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for

UPSC CSE & State PSC Prelim & Main Exams

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I (A) NCERT Based Questions for Prelims

1.1

Pre & Proto Historic Period

Source

1. *Ancient India (old NCERT) Class VI + XI*
2. *Themes in Indian History part I (New NCERT) Class XII*

1. With reference to the Lower Palaeolithic Age, consider the following statements:
 1. The Lower Palaeolithic Age came to an end with the end of the Ice Age around 9000 B.C.
 2. Its characteristic feature is the use of blades, borers and scrapers made of flakes.which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
2. In the context of the Middle Palaeolithic Age, which of the following statements is/are correct?
 1. The Middle Palaeolithic industries are mainly based upon flakes.
 2. Its principal tools are hand-axes, cleavers and choppers.
 3. The artefacts of this age are found at several places on the river Narmada and south of the Tungabhadra river.Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1 only (b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
3. In the context of the Upper Palaeolithic phase, which of the following statements is/are correct?
 1. It coincided with the last phase of the Ice Age when climate became comparatively warm.
 2. In the world context it marks the appearance of new flint industries and of men of the modern type.Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
4. The Palaeolithic sites are found in which of the following regions of India?
 1. Belan valley in Mirzapur district in UP
 2. Desert area of Didwana in Rajasthan
 3. Alluvial plains of the Indus and the Ganga
 4. Bhimbetka near Bhopal in Madhya PradeshSelect the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 2 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4
5. With reference to the Mesolithic Age, which of the following statements is/are correct?
 1. The Mesolithic people lived on hunting, fishing, and food gathering and they also domesticated animals.
 2. The characteristic tools of Mesolithic Age are microliths.Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
6. Which of the following Mesolithic sites provide the earliest evidence for the domestication of animals?
 - (a) Southern Uttar Pradesh
 - (b) Adamgarh in Madhya Pradesh
 - (c) South of the river Krishna
 - (d) None of the above
7. In which of the following Neolithic sites of India, domestic dogs were buried with their masters in their graves?
 - (a) Gufkral (b) Chirand
 - (c) Burzahom (d) Piklihal
8. With reference to the characteristic features of Neolithic sites, consider the following statements:
 1. Neolithic sites in Allahabad district are noted for the cultivation of rice in the sixth millennium B.C.
 2. Chirand is the only Neolithic site which has yielded considerable bone implements.

- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
9. Which of the following Chalcolithic sites come under Ganges system?
 1. Harappa 2. Ropar
 3. Kausambi 4. Alamgirpur
 5. Chanhudaro
 Select the correct answer using the code given below.
 (a) 1, 2 and 3 only (b) 2, 4 and 5 only
 (c) 3 and 4 only (d) 1, 3 and 5 only
10. Consider the following pairs:

Neolithic Age Sites	State
Utnur	: Tamil Nadu
Poyampalli	: Andhra Pradesh
Narsipur	: Karnataka

 Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?
 (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only
 (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
11. With reference to Neolithic settlers, consider the following statements:
 1. The Neolithic settlers were the earliest farming communities.
 2. The people of this age used polished stone tools.
 3. Hand made pottery is not found in the Neolithic phase.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 (a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2 only
 (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
12. In the context of Chalcolithic cultures, consider the following statements:
 1. The people of Chalcolithic age knew the art of writing.
 2. They practiced Jhum cultivation.
 3. People were well acquainted with the manufacturing of cloth.
 Which of the statements given above are correct?
 (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 1 and 3 only
 (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
13. Which of the following Chalcolithic sites come under Indus system?
 1. Kausambi 2. Alamgirpur
 3. Suratgarh 4. Hanumangarh
 5. Chanhudaro
 Select the correct answer using the code given below.
- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only (b) 2, 4 and 5 only
 (c) 1, 3 and 4 only (d) 3, 4 and 5 only
14. With reference to the Kashmiri Neolithic Culture, consider the following statements:
 1. The Kashmiri Neolithic Culture was distinguished by its dwelling pits, the range of ceramics and the complete absence of microliths.
 2. The people of Gufkral practiced both agriculture and domestication of animals.
 3. The Neolithic people in Kashmir used both stone and bone tools.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
 (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
15. With reference to Neolithic people lived in south India, consider the following statements:
 1. They only settled on the tops of granite hills, south of Godavari river.
 2. They were acquainted with the art of producing cereals.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
16. With reference to Ahar Chalcolithic Culture, consider the following statements:
 1. Ahar used stone axes or blades and microlithic tools.
 2. The people of Ahar practiced smelting and metallurgy from the very beginning.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
17. Which one of the following animals was not domesticated by the people during the Chalcolithic Age in India?
 (a) Cow (b) Buffalo
 (c) Camel (d) Horse
18. Consider the following Chalcolithic sites:
 1. Gilund 2. Ahar
 3. Nevasa 4. Inamgaon
 Which of the sites given above lie in the dry zones of the Banas valley?
 (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 and 4 only
 (c) 1, 2 and 4 only (d) 2, 3 and 4 only

19. Which one of the following Chalcolithic sites is the type-site of Godavari-Pravara System?
 (a) Nagda (b) Jorwe
 (c) Lothal (d) Tungni
20. With reference to Chalcolithic society, consider the following statements:
 1. The settlement patterns suggests social equalities was prevalent in the Chalcolithic society.
 2. Mother goddess was the symbol of a religious cult in the Chalcolithic society.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
21. In the context of burial practices of Chalcolithic culture, consider the following statements:
 1. The burial practices were same in India.
 2. The rate of infant mortality was very high.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
22. Which one of the following Chalcolithic sites comes under Narmada System?
 (a) Kausambi (b) Jorwe
 (c) Navdatoli (d) Amri
23. Consider the following Chalcolithic sites:
 1. Brahmagiri 2. Piklihal
 3. Maski 4. Alamgirpur
 Which of the sites given above come under the Karnataka System?
 (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 and 4 only
 (c) 1, 2 and 4 only (d) 1, 2 and 3 only
24. With reference to agricultural practices during the Harappan Civilisation, consider the following statements:
 1. Terracotta models of the plough have been found at sites in Cholistan and at Banawali.
 2. The agricultural field had two sets of furrows at right angles to each other.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
25. In the context of system of weights of the Harappan Civilisation, which of the following statements is/are correct?
 1. The system of weights were usually made of a stone called chert.
 2. The lower denominations of weights were decimal, while the higher denominations followed the binary system.
 Select the correct answer using the code given below.
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
26. What is the correct sequence of occurrence of the following mature Harappan sites as one proceeds from south to north?
 1. Nageshwar 2. Dholavira
 3. Kalibangan 4. Chanhudaro
 Select the correct answer using the code given below.
 (a) 1-2-3-4 (b) 1-2-4-3
 (c) 2-1-3-4 (d) 2-1-4-3
27. Which one of the following Harappan sites was exclusively devoted to craft production, including bead-making, seal-making and weight-making?
 (a) Lothal (b) KotDiji
 (c) Dholavira (d) Chanhudaro
28. Which of the following stones were used to make beads during the Harappan Civilisation?
 1. Carnelian 2. jasper
 3. quartz 4. steatite
 Select the correct answer using the code given below.
 (a) 1 and 4 only (b) 3 and 4 only
 (c) 1, 2 and 3 only (d) All of the above
29. Which of the following Harappan sites was/were specialized centres for making shell objects?
 1. Nageshwar
 2. Rakhigarhi
 3. Balakot
 Select the correct answer using the code given below.
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
 (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
30. With reference to unique feature of Mohenjodaro, consider the following statements:
 1. Bricks, which, whether sun-dried or baked, were of a standardised ratio.
 2. Roads and streets were laid out along an approximate "grid" pattern, intersecting at right angles.

- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
31. With reference to the Harappan Script, consider the following statements:
 1. It has not been deciphered so far.
 2. The Harappan Script is not alphabetical but mainly pictographic.
 3. The script was written from left to right on various objects.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
 (c) 1 and 2 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
32. With reference to trade with west Asia by the Harappan people, consider the following statements:
 1. They brought copper from Oman, on the southeastern tip of the Arabian peninsula.
 2. They imported carnelian, lapis lazuli, copper, and varieties of wood to Mesopotamia.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
33. In the context of the Harappan Civilisation, consider the following statements:
 1. The Harappan culture covered parts of Punjab, Haryana, Sindh, Baluchistan, Rajasthan and Gujarat only.
 2. It extended from Jammu in the north to the Narmada estuary in the south.
 3. The area formed by Harappan was bigger than ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
 (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
34. Consider the following pairs:
- | Harappan sites | Situated in |
|----------------|-------------|
| 1. Banawali | : Haryana |
| 2. Kalibangan | : Rajasthan |
| 3. Rakhigarhi | : Gujarat |
- Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?
 (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only
 (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
35. Which one of the following Harappan sites shows all the three phases of Harappan culture?
 (a) Rangpur (b) Rojdi
 (c) Banawali (d) Dholavira
36. In the Harappan Civilisation, miniature pots of faience, perhaps used as perfume bottles, are found mostly in
 (a) Mohenjodaro (b) Harappa
 (c) Kalibangan (d) Both (a) and (b)
37. With reference to burials of the Harappan sites, consider the following statements:
 1. Jewellery has been found in burials of both men and women.
 2. Harappans believed in royal burials, where enormous quantities of wealth was buried.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
38. Which among the following Harappan sites has been most recently discovered in India?
 (a) Kalibangan (b) Dholavira
 (c) Lothal (d) Rakhi Garhi
39. Consider the following pairs:
- | Name of sites | Excavator |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1. Harappa | : R D Banerji |
| 2. Mohenjodaro | : Daya Ram Sahni |
| 3. Lothal | : S R Rao |
- Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?
 (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only
 (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
40. Which one of the following was the first Director-General of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)?
 (a) Alexander Cunningham
 (b) Daya Ram Sahni
 (c) John Marshall
 (d) B K Thapar
41. Which of the following pairs are correctly matched?
 1. RigVeda : a collection of spells and charms
 2. Samveda : a collection of songs mostly taken from Rig Veda
 3. Yajurveda : a collection of sacrificial formulae
 4. Atharvaveda : a collection of hymns

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 3 and 4 only
42. In the context of the Vedic culture of India, what does the term 'Vedas' mean?
(a) Knowledge (b) God
(c) Power (d) All of the above
43. With reference to the Early Vedic Period, Consider the following statements:
1. The famous Mahabharata battle is attributed to this period.
2. There was freedom and mobility for the adoption of a profession.
3. The unit of society was primarily monogamous and Patriarchal.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 2 only (b) 1 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 2 and 3 only
44. Consider the following statements:
1. The earliest the lives of Aryans were mainly pastoral.
2. The horse played the most significant role in the life of Aryans.
3. Their society was male dominated.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only (b) 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
45. Why is *avesta* is being mentioned in the context of rig Vedic culture of India?
(a) It was an agricultural method practiced by the people of Vedic age.
(b) It was the oldest text in Iranian language, which had many thing common with Rig Veda.
(c) He was the eldest person in a Clan.
(d) He used to be the wisest person in a family.
46. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Rig Veda?
1. Except the river Sindhu and Saraswati, no mention of other rivers is found in Rig Veda.
2. It is the earliest text of Indo-European language.
Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
47. In the Rig Veda the term *purandara* signifies
(a) The breaker of forts
(b) The pure soul
(c) The divine creature
(d) Creature of the universe
48. Which of the following statements about Aryans is/are correct?
1. On the advent in India, the Aryans did not face any conflict here.
2. Panchajana was a community under which the Aryans were united into one tribe.
Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
49. With reference to the Rig Vedic period, consider the following statements:
1. The Rig Veda does not mention any officer for administering justice.
2. There were no cases of burglary and theft.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
50. With reference to the Ancient History of India, who was called *vrajpati*?
(a) The officer who enjoyed authority over pasture land
(b) A poet in the court of a king
(c) Kul Gurus who used to advise Kings
(d) None of the above
51. Regarding the status of women in the Rig Vedic period, consider the following statements:
1. They could not attend assemblies.
2. They could not offer sacrifices.
3. They were free to compose Hymns.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 2 only (b) 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only (d) 2 and 3 only
52. Consider the following:
1. The practice of levirate
2. Widow remarriage
3. Child marriage
Which of the above was/were practised in the early Rig Vedic period?
(a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 2 only (d) 2 and 3 only

53. Consider the following pairs:
- | Rig Vedic Gods | | Signifies |
|-----------------------|---|------------------|
| Maruts | : | Storm |
| Varun | : | Fire |
| Aditi | : | Dawn |
- Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?
- (a) 1 only (b) 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
54. Why did people worship Gods in the time of Rig Veda?
- (a) For their spiritual uplift
(b) For ending the mysteries of existence
(c) For their Praja and Pashu
(d) All of the above
55. The collection of the Vedic hymns and mantras were known as
- (a) Samhita (b) Brahmana
(c) Poem (d) Songs
56. In the later Vedic period the term *Shyama* refers to which of the following metals?
- (a) Bronze (b) Iron
(c) Copper (d) Gold
57. Consider the following statements:
- In the later Vedic period the trade was the chief source of income.
 - In the same period, people were unaware of counting.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
58. Which of the following places was/were painted grey ware sites?
- Uttar Pradesh
 - Delhi
 - Rajasthan
 - Punjab
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- (a) 1 and 3 only (b) 2 and 4 only
(c) 1, 2 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4
59. With reference to the later Vedic period, which of the following statements is/are correct?
- The term *Rashtra* which indicates territory, first appears in this period.
 - Women were not permitted to sit on the Sabha.
 - The Rig Vedic popular assemblies lost their importance in this period.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- (a) 2 only (b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
60. Which of the following pairs is/are correctly matched?
- | Rig Vedic terms | | Meaning |
|------------------------|---|--------------------|
| Ashwamedha | : | A sacrifice ritual |
| Vajapeya | : | Tax Collector |
| Sangrihitri | : | Chariot Race |
- Select the correct answer using the code below:
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
61. With reference to the sacrificial tradition in ancient India, consider the following statements:
- The Rigvedic hymns were chanted when sacrifices were performed.
 - The earliest sacrifices were the Rajasuya and Ashwamedha, which were performed by chiefs and kings.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

