types of tools? (Chap 5, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

- (a) Blades and burins (b) Hand axes and cleavers
(c) Microliths (d) Borers and burins

➤ *Ans. (a)*

Exp. Upper Palaeolithic phase in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka has evidence of use of blades and burins. These tools have also been found in upper levels of Gujarat dunes.

Caves and rock shelters of this age have been discovered at Bhimbetka near Bhopal. *Homo sapiens* also mark their presence in upper Palaeolithic age.

10. With reference to the pre-historic art, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

(Chap 5, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

1. The early men practised rock paintings which depicted different facets of hunting-gathering economy.

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2. Bhimbetka situated in Maharashtra contains more than 500 painted rock shelters.

Codes

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

➤ *Ans. (a)*

Exp. Only statement (1) is correct with reference to the Pre-historic art. The people of Palaeolithic and Mesolithic ages used painting which shows they were hunters and food gatherers. Prehistoric art appears at several places, but Bhimbetka in Madhya Pradesh contains richest specimen of Prehistoric art. It is situated in the Vindhyan range, 45 km South of Bhopal. It has more than 500 painted rock shelters, distributed in an area of 10 sq km.

Statement (2) is incorrect as Bhimbetka is in Madhya Pradesh.

11. Consider the following statement with reference to cultural phase of Upper Palaeolithic in India.

(Chap 5, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

1. It coincided with last phase of the Ice age when climate became comparatively warm.
2. Caves and rock shelters used by early human beings in the Upper Palaeolithic phase have been discovered at Bhimbetka.
3. Most of the sites belonging to the Upper Palaeolithic phase have been discovered in alluvial plains of the Indus and the Ganga.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are incorrect?

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

➤ *Ans. (d)*

Exp. Statement (3) is incorrect with reference to Cultural phase of Upper Palaeolithic in India as the sites belonging to the Upper Palaeolithic phase are absent in alluvial plains of the Indus and the Ganga.

12. Consider the following pre-historic site of ancient India.

(Chap-5, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

1. Birbhanpur
2. Tirunelveli
3. Balu
4. Manda

Which among the given sites were associated with the Mesolithic age?

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

➤ *Ans. (a)*

Exp. Among the given options, Birbhanpur and Tirunelveli are the pre-historic sites associated with the

Mesolithic Age in India. Birbhanpur is located in present day state of West Bengal whereas Tirunelveli is located in present day state of Tamil Nadu. From both of these sites, microliths belonging to the Mesolithic period had been excavated.

Balu and Manda are the sites associated with the Indus Valley Civilisation, are located in Haryana and Jammu and Kashmir respectively.

13. Which among the following changes in the Mesolithic phase paved the way for formation of civilisation in later phases?

(Chap 5, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

1. Climate became warm and dry.
2. People started fishing and food gathering.
3. Domestication of animals was introduced.

Codes

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

➤ *Ans. (c)*

Exp. Changes mentioned in statements (1) and (3) are the changes in Mesolithic phase that paved the way for formation of civilisation in later phases.

The Upper Palaeolithic Age came to an end with the end of the Ice Age around 9000 BC and the climate became warm and dry. Climatic changes brought about changes in flora and fauna and made it easier for humans to travel.

It is seen as a transitional phase between the Palaeolithic Age and the Neolithic or New Stone Age.

The Mesolithic people lived on hunting, fishing and food gathering and at a later stage, they also domesticated animals.

Statement (2) is incorrect as fishing and food gathering were present already in the Upper Palaeolithic phase.

14. With reference to cultural phase of Mesolithic in India, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

(Chap 5, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

1. Stone tools found during this period are smaller in size, and are called microliths.
2. It intervened as a transitional phase between the Old and New Stone age.
3. This phase of cultural evolution flourished between the 18,000 BC to 10,000 BC in India.

Codes

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

➤ *Ans. (a)*

Exp. Statements (1) and (2) are correct with reference to cultural phase of Mesolithic in India.

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The characteristic tools of the Mesolithic Age were microliths. They were smaller in size and were distinctively different from lower Palaeolithic period's axes, choppers and cleavers.

This phase was a phase of change between Upper Palaeolithic period and Neolithic period, people changed from hunting, fishing and food gathering to domesticating animals and pastoralism.

Statement (3) is incorrect as flourishing time period for Mesolithic phase was from 9000 BC to 4000 BC.

- 15. Match the following lists correctly and choose the correct code.** (Chap 5, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

List I (Mesolithic Sites)	List II (Present day states)
A. Bagor	1. Uttar Pradesh
B. Adamgarh	2. Tamil Nadu
C. Belan Valley	3. Rajasthan
D. Theni	4. Madhya Pradesh

Codes

A C B D	A C B D
(a) 1 2 3 4	(b) 2 3 1 4
(c) 2 1 4 3	(d) 3 4 1 2

➤ **Ans. (d)**

Exp. The correct matching is A-3, B-4, C-1, D-2.

Bagor is presently in Bhilwara district in Rajasthan. It had a microlith industry and inhabitants lived pastoral lives and hunted animals.

Adamgarh is in Madhya Pradesh. This site is placed around 5000 BC and is characterised by domestication of animals. It is presently in Hoshangabad district.

Belan Valley is in Uttar Pradesh at the Northern side of Vindhyan ranges. It has evidence of all three phases of Palaeolithic, and also of Mesolithic and Neolithic age.

Theni is located in Tirunelveli district of Tamil Nadu, here microliths tools of Mesolithic Age have been found.

- 16. With reference to the Neolithic site of Burzahom, which of the following Statement(s) is/are correct?** (Chap-5, Class-XI, Old NCERT) (UKPSC Pre 2010)

- It is located near Srinagar and was characterised by coarse grey pottery.
- It has yielded skeleton of the cow along with human skeleton in burial.

Codes

- Only 1
- Only 2
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

➤ **Ans. (a)**

Exp. Statement (1) is correct regarding Neolithic site of Burzahom. This site is located near Srinagar, the capital of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. This site is characterised by use of coarse grey pottery.

It is one of the most extensively studied Neolithic sites of India and was first excavated by De Terra and Patterson.

Statement (2) is incorrect as Burzahom has yielded skeleton of dog (not cow) with human skeleton in burial.

- 17. The evidence of pit-dwelling has been obtained from** (Chap 5, Class-XI, Old NCERT) (UPPSC Mains 2011)

- Burzahom
- Koldihwa
- Brahmagiri
- Sanganakallu

➤ **Ans. (a)**

Exp. The evidence of pit-dwelling has been obtained from Burzahom. Burzahom located in Kashmir valley is dated around 2400 BC and is characterised by coarse grey pottery and pit-dwelling. The people of Neolithic age used tools and implements of polished stone.

- 18. The Neolithic site of which among the following places is noted for the cultivation of rice in the sixth millennium BC?** (Chap 5, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

- Koldhiwa
- Narsinghpur
- Sanganakallu
- Langhanaz

➤ **Ans. (a)**

Exp. Neolithic sites of Koldhiwa in Prayagraj district is noted for the cultivation of rice in the sixth millennium BC. This site is dated around 7000 BC and contains earliest evidences suggesting cultivation of rice in Indian subcontinent.

- 19. Which among the following ancient pre-historic site contains archaeological evidences of all the three phases of Paleolithic followed by the Mesolithic and Neolithic cultural phase?**

(Chap 5, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

- Belan Valley in Uttar Pradesh
- Bagor in Rajasthan
- Mehargarh in Pakistan
- Inamgaon in Maharashtra

➤ **Ans. (a)**

Exp. On the Northern spurs of the Vindhyas in the Belan valley in Uttar Pradesh, all the three phases of the Palaeolithic followed by the Mesolithic and then by the Neolithic have been found in a sequence, and same is the case with the middle part of the Narmada valley.

The Pre-historic sites of Belan valley include Mahgara, Chopani Mando and Koldihwa in Belan valley have provided earliest evidence of rice cultivation.

20. The Neolithic sites of South India are distinguished on the basis of tools used. They were (Chap 5, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

- (a) axes with oval sides and pointed butt
- (b) rectangular axes with curved cutting edge
- (c) polished stone axes with rectangular butt
- (d) polished stone axes with triangular butt

➤ *Ans. (a)*

Exp. The Neolithic sites of South India are distinguished on the basis of axes with oval sides and pointed butt. Based on the types of axes used by Neolithic settlers, there are three important areas of Neolithic settlements; North-Western, North-Eastern and Southern. The Southern group is distinguished by axes with oval sides and pointed butt. The North-Western group of Neolithic tools represents rectangular axes with curved cutting edges. The North-Eastern group shows polished stone axes with rectangular butt and has occasional shouldered hoes.

21. Consider the following statements with reference to the Neolithic age in South India. (Chap 5, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

1. People of this age usually settled on the top of Granite hills or on plateaus near the river banks.
2. They used rubbing stone querns, which shows that they were acquainted with the art of producing cereals.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

➤ *Ans. (c)*

Exp. Both the statements (1) and (2) are correct with reference to the Neolithic age in South India. A group of Neolithic people lived in South India, South of the Godavari river. They usually settled on the tops of Granite hills or on plateaus near the river banks. They used stone axes and also some kind of stone blades. Fire-baked earthen figurines suggest that they kept a large number of cattle. They possessed cattle, sheep and goats. They used rubbing stone querns, which shows that they were acquainted with the art of producing cereals.

22. With reference to the Neolithic site of 'Piklihal', which of the following statement(s) is/are correct? (Chap 5, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

1. It is located in the present day state of Andhra Pradesh of India.
2. Both ash mounds and habitation sites have been found at Piklihal.

3. People living in this site set-up seasonal camps surrounded by cowpens made with posts and stakes.

Codes

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

➤ *Ans. (b)*

Exp. Statements (2) and (3) are correct with reference to the Neolithic site of 'Piklihal'. The Neolithic inhabitants in Piklihal were cattle-herders. They domesticated cattle, sheep, goats, etc and set up camps surrounded by cowpens made with posts and stakes.

In these enclosures, they accumulated dung. Then the entire camping ground was put to fire and cleared for camping in the next session.

Both ash mounds and habitation sites have been found in Piklihal.

Statement (1) is incorrect as Piklihal is in Karnataka.

23. Which among the following innovations started in the Neolithic age is still used by the people of India? (Chap 2, Class-VI, New NCERT)

1. Mortars and pestles for grinding grain.
2. Earthen pots for cooking and storing grains.
3. Needles for weaving clothes.

Codes

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

➤ *Ans. (d)*

Exp. All the Neolithic innovations mentioned in the question are still used by the people of India.

Mortars and pestles for grinding grain, earthen pots for cooking and storing grains and needles for weaving clothes, all three techniques of Neolithic age are still used in different forms, by people of India.

24. Identify the Neolithic site with the help of statements given below. (Chap 5, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

1. It has yielded considerable amount of bone implement made up of horns of deer.
2. It is situated on the bank of confluence of three rivers— Ganga, Gandak and Ghaghra.
3. It is marked by the paucity of stone tools.