HINTS & EXPLANATIONS

- (d) **Both statements are wrong.**
 - The Lower Palaeolithic or early Old Stone Age covers the greater part of the Ice Age. This phase may be placed broadly between 500000 B.C. and 50000 B.C.
 - 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.
- (b) **Only statements 1 and 3 are correct.**
The Middle Palaeolithic industries are mainly based upon flakes. These flakes are found in different parts of India and show regional varieties of blades, points borers and scrapers made of flakes. We also find a large number of borers and blade-like tools.
Hence, the correct answer is (b).

3. (c) Both statements are correct.

- The Upper Palaeolithic phase was less humid. It coincided with the last phase of the Ice Age when climate became comparatively warm.
- In the world context it marks the appearance of new flint industries and of men of the modern type (Homo sapiens).

Hence, the correct answer is (c).

4. (c) Only statements 1, 2 and 4 are correct.

- The Early Old Stone Age sites are found in the valley of river Soan or Sohan in Punjab, now in Pakistan. Several sites have been found in Kashmir and the Thar Desert.
- The Lower Palaeolithic tools have also been found in the Belan valley in Mirzapur district in Uttar Pradesh.
- It appears that Palaeolithic sites are found in many hilly slopes and river valleys of the country; they are absent in the alluvial plains of the Indus and the Ganga.

Hence, the correct answer is (c).

5. (c) Both statements are correct.

- In 9000 B.C. began an intermediate stage in stone age culture, which is called the Mesolithic Age. The Mesolithic people lived on hunting, fishing, and food gathering : at a later stage they also domesticated animals. The first three occupations continued the Palaeolithic practice, while the last was interrelated with the Neolithic culture.
- The characteristic tools of Mesolithic Age are microliths.

Hence, the correct answer is (c).

6. (b)

- The Mesolithic sites are found in good numbers in Rajasthan, Southern Uttar Pradesh, central and eastern India and also south of the river Krishna. Of them Bagor in Rajasthan is very well excavated. It had a distinctive microlith industry, and its inhabitants subsisted on hunting and pastoralism. The site remained occupied for 500 years from the fifth millennium B.C. onwards.

- Adamgarh in Madhya Pradesh and Bagor in Rajasthan provide the earliest evidence for the domestication of animals: this could be around 5000 B.C.

Hence, the correct answer is (b).

7. (c)

- Burzahom is an important neolithic site and is situated 16 km north west of Srinagar. It is interesting that the Burzahom domestic dogs were buried with their masters in their graves.
- The placing of domestic dogs in the graves of the masters do not seem to be the practice with Neolithic people in any other part of India.

Hence, the correct answer is (c).

8. (a) Only statement 1 is correct.

The Neolithic people in Kashmir used not only polished tool of stone but what is more interesting, they used numerous tools and weapons made of bone. The only other place which has yielded considerable bone implements in India is Chirand, which is 40 km west of Patna on the northern-side of the Ganga.

Hence, the correct answer is (a).

9. (c) The following Chalcolithic sites are given region-wise:

- Indus System:
 - Mohenjo-daro
 - Harappa
 - Ropar
 - Suratgarh
 - Hanumangarh
 - Chanhu-daro
 - Jhukar
 - Amri
 - Jhangar
- Ganges System:
 - Kausambi
 - Alamgirpur

Hence, the correct answer is (c).

10. (b) Only pair 3 is correctly matched.

Neolithic Age Sites State

- Utnur : Andhra Pradesh
- Poyampalli : Tamil Nadu
- Narsipur : Karnataka

Hence, the correct answer is (b).

11. (b) **Only statements 1 and 2 are correct.**

Since in the Neolithic phase several settlements came to be acquainted with the cultivation of cereals and the domestication of animals, they needed pots in which they could store their foodgrains. They further needed pots for cooking, eating and drinking. Hence pottery first appears in this phase. Hand-made pottery is found in the early stage.

Hence, the correct answer is (b).

12. (c) **Only statements 2 and 3 are correct.**

- The people of Stone-Copper Age did not know the art of writing; nor did they live in cities as the people of the Bronze Age did.
- Neither Plough nor hoe has found at Chalcolithic sites. They practiced Jhum cultivation.
- People knew the art of spinning and weaving because spindle whorls have been discovered in Malwa. This shows that these people were well acquainted with the manufacturing of cloth.

Hence, the correct answer is (c).

13. (d) The following Chalcolithic sites are given region-wise:

1. Indus System:
 - i. Mohenjo-daro
 - ii. Harappa
 - iii. Ropar
 - iv. Suratgarh
 - v. Hanumangarh
 - vi. Chanhudaro
 - vii. Jhukar
 - viii. Amri
 - ix. Jhangar
2. Ganges System:
 - i. Kausambi
 - ii. Alamgirpur

Hence, the correct answer is (d).

14. (d) All three statements are correct.

- The Kashmiri Neolithic Culture was distinguished by its dwelling pits, the range of ceramics the variety of stone and bone tools and the complete absence of microliths. An important site is that of Burzhom, which is situated 16 km north-west of Srinagar. The Neolithic people lived their on a lake-side in pits.
- The people of Gufkral, a Neolithic site 41 km south-west of Srinagar, practiced

both agriculture and domestication of animals.

- The Neolithic people in Kashmir used both stone and bone tools.

Hence, the correct answer is (d).

15. (b) **Only statement 2 is correct.**

- The Neolithic people lived in south India, south of 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-backed earthen figurines suggest that they kept a large number of cattle.
- They used rubbing stone querns, which shows that they were acquainted with the art of producing cereals.

Hence, the correct answer is (b).

16. (b) Only statement 2 is correct.

- Ahar practically did not use microlithic tools; stone axes or blades are almost absent here. Its objects include several flat axes, bangles, several sheets, all made of copper, although a bronze sheet also occurs. Copper was locally available.
- The people of Ahar practiced smelting and metallurgy from the very beginning. The old name of Ahar is Tambavati or a place of possessing copper. The Ahar culture is placed between C.2100 and 1500 B.C. and Gilund is considered a regional centre of the Ahar culture.