Codes

- (a) Chirand
- (b) Mahagara
- (c) Koldihwa
- (d) Sarai Nahar Rai

➤ *Ans. (a)*

Exp. Chirand is the Neolithic site mentioned in the question. This site has yielded considerable bone implement in India. It is situated 40 km West of Patna on the Northern side of the Ganga.

Made of antlers (horns of deer), these implements have been found in a late Neolithic set in an area which received about 100 cm of rainfall.

The settlement became possible because of the open land available on account of the joining together of the three rivers-Ganga, Gandak and Ghaghra at this place.

It is marked by the paucity of stone tools.

25. Consider the following statements with reference to the Neolithic site of Mehargarh.

(Chap 2, Class-VI, New NCERT)

1. Presently, it is situated near the Gomal Pass in the Baluchistan province of Pakistan.
2. It is one of the oldest excavated Neolithic sites in India attributed to 7000 BC.
3. It provides earliest evidences of cultivation of wheat and barley in the Indian sub-continent.

Which of the statement(s) given above are incorrect?

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

➤ *Ans. (c)*

Exp. Statement (1) is incorrect with reference to the Neolithic site of Mehargarh as Mehargarh is situated near Bolan (not Gomal) pass in present day Baluchistan province of Pakistan.

26. Match the following lists correctly and choose the correct code.

(Chap 2, Class-VI, New NCERT)

List I (Neolithic Sites)	List II (Present day states)
A. Brahmagiri	1. Uttar Pradesh
B. Koldihwa	2. Assam
C. Chirand	3. Bihar
D. Daojali Hading	4. Karnataka

Codes

- | | | | | | | | |
|-------|---|---|---|-------|---|---|---|
| A | B | C | D | A | B | C | D |
| (a) 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | (b) 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| (c) 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | (d) 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 |

➤ *Ans. (c)*

Exp. The correct matching is A-4, B-1, C-3, D-2.

Brahmagiri is a Neolithic site located in Southern India in the state of Karnataka. Maski, Hallur, Kodekal, Sanganakallu, T. Narasipura and Takkalakota are other Neolithic sites of Karnataka.

Koldihwa is located in Vindhyan range in Uttar Pradesh. Here archaeological evidences suggesting prevalence of agriculture and animal domestication had been excavated.

Chirand is located 40 km West of Patna in Bihar, it is at the Northern side of the Ganga river. Here considerable amounts of bone implements have been found.

Daojali Hading is in Assam where Neolithic tools have been discovered. They are also found in range of Garo hills in Meghalaya.

27. With reference to the Neolithic settlements of South India, which of the given statement(s) is/are correct?

(Chap-5, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

1. The settlements were formed on the top of Granite hills or on plateaus near the river banks.
2. The people lived settled life and were primarily involved in agriculture.

Codes

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

➤ *Ans. (c)*

Exp. Both the statements (1) and (2) are correct with reference Neolithic settlements of South India. The Neolithic people of South India usually settled on the tops of Granite hills or on plateaus near the river banks. They used stone axes and also some kind of stone blades. The Neolithic settler of this region lived settled life and were primarily involved in agriculture. They constructed circular or rectangular houses made of mud and reed.

28. Consider the following Assertion (A) and Reason (R) and choose the correct code.

(Chap 5, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

Assertion (A) People of Stone Age could not found settlements far away from the hilly areas.

Reason (R) They had to depend almost entirely on tools and weapons made of stone.

Codes

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(c) A is true, but R is false.
(d) A is false, but R is true.

➤ *Ans. (a)*

Exp. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A). The people of the Stone Age had one great limitation as they had to depend almost entirely on tools and weapons made of stone.

They could not settle far away from the hilly areas. They settled down only on the slopes of hills, rock shelters and hilly river valleys.

29. Which one of the following periods is also known as Chalcolithic age?

(Chap-5, Class-XI, Old NCERT) (BPSC Pre 2000)

- (a) Old Stone age (b) New Stone age
(c) Copper age (d) Iron age

➤ Ans. (c)

Exp. The pre-historic period belonging to the Copper age is also known as Chalcolithic age. This period started towards the end of the Neolithic period and is characterised by the use of the first metal, the copper. The earliest settlements belonging to this phase are found in South-Eastern Rajasthan, the Western part of Madhya Pradesh, Western Maharashtra and also in Eastern India.

30. Which among the following metal was first used by the man?

(Chap 6, Class-XI, Old NCERT) (RAS/RTS Pre 2012)

- (a) Copper (b) Iron
(c) Bronze (d) Zinc

➤ Ans. (a)

Exp. The metal to be first used by man was copper. Several cultures were based on the use of stone and copper implements. The end of the Neolithic period saw the use of metals.

31. In which state, the Navdatoli is located?

(Chap 5, Class-XI, Old NCERT) (UPPSC Mains 2009)

- (a) Gujarat
(b) Maharashtra
(c) Chhattisgarh
(d) Madhya Pradesh

➤ Ans. (d)

Exp. Navdatoli is a Chalcolithic site located near Indore in Madhya Pradesh. It was excavated by eminent archaeologist HD Sankalia and is the most extensively studied rural Chalcolithic site of India. It is dated to be around 1600 BC and 1300 BC.

32. Consider the following statements with reference to Chalcolithic culture of Ahar and Gilund.

(Chap-6, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

1. This culture flourished in the dry zones of Amravati river in Andhra Pradesh.
2. At Ahar, Stone axes or blades are completely absent.
3. At Gilund, archaeological evidences regarding stone blade industry have been excavated.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are incorrect?

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

➤ Ans. (b)

Exp. Statement (1) is incorrect regarding Chalcolithic culture of Ahar and Gilund as both of these culture flourished in the dry zones of Banas river in Rajasthan.

33. The Chalcolithic communities of South India were specialised in the production of which of the following crops?

(Chap 6, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

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

➤ Ans. (d)

Exp. The Chalcolithic communities of South India were specialised in the production of rice. The communities of this age founded the first large village in Peninsular India and cultivated far more cereals than the Neolithic communities.

In particular, they cultivated barley, wheat and lentil in Western India, and rice in Southern and Eastern India.

34. The people of Chalcolithic age domesticated which of the following animals?

(Chap 6, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

1. Cow
2. Camel
3. Horse
4. Sheep

Codes

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

➤ Ans. (d)

Exp. People in the Chalcolithic period domesticated cattle, sheep, goats, cows and camels. They were used for meats and not milked for drink or dairy products. Horse was not known to Indians in this period and it came to be used later in Rig Vedic period.

35. With reference to the Chalcolithic age, evidences of which among the following site suggest that settlements were fortified?

(Chap 6, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

1. Kayatha
2. Eran
3. Chirand
4. Inamgaon

Codes

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

➤ Ans. (d)

Exp. Among the given options, archaeological evidences suggesting fortification of houses have been excavated from Chalcolithic site of Kayatha, Eran and Inamgaon.

These settlements were also surrounded by moats. Kayatha and Eran culture flourished near the bank of Chambal river in Madhya Pradesh. Inamgaon situated in the Western Maharashtra was the most prominent site of Jorwe culture. At Inamgaon, large mud houses with ovens and circular pit houses, have been discovered.

Chirand is the Neolithic (not Chalcolithic) site located near the bank of Ganga river in Bihar.

36. Consider the following statements with reference to the Chalcolithic phase of cultural development. *(Chap 6, Class-XI, Old NCERT)*

- All the sites related with Chalcolithic Age appeared before the Indus Valley Civilisation.
- They were primarily rural communities spread over in hilly and riverine areas of the country.
- Besides copper, they also occasionally used low-grade bronze.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are incorrect?

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

➤ Ans. (c)

Exp. Statement (1) is incorrect with reference to Chalcolithic phase of cultural development as though the Chalcolithic stage applied usually to the Pre-Harappan, but in various parts of the country the Chalcolithic cultures appear after the end of the bronze Harappan culture. Such cultures appear in the later part of the mature Harappan culture or after its end.

37. Consider the following statements with reference to difference between Harappan Civilisation and Chalcolithic age. *(Chap 6, Class-XI, Old NCERT)*

- People in Harappan Civilisation used bronze as a predominant metal whereas copper was the main metal in Chalcolithic Age.
- The Harappan Civilisation was characterised by urbanisation whereas people in Chalcolithic Age mostly lived in villages.
- Wheat, barley and cotton were the main crops in Harappan Civilisation whereas it was not known to the people in Chalcolithic age.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

➤ Ans. (a)

Exp. Statements (1) and (2) are correct with reference to difference between Harappan Civilisation and Chalcolithic Age.

People of Harappan Age used mainly bronze, while copper was the main metal used in Chalcolithic Age. The nature of settlement also differed in these two ages. The Harappan Civilisation was characterised by urbanisation whereas people in Chalcolithic Age used to live in villages.

Statement (3) is incorrect as Chalcolithic people also produced barley, cotton, ragi, rice, wheat etc.

37. With reference to the Chalcolithic culture of the South India, which of the following statement(s) are correct? *(Chap 6, Class-XI, Old NCERT)*

- People founded the rural settlements near river banks.
- It was transformed into Megalith culture using copper.
- They were not aware of the art of making pottery.

Codes

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

➤ Ans. (a)

Exp. Statements (1) and (2) are correct with reference to the chalcolithic culture of the South India.

In Chalcolithic phase, people mostly founded rural settlements on river banks not far removed from the hills.

In the alluvial plains of the mid-Ganga region, several chalcolithic sites flourished, particularly near a lake or a river confluence. Archaeological evidences suggested that most of them knew the art of copper smelting.

Statement (3) is incorrect as almost all Chalcolithic communities used wheel turned black and red pots. So, they knew art of making pottery.

38. Consider the following statements with reference to the state of art and crafts in the Chalcolithic age. *(Chap 6, Class-XI, Old NCERT)*

- People in Chalcolithic age were skilled artisans, they manufactured beads of semi-precious stones such as carnelian, steatite and quartz crystal.
- They were also well acquainted with manufacture of tools and weapons from copper, bronze and iron.
- People knew the art of spinning and weaving because spindle whorls have been discovered at Malwa.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

➤ Ans. (c)

Exp. Statements (1) and (3) are correct with reference to the state of art and crafts in the Chalcolithic Age.

Chalcolithic artisans were expert coppersmiths and also good workers in stone. Tools, weapons and bangles of

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copper were found at different sites. They manufactured beads of semi-precious stones such as carnelian, steatite, and quartz crystal.

People knew the art of spinning and weaving because spindle whorls have been discovered in Malwa. Cotton, flax and silk threads made of cotton silk of semal (silk cotton tree) have been found in Maharashtra.

Statement (2) is incorrect as iron was not known to Chalcolithic Age people.