Hence, the correct answer is (b).

17. (d) The people living in the Chalcolithic Age kept cows, sheep, goats, pigs and buffaloes, and hunted deer. Remains of the camel have also been found. But generally they were not acquainted with the horse.

Hence, the correct answer is (d).

18. (a)

- In south-eastern Rajasthan, two sites, one at Ahar and the other at Gilund have been excavated. They lie in the dry zones of the Banas valley.
- In Maharashtra, several chalcolithic sites, such as Jorwe, Nevasa, Daimabad in Ahmadnagar District, Chandoli, Songaon and Inamgaon in Pune district, Prakash and Nasik have been excavated.

Hence, the correct answer is (a).

19. (b) In Maharashtra, several chalcolithic sites, such as Jorwe, Nevasa, Daimabad in Ahmadnagar District, Chandoli, Songaon and Inamgaon in Pune district, Prakash and Nasik have been excavated. They all belong to the Jorwe culture named after Jorwe, the type-site situated on the left bank of the Pravara river, a tributary of the Godavari in Ahmadnagar district.

Hence, the correct answer is (b).

20. (d) Both statements are wrong.

- Both the settlement pattern and burial practices suggest beginnings of social inequalities in the Chalcolithic society. A kind of settlement hierarchy appears in several Jorwe settlements found in Maharashtra. Some of them are as large as twenty hectares but others are only five hectares and even less in size. In both large and small settlements the chief and his kinsmen who lived in rectangular houses dominated others who lived in round huts.
- In the graves of Chandoli and Nevasa in western Maharashtra, some children were buried with copper based necklaces around their necks; other children had grave goods consisting only of pots.
- In Malwa and Rajasthan stylized bull terracottas show that the bull was the symbol of a religious cult.

Hence, the correct answer is (d).

21. (b) Only statement 2 is correct.

- The burial practices of Chalcolithic culture were different. In Maharashtra the dead body was placed in the north-south position, but in south India in the east-west position.
- The great weakness of Chalcolithic cultures is evident from the burial of a large number of children in western Maharashtra. In spite of food producing economy, the rate of infant mortality was very high.

Hence, the correct answer is (b).

22. (c) The following Chalcolithic sites come under Narmada System:

- Navdatoli
- Maheshwar
- Bhagatrav
- Telod
- Mehgam
- Hasanpur

Hence, the correct answer is (c).

23. (d) The following Chalcolithic sites come under Karnataka System:

- Brahmagiri
- Piklihal
- Maski

Hence, the correct answer is (d).

24. (c) Both statements are correct.

- Representations on seals and terracotta sculpture indicate that the bull was known, and archaeologists extrapolate from this that oxen were used for ploughing. Moreover, terracotta models of the plough have been found at sites in Cholistan and at Banawali (Haryana).
- The field had two sets of furrows at right angles to each other, suggesting that two different crops were grown together.

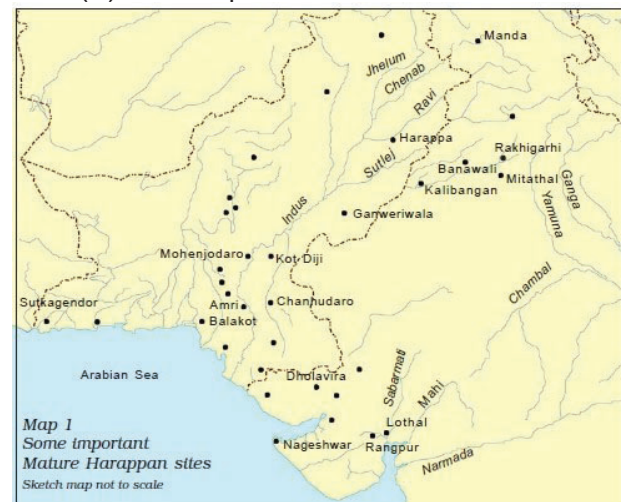
Hence, the correct answer is (c).

25. (a) Only statement 1 is correct.

- Exchanges were regulated by a precise system of weights, usually made of a stone called chert and generally cubical with no markings.
- The lower denominations of weights were binary (1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, etc. up to 12,800), while the higher denominations followed the decimal system.

Hence, the correct answer is (a).

26. (b) See Map below



Hence, the correct answer is (b).

27. (d) Chanhudaro is a tiny settlement (less than 7 hectares) as compared to Mohenjodaro (125 hectares), almost exclusively devoted to craft production, including bead-making, shell-cutting, metal-working, seal-making and weight-making.

Hence, the correct answer is (d).

28. (d) The variety of materials used to make beads is remarkable: stones like carnelian (of a beautiful red colour), jasper, crystal, quartz and steatite; metals like copper, bronze and gold; and shell, faience and terracotta or burnt clay. Some beads were made of two or more stones, cemented together, some of stone with gold caps. The shapes were numerous – discshaped, cylindrical, spherical, barrel-shaped, segmented. Some were decorated by incising or painting, and some had designs etched onto them.
Hence, the correct answer is (d).
29. (c) Nageshwar and Balakot, both settlements are situated near the coast. These were specialised centres for making shell objects – including bangles, ladles and inlay – which were taken to other settlements.
Hence, the correct answer is (c).
30. (c) **Both statements are correct.**
- It seems that the Mohenjodaro settlement was first planned and then implemented accordingly. Other signs of planning include bricks, which, whether sun-dried or baked, were of a standardised ratio, where the length and breadth were four times and twice the height respectively. Such bricks were used at all Harappan settlements.
 - One of the most distinctive features of Harappan cities was the carefully planned drainage system. If you look at the plan of the Lower Town you will notice that roads and streets were laid out along an approximate “grid” pattern, intersecting at right angles. It seems that streets with drains were laid out first and then houses built along them.
- Hence, the correct answer is (c).**
31. (c) Only statements 1 and 2 are correct.
- Most inscriptions are short, the longest containing about 26 signs. Although the script remains undeciphered to date, it was evidently not alphabetical as it has just too many signs – somewhere between 375 and 400.
 - It is apparent that the script was written from right to left as some seals show a wider spacing on the right and cramping on the left, as if the engraver began working from the right and then ran out of space.
- Hence, the correct answer is (c).**
32. (a) **Only statement 1 is correct.**
- Recent archaeological finds suggest that copper was also probably brought from Oman, on the southeastern tip of the Arabian peninsula. Chemical analyses have shown that both the Omani copper and Harappan artefacts have traces of nickel, suggesting a common origin.
 - Mesopotamian texts mention contact with regions named Dilmun (probably the island of Bahrain), Magan (Oman) and Meluhha, possibly the Harappan region. They mention the products from Meluhha: carnelian, lapis lazuli, copper, gold, and varieties of wood.
- Hence, the correct answer is (a).**
33. (b) Only statements 2 and 3 are correct.
- The Harappan culture covered parts of Punjab, Haryana, Sindh, Baluchistan, Gujarat, Rajasthan and the fringes of western Uttar Pradesh.
 - It extended from Jammu in the north to the Narmada estuary in the south, and from the Makran coast of Baluchistan in the west to Meerut in the north-east.
 - The area formed a triangle and accounted for about 1299600 sq km, which is larger than Pakistan and certainly bigger than ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia. No other culture zone in the third and second millennium B.C. in the world was as large as the Harappan.
- Hence, the correct answer is (a).**
34. (a) Only pairs 1 and 2 are correctly matched.
- | Harappan sites | Situated in |
|----------------|-------------|
| 1. Banawali | : Haryana |
| 2. Kalibangan | : Rajasthan |
| 3. Rakhigarhi | : Haryana |
| 4. Lothal | : Gujarat |
| 5. Dholavira | : Gujarat |
- Hence, the correct answer is (a).**
35. (d)
- Banawali is situated in Hissar district of Haryana. It saw two cultural phases, pre-Harappan and Harappan, similar to that of Kalibangan.
 - The later Harappan phase is found in Rangpur and Rojdi in the Kathiawar peninsula in Gujarat.

- In addition to these, Dholavira lying in the Kutch area of Gujarat shows Harappan fortification and all the three phases of Harappan culture. These phases also appear in Rakhigarhi which is situated on the Ghaggar in Haryana and is much bigger than Dholavira.

Hence, the correct answer is (d).

36. (d)

- If we study the distribution of such artefacts, we find that rare objects made of valuable materials are generally concentrated in large settlements like Mohenjodaro and Harappa and are rarely found in the smaller settlements.
- For example, miniature pots of faience, perhaps used as perfume bottles, are found mostly in Mohenjodaro and Harappa, and there are none from small settlements like Kalibangan.

Hence, the correct answer is (d).

37. (a) **Only statement 1 is correct.**

- At burials in Harappan sites the dead were generally laid in pits. Some graves contain pottery and ornaments, perhaps indicating a belief that these could be used in the afterlife.
- Jewellery has been found in burials of both men and women. In fact, in the excavations at the cemetery in Harappa in the mid-1980s, an ornament consisting of three shell rings, a jasper (a kind of semi-precious stone) bead and hundreds of micro beads was found near the skull of a male. In some instances the dead were buried with copper mirrors.
- But on the whole, it appears that the Harappans did not believe in burying precious things with the dead.

Hence, the correct answer is (a).

38. (b) An extensive survey in Kutch has revealed a number of Harappan settlements and explorations in Punjab and Haryana have added to the list of Harappan sites. In India, Kalibangan, Lothal, Rakhi Garhi and most recently Dholavira have been discovered, explored and excavated.

Hence, the correct answer is (b).

39. (b) Only pair 3 is correctly matched.

Name of sites		Excavator
1. Harappa	:	Daya Ram Sahni
2. Mohenjodaro	:	R D Banerji
3. Lothal	:	S R Rao

- | | | |
|----------------|---|----------------|
| 1. Harappa | : | Daya Ram Sahni |
| 2. Mohenjodaro | : | R D Banerji |
| 3. Lothal | : | S R Rao |

Hence, the correct answer is (b).

40. (a) Although Harappa was the first site to be discovered, it was badly destroyed by brick robbers. As early as 1875, Alexander Cunningham, the first Director-General of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), often called the father of Indian archaeology, noted that the amount of brick taken from the ancient site was enough to lay bricks for “about 100 miles” of the railway line between Lahore and Multan.

Hence, the correct answer is (a).

41. (b) Vedas are the collection of hymns, prayers, charms, litanies and sacrificial formulae. There are four Vedas, namely:

- | | | |
|-----------------|---|--|
| 1. RigVeda | : | a collection of hymns |
| 2. Samveda | : | a collection of songs mostly taken from Rig Veda |
| 3. Yajurveda | : | a collection of sacrificial formulae |
| 4. Atharvaveda: | | collection of spells and charms |

Hence, the correct answer is (b)

42. (a) *Veda* means “knowledge”. The *Vedas* are neither any individual religious work nor a collection of definite number of books compiled at a particular time. The Vedic Literature had grown in the course of many centuries and was handed down from generation to generation by word of mouth. It consists of three successive classes of literary creations. Some of these still exist, but many have been completely lost forever.

Hence correct answer is option (a).

43. (d) Only statements 2 and 3 are correct.

- The famous Mahabharata battle, fought between the Kauravas and the Pandavas, is attributed to the Later Vedic Period.

“I am a singer;

My father is a physician,

My mother is a grinder of corn”

- According to the above hymn of Rig Veda, It is, therefore, clear that there was freedom and mobility for the adoption of a profession and the idea of hereditary trades and occupations was not envisaged in the society.
- The unit of society was family, primarily monogamous and Patriarchal.

Hence, correct answer is option (d)

44. (d)

- The Aryans earliest life seems to have been mainly pastoral, agriculture being a secondary occupation. Jal society was male dominated. Although the Aryans used several animals the horse played the most significant role in their lives, the domesticated horse appears in the 6th Millennium BC in the Black Sea and the Ural mountain area.
- Nearly 60,000 horse bones appear in the Ural area around 3000 BC. Its swiftness enabled them and some allied people to make successful in roads on West Asia from about 2000 BC onwards.

Hence correct answer is option (d)

45. (b)

- The Rig Veda is the earliest text of Indo-European languages. it is a collection of prayers offered to Agni, Indira, Mitra, Varun and other Gods by various families of poets or sages.
- It consists of 10 Mandalas or books of which books II to VII form its earliest portions. I and X seem to have been the latest editions. The *Rig Veda* has many things in common with the *avesta* which is the oldest text in the Iranian language. Both the two texts use the same names for several Gods and even for social classes.

Hence correct answer is an option (b).

46. (b) Only statement 2 is correct.

Some rivers of Afghanistan such as the river Kubha and the river Indus and its five branches are mentioned in the Rigveda. The Sindhu identical with the Indus, is the river par excellence of the Aryans, and it is repeatedly mentioned. Another river the Saraswati Nadi turned for the best of the rivers in the Rig Veda. It is identified with the ghaggar-hakra channel in Haryana and Rajasthan. But its Rig Vedic description shows it to be the Avestan river

Harakh wator the present Helmand River in South Afghanistan, from where the name Saraswati was transferred to India.

Hence correct answer is an option (b).

47. (a) In the Rig Veda Indra is called *purandara* which means that he was the breaker of forts. But we cannot identify the forts held by pre-Aryans; some of them may have been situated in Afghanistan. The Aryans succeeded everywhere because they possessed chariots driven by Horses and introduced them for the first time in to West Asia and India. The Aryan soldiers were probably equipped also with coats of mail (*varman*) and better arms.