39. Consider the following statements with reference to Ochre Coloured Pottery (OCP) sites in India.

(Chap 6, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

1. Most Ochre coloured Pottery sites are found in the Western Uttar Pradesh.
2. On the basis of a series of eight scientific dating, it is roughly placed between 2500 BC and 2000 BC.
3. Jodhpura on the borders of Haryana and Rajasthan shows the thickest OCP deposits accounting for 1.1 metre.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are incorrect?

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

➤ *Ans. (c)*

Exp. Statement (2) is incorrect with reference to Ochre Coloured Pottery (OCP) sites in India as on the basis of a series of eight scientific dating, it is roughly placed between 2000 BC and 1500 BC.

40. Consider the following statements with reference to limitation of Chalcolithic cultures in India.

(Chap 6, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

1. Absence of plough or hoe suggests that they didn't practised agriculture at extensive scale.
2. In spite it being a food producing economy, the rate of infant mortality was high.
3. They didn't carried internal trade among themselves and were unaware of cultural change in other contemporary habitations.
4. People didn't knew the art of mixing tin with copper to make much stronger and useful metal called bronze.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

➤ *Ans. (d)*

Exp. Statements (1), (2) and (4) are correct with reference to limitation of Chalcolithic cultures in India. Chalcolithic people living in the black cotton soil area of Central and Western India did not practise cultivation

on any intensive or extensive scale. Neither plough nor hoe has been found at chalcolithic sites.

Another weakness of Chalcolithic cultures is evident from the burials found in a large number of children.

In spite of a food-producing economy, the rate of infant mortality was very high.

They also didn't not knew much about metal and they didn't knew mixing tin and copper which produced stronger metal, the bronze.

Statement (3) is incorrect as they carried trade among themselves.

41. Match the following lists correctly and choose the correct code.

(Chap 6, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

List I (Chalcolithic Sites)	List II (Present day States)
A. Hanumangarh	1. Uttar Pradesh
B. Khairadih	2. Rajasthan
C. Pandu Rajar Dhibi	3. Gujarat
D. Rangpur	4. West Bengal

Codes

- | A | B | C | D | A | B | C | D |
|-------|---|---|---|-------|---|---|---|
| (a) 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | (b) 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| (c) 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 | (d) 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 |

➤ *Ans. (c)*

Exp. The correct matching is A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3.

Hanumangarh is in Rajasthan. It is situated on the banks of river Ghaghar.

Khairadih is in Ballia district of Eastern Uttar Pradesh.

Pandu Rajar Dhibi is in Burdwan district of West Bengal.

Rangpur is in Saurashtra region of Gujarat. It lies in Surendranagar district.

42. Match the following lists correctly and choose the correct code.

(Chap 6, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

List I (Chalcolithic sites)	List II (River system)
A. Amri	1. Ganga
B. Kaushambi	2. Indus
C. Nagda	3. Chambal
D. Navdatoli	4. Narmada

Codes

- | A | B | C | D | A | B | C | D |
|-------|---|---|---|-------|---|---|---|
| (a) 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | (b) 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| (c) 2 | 1 | 3 | 4 | (d) 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 |

➤ *Ans. (c)*

Exp. The correct matching is A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4.

Amri is Chalcolithic site located near the bank of Indus river. Other site located near the bank of this river include Ropar and Hanumangarh.

Kaushambi is the Chalcolithic site, located near the basin of Ganga river. Alamgir in Uttar Pradesh is another site located near basin of Ganga River.

Nagda in Rajasthan is a Chalcolithic site located near the bank of Chambal river. Other prominent site located on the bank of this river include Pseva, Tungni, Maori etc.

Navdatoli is a Chalcolithic site located near the bank of Narmada river. The sites such as Telod, Mehgam, Hasanpur etc., also flourished near the bank of Chambal river.

43. Consider the following Assertion (A) and Reason (R) and choose the correct code.

(Chap 5, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

Assertion (A) Some of the Chalcolithic habitations in Western and Central India were contemporary with Indus Valley Civilisation.

Reason (R) In the context of art and architecture, art of writing and Urbanisation, they benefitted immensely from the Indus Valley Civilisation.

Codes

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- (b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- (c) A is true, but R is false.
- (d) A is false, but R is true.

➤ *Ans. (c)*

Exp. Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false. Some of the Chalcolithic settlements in Western and Central India existed at the same time as with the Indus Valley Civilisation, though in art of writing and Urbanisation, they didn't benefit from the Indus Valley Civilisation.

44. Consider the following statements.

(Chap-4, Class-VI, New NCERT)

1. The Megalith phase of the history of South India was associated with the metal iron.
2. Stone circles or boulders placed on the surface served as signposts to find burial site.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

➤ *Ans. (c)*

Exp. Both the statements (1) and (2) are correct regarding Megalith phase of the history of South India. In this phase, arrowheads, spearheads, hoes and sickles made of iron were found.

While some Megaliths can be seen on the surface, other Megalithic burials are often underground. Stone circles or boulders placed on the surface served as signposts to find burial site.

45. In Megaliths, the dead were buried with distinctive pots, which are called

(Chap 4, Class-VI, New NCERT)

- (a) Northern Black Polished Ware
- (b) Black and Red Ware
- (c) Painted Grey Ware
- (d) Black and Green Ware

➤ *Ans. (b)*

Exp. Burials in Megaliths were done with distinctive pots, they are called Black and Red ware. Sometimes tools, weapons made of iron, ornaments of gold and stones have also been found in these graves.

46. With reference to the 'Megalith' culture, which of the following statement(s) are correct?

(Chap 18, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

1. The practice of building Megalith began around 3000 years ago and was prevalent in South India only.
2. The Megalith people of Southern Tamil Nadu buried the skeletons of dead in urns made of red pottery in pits.
3. The Megalith people did not practice an advanced type of agriculture.