Hence the correct answer is an option (a).

48. (d) **Both these statements are incorrect.**

- On the advent in India the Aryans were engaged in two types of conflicts- first day out with the pre Aryans and secondly, they fought amongst themselves.
- According to traditions, the Aryans were divided into 5 tribes called 5 genres but there might have been other tribes also.

Hence the correct answer is an option (d).

49. (d) The Rig Veda does not mention any officer for administering justice. But it was not an ideal society. There were cases of theft and burglary and especially we hear of the theft of cows. Spies were employed to keep an eye on such unsocial activities.

Hence the correct answer is an option (d).

50. (a)

- The titles of the officials do not indicate their administration of territory in early Rig Vedic period.
- However, some officers seem to have been attached to territories. They enjoyed positions of authority in the pasture Grounds and settled villages. The officers who enjoy the authority over a large land or pasture ground is called *vrajpati*. He led heads of the families called *kulapas* or the heads of the fighting hordes called *gramanis*.

Hence the correct answer is an option (a).

51. (b) In the Rig Vedic period women could attend assemblies. They could offer sacrifices along with their husbands. There is an instance of five women who composed hymns although

the later texts mention 20 such women obviously the hymns were composed orally and nothing written belongs to that period.

Hence the correct answer is an option (b).

52. (c) In the early Rig Vedic period, we notice the practice of levirate and widow remarriage in the Rig veda. There are no examples of child marriage and the marriageable age in the Rig Veda seems to have been 16 to 17.

Hence the correct answer is an option (c).

53. (c)

Rig Vedic Gods	Signifies
1. Indra	: War
2. Varun	: Water
3. Aditi/Usha	: Dawn
4. Soma	: Plants/Intoxicating Drinks
5. Maruts	: Storm

54. (c) They did not worship God for their spiritual uplift or for ending the miseries of existence. They asked mainly for Praja (children) Pashu (cattle), food, wealth, health, etc.

Hence the correct answer is an option (c).

55. (a) The history of the later Vedic period is based mainly on the Vedic texts which were compiled after the age of the Rig Veda. The collections of the Vedic hymns and mantra were known as the Samhitas. The Rig Veda Samhita is the oldest Vedic text on the basis of which we have described the early Vedic age.

Hence the correct answer is an option (a).

56. (b) Towards the end of the Vedic period knowledge of iron spread in Eastern UP and Vidhea. The earliest iron implements discovered in this area belong to the 7th century BC and the metal itself is called *Shyama* or *Krishnaayas* in the later Vedic texts.

Hence the correct answer is an option (b).

57. (d) Although very few agricultural tools made of iron has been found and undoubtedly Agriculture was the chief means of livelihood of the later Vedic people. Later Vedic texts speak of 6, 8, 12, and even 24 oxen yoked to the plough. This may be an exaggeration. But it shows that they were aware of counting. **Hence the correct answer is an option (d).**

58. (d) Agriculture and various crafts enabled the later Vedic people to lead a settled life.

Excavations and explanations give us some idea about settlements in later Vedic times. Widespread painted grey ware sites are found not only in western up and Delhi which was the kuru-panchala area but also in the adjoining parts of Punjab and Haryana which was the madra area and in those of Rajasthan which was the matsya area.

Hence the correct answer is an option (d).

59. (d) In the later Vedic times Rig Vedic popular assemblies lost importance, and Royal power increased at their cost. The Vidhata completely disappeared. The Sabha and Samiti continued to hold the ground, but their character changed. They came to be dominated by chiefs and rich nobles. Women were no longer permitted to sit on the Sabha and it was now dominated by nobles and Brahmanas.

The term *Rashtra* which indicates territory, first appears in this period.

Hence the correct answer is an option (d).

60. (a)

Rig Vedic terms	Meaning
1. Ashwamedha	: A sacrifice ritual
2. Vajapeya	: Tax Collector
3. Sangrihitri	: Chariot Race
4. Vis	: Common People

Hence the correct answer is an option (a).

61. (a) **Only statement 1 is correct.**

- There were several pre-existing traditions of thought, religious belief and practice, including the early Vedic tradition, known from the Rigveda, compiled between c.1500 and 1000 BCE. The Rigveda consists of hymns in praise of a variety of deities, especially Agni, Indra and Soma. Many of these hymns were chanted when sacrifices were performed, where people prayed for cattle, sons, good health, long life, etc.
- At first, sacrifices were performed collectively. Later (c. 1000 BCE-500 BCE onwards) some were performed by the heads of households for the wellbeing of the domestic unit. More elaborate sacrifices, such as the rajasuya and ashvamedha, were performed by chiefs and kings who depended on Brahmana priests to conduct the ritual.

Hence, the correct answer is (a).

1.2

Jainism and Buddhism

Source

1. *Ancient India (old NCERT) Class XI*
2. *Themes in Indian History : (New NCERT) Class XII*

1. Which of the following were the reasons behind the emergence of Jainism and Buddhism in the middle Gangetic plains in the second half of the sixth century B.C.?
 1. Varna system
 2. Domination of the priest
 3. Spread of the new agricultural economy in north-eastern India
 Select the correct answer using the code given below.
 - (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only
 - (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
2. With reference to ancient India, the term 'Setthi' refers to
 - (a) The head of a village
 - (b) Carpenters
 - (c) Merchants
 - (d) Goldsmith
3. Which of the following were the reasons behind generous support to both Mahavira and Gautam Buddha by the vaishyas verna in ancient India?
 1. Jainism and Buddhism in the initial stage did not attach any importance to the existing varna system.
 2. They preached the gospel of non-violence.
 3. They decried lending money on interest.
 Select the correct answer using the code given below.
 - (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only
 - (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
4. With reference to Jainism, consider the following statements:
 1. The first tirthankara is believed to be Rishabhadev who was born in Ayodhya.
 2. The twenty-fourth tirthankara was Parshvanath who was a contemporary to Gautam Buddha.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 - (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 - (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
5. Consider the following doctrines of Jainism:
 1. Do not commit violence
 2. Do not speak a lie
 3. Do not acquire property
 4. Observe continence
 Which of the doctrines given above was/were given by Mahavira?
 - (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only
 - (c) 4 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
6. With reference to Jainism in ancient India, consider the following statements:
 1. Jainism recognized the existence of the Gods but placed them lower than the jina.
 2. It also condemned the varna system as Buddhism did.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 - (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 - (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
7. Jainism mainly aims at the attainment of freedom from worldly bonds which can be obtained through
 - (a) right knowledge (b) right faith
 - (c) right action (d) All of the above
8. Which of the following was/were main reasons for the spread of Jainism into the south and west India?
 1. Chandragupta Maurya
 2. Weak Brahmanical religion in the south and west India
 3. The great famine that took place in Magadh
 Select the correct answer using the code given below.
 - (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
 - (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
9. With reference to ancient India, the term 'Basadis' refers to

- (a) house of the head of a village
 (b) a hut where travelling mendicants halted
 (c) Jaina monastic establishments
 (d) house of merchants
10. With reference to contribution of Jainism, consider the following statements:
 1. They adopted the Pali language of the common people to preach their doctrines.
 2. They contributed to the growth of Kannada and Marathi language.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
11. Consider the following statements:
 1. Gautama Buddha taught that a person should avoid the excess of both luxury and austerity.
 2. Mahavira recommended an eight-fold path for the elimination of human misery.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
12. Which of the following was/were the main causes of the decline of Buddhism in India?
 1. Use of Pali language by Buddhist monks
 2. Reform in Hindu Religion
 3. Corrupt practises done by Buddhist monks
 Select the correct answer using the code given below.
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
 (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
13. Which of the following kings cut off the Bodhi tree at Bodh Gaya?
 (a) Harsha (b) Samudragupta
 (c) Shashanka (d) Pashyamitra Shunga
14. With reference to religious texts in India, the 'Suttanipata' text belongs to
 (a) Jainism (b) Buddhism
 (c) Vaishnavism (d) Shaivism
15. With reference to ancient India, the term 'Kutagarashala' refers to
 (a) house of the head of a village
 (b) a hut where travelling mendicants halted
 (c) house of merchants
 (d) None of the above
16. In the context of Buddhist texts, consider the following statements:
 1. The Vinaya Pitaka included rules and regulations for those who joined the sangha or monastic order.
 2. The Buddha's teachings were included in the Abhidhamma Pitaka.
 3. The Sutta Pitaka dealt with philosophical matters.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
 (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
17. In the context of Buddhist texts, which of the following statements is/are correct?
 1. Buddhist texts such as the Dipavamsa and Mahavamsa were written for regional histories of Buddhism.
 2. All Buddhist texts are in Pali language.
 Select the correct answer using the code given below.
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
18. Consider the following pairs:

Ancient Teachers	Tradition followed
1. Makkhali Gosala	: Ajivikas
2. Ajita Kesakambalin	: Lokayatas
3. Mahapajapati Gotami	: Jainas

 Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?
 (a) 1 and 3 only (b) 2 only
 (c) 1 and 2 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
19. With reference to important ideas in Jainism, consider the following statements:
 1. Non-injury to living beings, especially to humans, animals, plants and insects, is central to Jaina philosophy.
 2. According to Jaina teachings, the cycle of birth and rebirth is shaped through karma.
 3. According to Jaina philosophy, the world is transient and constantly changing.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
 (c) 1 and 2 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
20. With reference to religious texts in India, the 'Uttaradhyayana Sutta' text belongs to
 (a) Jainism (b) Buddhism
 (c) Vaishnavism (d) Shaivism

21. With reference to the teachings of the Buddha, consider the following statements:
1. The Buddha emphasised individual agency and righteous action as the means to escape from the cycle of rebirth and attain self-realisation.
 2. The Buddha regarded the social world as the creation of humans rather than of divine origin.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
22. With reference to followers of the Buddha, consider the following statements:
1. Disciples of the Buddha who became teachers of dhamma were known as bhikkhus.
 2. A wealthy householder named Sigala was the first woman to be ordained as a bhikkhuni.
 3. Buddha's followers came from elite social groups only.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
23. With reference to religious texts in ancient India, the 'Therigatha' text belongs to
- (a) Jainism (b) Buddhism
(c) Vaishnavism (d) Ajivikas
24. What is the correct sequence of occurrence of the following major Buddhist sites in India as one proceeds from south to north?
1. Karle 2. Sanchi
 3. Shravasti 4. Sarnath
- Select the correct answer using the code given below.
- (a) 2-3-4-1 (b) 3-2-1-4
(c) 1-2-4-3 (d) 1-2-3-4
25. Consider the following pairs:
- | Buddha's | Place |
|------------------|--------------|
| 1. Enlightenment | : Sarnath |
| 2. First sermon | : Bodh Gaya |
| 3. Nibbana | : Kusinagara |
- Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?
- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
26. Consider the following pairs:
- | Symbols of worship
in Buddhism | Represent |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1. Wheel | : First sermon of the Buddha |
| 2. Stupa | : Enlightenment |
| 3. Empty seat | : Mahaparinibbana |
- Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
27. Consider the following famous motifs:
1. Shalabhanjika motif
 2. Gajalakshmi motif
 3. Serpent motif
- Which of the motifs given above is/are depicted in the sculpture of Sanchi stupa?
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
28. In the context of Mahayana Buddhism, consider the following statements:
1. It had given great importance to self-effort in achieving nibbana.
 2. The worship of images of the Buddha and Bodhisattas became an important part of this tradition.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
29. With reference to the religious traditions in India, the term 'Theravada' refers to supporters of
- (a) Mahayana (b) Hinayana
(c) Lokayatas (d) Ajivikas

HINTS & EXPLANATIONS

1. (d)
 - Numerous religious sects arose in the middle Gangetic plains in the second half of the sixth century B.C. We hear of as many as 62 religious sects. Of these sects, Jainism and Buddhism were the most important, and they emerged as the most potent religious movements.
 - In post-Vedic times society was clearly divided into four varnas: brahmanas, kshatriyas, vaishyas and shudras. Each varna was well assigned well defined functions, although it was emphasised that varna was based on birth and the two higher varnas were given some privileges. The brahmanas, who were given the functions of the priests and teachers, claimed the highest status in society.
 - The sudras were meant for serving the three higher varnas, and along with women were barred from taking to Vedic studies. They appear as domestic slaves, agricultural slaves, craftsmen and hired labourers in post-Vedic times. Naturally, varna-divided society seems to have generated tensions.
 - The kshatriya reaction against the domination of the priestly class called brahmanas, who claimed various privileges, was one of the causes of the origin of new religions.
 - Another important cause of the rise of these new religions lays in the spread of the new agricultural economy in north-eastern India. The agricultural economy based on the iron plough-share required the use of bullocks, and it could not flourish without animal husbandry. But the Vedic practices of killing cattle indiscriminately in sacrifices stood in the way of the progress of new agriculture.

Hence the correct answer is (d).
2. (c) Besides the kshatriyas, the vaishyas extended generous support to both Mahavira and Gautam Buddha. The merchants, called the setthis, made handsome gifts to Gautam Buddha and his disciples.
Hence the correct answer is (c).
3. (a)
 - Besides the kshatriyas, the vaishyas extended generous support to both Mahavira and Gautam Buddha. The merchants, called the setthis, made handsome gifts to Gautam Buddha and his disciples. There are several reasons for it.
 - First, Jainism and Buddhism in the initial stage did not attach any importance to the existing varna system.
 - Second, they preached the gospel of non-violence, which would put an end to wars between different kingdoms and consequently promote trade and commerce.
 - Third, the brahmanical law books called the Dharmasutras, decried lending money on interest. A person who lived on interest was condemned by them. Therefore, the vaishyas, who lent money on account of growing trade and commerce, were not held in esteem and were eager to improve their social status.