Codes

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

➤ *Ans. (b)*

Exp. Statements (2) and (3) are correct with reference to the 'Megalith' culture.

Megalithic period of India was characterised by the use of iron weapons and tools such as arrowheads, spearheads, sickles etc. This tools points to the occupation of hunting and fighting.

And very few tools related to agriculture activities have been discovered. In Southern districts of Tamil Nadu, dead bodies were buried in red pots or urns.

These graves were also not surrounded by stones like other Megalithic graves.

Statement (1) is incorrect as the practice of building Megalith began around 1000 BC. It was also found in the Peninsular region, but was concentrated in Andhra and Tamil Nadu.

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47. Consider the following statements with reference to the cultural advancement of the 'Megalith' builders.

(Chap 18, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

1. They used the iron to make arrowheads, spearheads, hoes and sickles.
2. They produced paddy and ragi.
3. They domesticated horses and were acquainted with ornaments made up of stone and gold.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

➤ **Ans. (d)**

Exp. All the statements (1), (2) and (3) are correct with reference to the cultural advancement of the 'Megalith' builders.

Megalithic people used iron tools in the form of arrowheads, spearheads, hoes and sickles. They produced paddy and ragi but the area used for cultivation was limited.

They domesticated horses and were acquainted with ornaments made up of stone and gold as bones and these ornaments have been found with dead bodies in graves of megaliths.

48. The earliest evidence of agriculture in the Indian sub-continent has been obtained from

(Chap 3, Class-VI, New NCERT) (UPPSC Mains 2010)

- (a) Brahmagiri (b) Burzahom
(c) Koldihwa (d) Mehargarh

➤ **Ans. (d)**

Exp. The earliest evidence of agriculture in the Indian sub-continent has been obtained from Mehargarh. This site is located in Kachi plains in Baluchistan, Pakistan and is dated around 7000 BC. Evidences of cultivation of wheat and cotton is found from this site. The Cultural remains from Stone Age (Neolithic) to Harappan Civilisation have been also obtained from Mehargarh.

49. Which among the following pairs is incorrectly matched?

(Chap 1, Class-IX, Old NCERT)

- (a) Archaeology – Study of material remain of past
(b) Anthropology – Study of physical characteristic and culture of man
(c) Ethnology – Study of primates
(d) None of the above

➤ **Ans. (c)**

Exp. Pair (c) is matched incorrectly. The study of non-human primates is called Primatology.

Ethnology is the study of characteristics of different people. Archaeology is the study of human past using material remains. Anthropology is the study of physical characteristics and culture of man and his customs, his mode of behaviour and his relation with other men.

50. With reference to evolution of man, arrange the following hominids species in correct chronological order.

(Chap 1, Class-IX, Old NCERT)

1. Australopithecus
2. Sinanthropus
3. Neanderthal
4. Cro-Magnon

Codes

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

➤ **Ans. (a)**

Exp. Chronological order of hominids species with reference to evolution of man is first Australopithecus, Sinanthropus, Neanderthal, Cro-Magnon.

Australopithecus existed in Africa and remains of Sinanthropus have been found in China. Neanderthal were inhabitants of Eurasian region and Cro-Magnon were the early Homo sapiens who came in upper Palaeolithic phase.

03

The Indus Valley Civilisation

Old NCERT Class-VI (Man Takes to City Life), Old NCERT Class-XI (Harappa Civilisation : Bronze Age Civilisation), New NCERT Class-XII (Bricks, Beads and Bones : The Harappan Civilisation)

1. Which among the following statements do not entails that the Harappan culture was a civilisation? (Chap 2, Class-VI, Old NCERT)

- (a) People were living a more advanced life than those of the previous primitive ages.
- (b) The cities were well planned and great care was taken to look after them properly.
- (c) The Harappan people knew how to write and their language was written in picture like signs called 'pictographs'.
- (d) The Harappan culture was spread over Sind, Baluchistan, Punjab, Haryana, Western Uttar Pradesh, Jammu, Northern Rajasthan, Gujarat and Northern Maharashtra.

➤ *Ans. (d)*

Exp. Statement (d) do not entails that the Harappan culture was a civilisation. It only tells about the geographical extent of this cultivation that the Harappan culture was spread over the whole of Sind, Baluchistan, Punjab, Northern Rajasthan, Kathiawar, and Gujarat but not in Northern Maharashtra. The presence of advanced life-style, planned urbanisation and prevalent of writing are some of the features that show that Harappan culture was a civilisation.

2. With reference to the Pre-Harappan culture, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct? (Chap 6, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

- 1. The central zone of Pre-Harappan culture was located in Sindh.
- 2. It is older yet more developed than Chalcolithic culture.

Codes

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

➤ *Ans. (c)*

Exp. Both the statements (1) and (2) are correct regarding Pre-Harappan culture. The Central zone of Pre-Harappan culture was located in Sindh. As many as 52 sites belonging to Pre-Harappa culture has been discovered from Sindh Province of Pakistan. Amri, Damb Sadat and Kot Diji are some of the more prominent Harappan site. Some of the pre as well as mature Harappan sites are older than Chalcolithic sites such as Daimabad, Inamgaon etc but owing to its advanced town planning and well-developed system of writing, it was more advanced than the Chalcolithic culture.

3. Consider the following statements with reference to the discovery of the Indus Valley Civilisation.

(Chap 6, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

- 1. There were several archaeological cultures in Punjab and Sindh region prior to the mature Harappan culture.
- 2. It originated in the North-Eastern part of the Indian sub-continent.
- 3. The civilisation was first discovered in 1921 at the site of Harappa.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

➤ *Ans. (c)*

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Exp. Statements (1) and (3) are correct with reference to the discovery of the Indus Valley Civilisation.

Before the flourishing of the mature Harappan site there were several archaeological cultures in the Sindh and Punjab region. These cultures were associated with distinctive pottery, evidence of agriculture and Pastoralism. It is called Harappan because this civilisation was first discovered in 1921 at the modern site of Harappa in West Punjab in Pakistan.

Statement (2) is incorrect as the Indus Valley Civilization arose in the North-Western part of the Indian sub-continent.

4. The first archaeologist who excavated Harappa, but could not recognise its significance, was

(Chap 1, Class-XII, New NCERT) (UPPSC Mains 2006)

- (a) A Cunningham (b) Sir John Marshall
(c) Mortimer Wheeler (d) George F Dales

➤ *Ans.* (a)

Exp. Sir Alexander Cunningham was the first archaeologist who excavated Harappa, but could not recognise its significance. He was the first Director-General of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and was involved in excavation of this site as early as 1875. Regarding ancient structures he noted that the amount of brick taken from this site was enough to lay bricks from 'about 100 miles' of the railway line between Lahore and Multan.

5. Mohenjodaro is situated in, which of the following?

(Chap 6, Class-XI, Old NCERT) (MPPSC Pre 2012)

- (a) Gujarat state of India
(b) Punjab state of India
(c) Sindh Province in Pakistan
(d) Afghanistan

➤ *Ans.* (c)

Exp. Mohenjodaro is situated in Sindh Province in Pakistan. The settlement at this site was divided into two sections—The upper and lower town. Carefully planned drainage system, presence of public buildings such as great bath and granary were some of the other distinctive features of Mohenjodaro. The literal meaning of Mohenjodaro is 'mound of dead'.

6. With reference to 'Dholavira', which of the following statements are correct?

(Chap 6, Class-XI, Old NCERT) (CGPSC Pre 2015)

1. It was located in Sindh Province of Pakistan.
2. It was divided into three parts and shows all the three phases of Harappa Civilisation.
3. A highly advanced water management system of Harappan times has been unearthed at Dholavira.

Codes

- (a) 1 and 2 (b) 2 and 3
(c) 1 and 3 (d) All of these

➤ *Ans.* (b)

Exp. Statements (2) and (3) are correct regarding 'Dholavira'. The ancient city was divided into three parts—Fort, Central town and Lower town.

It also shows remnants of all the three phases of Harappa Civilisation. It is the second largest site of Indus Civilisation in India after Rakhigarhi. A highly advanced water management system of Harappan times has also been unearthed at Dholavira.

Statement (1) is incorrect because Dholavira is located in the Kutch region of Gujarat.

7. Consider the following statements with reference to the cities of Harappa Civilisation.

(Chap 6, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

1. Surkotada was the coastal city characterised by mature phase of Harappa Civilisation.
2. In Mohenjodaro the largest building is a great bath.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are incorrect?

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

➤ *Ans.* (b)

Exp. Statement (2) is incorrect regarding cities of Harappa Civilisation as the largest building of the Mohenjodaro was the granary. It was 45.71 metres long and 15.23 metres wide, it was used to store grains.

8. Which among the following Harappan sites is/are located in India?

(Chap 2, Class-VI, Old NCERT)

1. Lothal
2. Harappa
3. Kalibangan
4. Mohenjodaro
5. Kot Diji

Codes

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

➤ *Ans.* (b)

Exp. Among the given options, Lothal and Kalibangan are the Harappan sites located in present day territories of India. These sites had been excavated in Gujarat and Rajasthan respectively.

At Lothal, it has been found that as early as 1800 BC. They used rice, whose remains have been found. At Kalibangan (means Bangles), evidences of wells, drains linking to them and seals have been found.

9. Consider the following pairs.

(Chap 6, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

Harappan Sites	Present day location
1. Rojdi	Gujarat
2. Banawali	Haryana
3. Rangpur	Rajasthan
4. Alamgirpur	Uttar Pradesh

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

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

➤ Ans. (d)

Exp. Pairs (1), (2) and (4) are matched correctly.

Rojdi is a later phase Harappan site in Kathiawar Peninsula in Gujarat.

Banawali is a Harappan site in Fatehabad district of Haryana. It saw two cultural phases- pre-Harappan and Harappan similar to Kalibangan in Rajasthan.

Alamgirpur is a Harappan site in Meerut district of Uttar Pradesh. It is considered as the Easternmost site of the Civilisation.

Pair (3) is matched incorrectly as Rangpur is an Indus Valley city in Gujarat. Here, a later Harappan culture was found.

10. The Late Harappan phase is found in

(Chap 6, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

- | | |
|------------|---------------|
| 1. Rangpur | 2. Surkotada |
| 3. Rojdi | 4. Rakhigarhi |

Codes

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

➤ Ans. (d)

Exp. The Late Harappan phase is found in Rangpur, Rojdi and Rakhigarhi. On the basis of urbanisation and development of culture the Harappa Civilisation has been divided into three phases Pre-Harappa, Mature, Harappa and Late Harappa. Rangpur, Rojdi and Rakhigarhi are late Harappan sites.

Surkotada is a site of mature phase of Harappan culture. It was a Harappan coastal city in Gujarat.

11. With reference to the Indus Valley Civilisation, consider the following statements.

(Chap 6, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

- The Harappan culture extended from Jammu in the North to Narmada in South, and from Makaran coast of Baluchistan in the West to Meerut in the North-East.
- The spread of Harappan Civilisation was Eastwards and Southwards from the Sind and Punjab.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

➤ Ans. (c)

Exp. Both the statements (1) and (2) are correct with reference to the Indus Valley Civilisation.

As Harappan culture developed and matured into an urban civilisation, which emerged in Sind and Punjab. The Central zone of mature Harappan culture was in Sindh and Punjab. From here, it spreads southwards and eastwards. It extended from Jammu in the North to the Narmada estuary in the South.

In this way Harappan culture covered parts of Punjab, Haryana, Sindh, Baluchistan, Gujarat, Rajasthan and the fringes of Western Uttar Pradesh.

Town Planning and Structure

12. Indus Valley Civilisation, which was placed on the banks of, which of the following rivers?

(Chap 6, Class-XI, Old NCERT) (UPPSC Pre 2009)

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Sindhu | 2. Chenab |
| 3. Jhelum | 4. Ganga |

Codes

- (a) 1 and 2 (b) 1, 2 and 3
(c) 2, 3 and 4 (d) All of these

➤ Ans. (b)

Exp. Indus Valley Civilisation was placed on the bank of Indus (Sindhu), Chenab and Jhelum river.

The prominent site of this Civilisation such as Chanhudaro and Mohenjodaro was situated on the bank of Indus river whereas Harappa was situated on the bank of Ravi river.

The Indus Valley sites in Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab were also situated on the bank of Jhelum and Chenab rivers.

Besides these other sites such as Kalibangan and Lothal was situated on the bank of Ghaggar- Hakra (Saraswati) and Bhogva river respectively.

Ganga river became the cradle of civilisation only after 1000 BC when Mahajanapadas and Magadha Empire was established.

13. Which among the following statements is not true with respect to town planning of Harappan culture?

(Chap 3, Class-VI, New NCERT)

- The Harappan cities were divided into two or more parts.
- The part to the East of city was smaller and represented citadel.

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- (c) The part to the East of city was larger and represented lower town.
- (d) The part to the West of city was smaller but higher.

➤ *Ans. (b)*

Exp. Statement (b) is not true with respect to town planning of Harappan culture because generally the part to the East was larger but lower. This is called the lower town. Many of Harappan cities were divided into two or more parts and usually, the part to the West was smaller but higher. Archaeologists describe this as the citadel.

14. Archaeological evidences of granary had been excavated from, which of the following Harappan site(s)?

(Chap 6, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

- (a) Mohenjodaro
- (b) Harappa
- (c) Kalibangan
- (d) All of these

➤ *Ans. (d)*

Exp. Archaeological evidences of granary had been excavated from Mohenjodaro, Harappa and Kalibangan. In Mohenjodaro the largest building is a granary, which is 45.71 metres long and 15.23 metres wide. In citadel of Harappa as many as 6 granaries are found.

There are also areas for threshing grains in rows of circular brick platform. In Kalibangan, in Rajasthan also the brick platforms have been found, which indicate they had been used for granaries.

15. Which of the following is incorrect in context of the Great Bath at Mohenjodaro?

(Chap 3, Class-VI, New NCERT)

- (a) The Great Bath was a special tank that was lined with bricks, coated with plaster.
- (b) The Great Bath was made water tight with the use of natural tar.
- (c) There were steps leading down to Great bath from two sides and there were rooms on all sides.
- (d) Water was probably brought in from river and drained out after the use.

➤ *Ans. (d)*

Exp. Statement (d) is incorrect in context of the Great Bath at Mohenjodaro because water was brought in from a well and drained out after use. According to archaeologists, Great Bath was massive structure used by wealthy and prominent people for ritualised bathing. It was a large rectangular tank in a courtyard surrounded by a corridor on all four sides.

16. Consider the following statements with reference to the Indus Valley Civilisation.

(Chap 6, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

- 1. The houses in the Harappan culture were arranged in a grid system.

- 2. The roads cut across one another at right angles and the city was divided into several blocks.
- 3. The lower town was made up of brick houses, which were inhabited by ruling class.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

➤ *Ans. (a)*

Exp. Statements (1) and (2) are correct with reference to the Indus Valley Civilisation because Harappan city had remarkable arrangement of houses in grid system. Under this system, roads cut across one another almost at right angles, and the city was divided into so many blocks. This was true of almost all Indus settlements regardless of size.

Statement (3) is incorrect as the lower town was inhabited by the common people. The ruling class lived in citadel or acropolis.

17. Consider the following statements with reference to the town planning and structures of the Indus Valley Civilisation.

(Chap 6, Class-XI, Old NCERT)

- 1. The largest granary is found in Mohenjodaro which measures 45.71 metre in length and 15.23 metre in width.
- 2. The combined floor space of 1200 square metre of granaries at Harappa is much larger than the Great Granary at Mohenjodaro.
- 3. The circular brick platforms to the South of granaries at Harappa served as working floors and were meant for threshing grains.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are incorrect?

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

➤ *Ans. (c)*

Exp. Statement (2) is incorrect with reference to the town planning and structures of the Indus Valley Civilisation as the combined space floor of Harappa granaries is 838 square metres, which is approximately same to the area of Great Granary of Mohenjodaro.

18. With reference to the citadel, consider the following statements.

(Chap 1, Class-XII, New NCERT)

- 1. The citadel was located in the West to the city, which was smaller and higher.
- 2. The citadel had a distinctive structure called warehouse.
- 3. The Great Bath was also located in the citadel.