Hence the correct answer is (a).
4. (a) Only statement 1 is correct.
 - According to Jainas, the origin of Jainism goes back to very ancient times. They believe to twenty-four tirthankaras or great teachers or leaders of their religion. The first tirthankara is believed to be Rishabhadev who was born in Ayodhya. He is said to have laid the foundations for orderly human society.
 - According to Jaina tradition, most of the early tirthankaras were born in the middle Ganga basin and attained nirvana in Bihar. The twenty-third tirthankara was Parshvanath who was born in Varanasi.
 - The last, twenty-fourth tirthankara, was Vardhamana Mahavira who was a contemporary to Gautam Buddha.

Hence the correct answer is (a).
5. (c)
 - Jainism taught five doctrines: (i) do not commit violence, (ii) do not speak a lie, (iii) do not steal, (iv) do not acquire property, and (v) observe continence (brahmacharya a). It is said that only the fifth doctrine was added by Mahavira: the other four were taken over by him from previous teachers.

- Mahavira asked his followers to lead a more austere life. On account of this in later times, Jainism was divided into two sects: shvetambaras or those who put on the white dress, and digambaras or those who keep themselves naked.
- Hence the correct answer is (c).**
6. (a) Only statement 1 is correct.
- Mahavira attained kaivalya(Juan) when he had reached the age of 42. Through kaivalya he conquered misery and happiness. Because of this conquest, he is known as Mahavira or the great hero or Jina.
 - Jainism recognized the existence of the Gods but placed them lower than the Jina. It did not condemn the varna system as Buddhism did.
- Hence the correct answer is (a).**
7. (d)
- According to Mahavira, a person is born in a high or in lower varna in consequence of the sins or the virtues acquired by him in the previous birth. Mahavira looks for human values even in chandala.
 - In his opinion, through pure and meritorious life members of the lower castes can attain liberation. Jainism mainly aims at the attainment of freedom from worldly bonds. No ritual is required for acquiring such liberation. It can be obtained through right knowledge, right faith, and right action. These three are considered to be the Three Jewels or Triratna of Jainism.
- Hence the correct answer is (d).**
8. (d)
- Since Jainism did not very clearly mark itself out from the brahmanical religion, it failed to attract the masses. Despite this, Jainism gradually spread into the south and west India where the brahmanical religion was weak. According to a late tradition, the spread of Jainism in Karnataka is attributed to Chandragupta Maurya (322-298 B.C.). The emperor became a Jaina, gave up his throne and spend the last years of his life in Karnataka as a Jaina ascetic.
 - The second cause of the spread of Jainism in South India is said to be the great famine that took place in Magadh 200 years after the death of Mahavira. The famine lasted for twelve years, and in order to protect themselves many a
- Jaina went to the south under the leadership of Bhadrabahu, but the rest of them stayed back in Magadha under the leadership of Sthalabahu. The emigrant Jainas spread Jainism in south India.
- Hence the correct answer is (d).**
9. (c)
- After the fifth century, numerous Jaina monastic establishments called basadis sprang up in Karnataka and were granted land by the king for their support.
 - Jainism spread to Kalinga in Orissa in the fourth century B.C., and in the first century B.C. it enjoyed the patronage of Kalinga king Kharavela who defeated the princes of Andhra and Magadha.
- Hence the correct answer is (c).**
10. (b) Only statement 2 is correct.
- Jainism made the first serious attempt to mitigate the evils of varna order and the ritualistic Vedic religion. The early Jainas discarded Sanskrit language mainly patronized by the brahmanas. They adopted the Prakrit language of the common people to preach their doctrines. Their religious literature was written Ardhamagadhi, and the texts were finally compiled in the sixth century A.D. in Gujarat at a place called Valabhi, a great centre of education.
 - Many regional languages developed out of Prakrit languages, particularly Shauraseni, out of which grew the Marathi language. They also contributed to the growth of Kannada, in which they wrote extensively.
- Hence the correct answer is (b).**
11. (a) Only statement 1 is correct.
- Gautama Buddha recommended an eight-fold path (ashtangika marga) for the elimination of human misery. This path is attributed to him in a text of about the third century B.C. It comprised right observation, right determination, right speech, right action, right livelihood, right exercise, right memory and right meditation.
 - If a person follows this eight-fold path he would not depend on the machinations of the priests and will be able to reach his destination.
 - Gautama taught that a person should avoid the excess of both luxury and austerity. He prescribed the middle path.
- Hence, the correct answer is (a).**

12. (b)

- By the early twelfth century A.D. Buddhism became practically extinct in India. It became a victim to the evils of Brahmanism against which it had fought in the beginning. To meet the Buddhist challenge the Brahmanas reformed their religion. They stressed the need for preserving the cattle wealth and assured women and Shudras of admission to heaven.
- Buddhism, on the other hand, changed for the worst. Gradually Buddhist monks were cut-off from the mainstream of people's life: they gave up Pali, the language of the people, and took to Sanskrit, the language of intellectuals.
- From the first century A.D. onwards, they practised idol worship on a large scale and received numerous offerings from devotees. By the seventh century A.D., the Buddhist monasteries had come to be dominated by ease-loving people and became centres of corrupt practices which Gautama Buddha had strictly prohibited. The new form of Buddhism was known as Vajrayana.

Hence, the correct answer is (b).

13. (c)

- The brahmana ruler Pashyamitra Shunga is said to have persecuted the Buddhists. Several instances of persecution occur in the sixth-seventh century A.D. The Huna king Mihirakula, who was a worshipper of Shiva, killed hundreds of Buddhists.
- The Shaivite Shashanka of Gauda cut off the Bodhi tree at Bodh Gaya, where the Buddha had attained enlightenment. Hsuan Tsang states that 1600 stupas and monasteries were destroyed. Such conflicts may have weakened Buddhism.

Hence, the correct answer is (c).

14. (b)

- With its emphasis on non-violence and the sanctity of animal life, Buddhism boosted the cattle wealth of the country. The earliest Buddhist text Suttanipata declares the cattle to be givers of food, beauty and happiness (annada, vannada, sukhad a), and thus pleads for their protection.
- This teaching came significantly at the time when the non-Aryans slaughtered animals for food, and the Aryans in the name of religion.

The brahmanical insistence on the sacredness of the cow and non-violence was apparently derived from Buddhist teachings.

Hence, the correct answer is (b).

15. (b)

- We get a glimpse of lively discussions and debates from Buddhist texts, which mention as many as 64 sects or schools of thought. Teachers travelled from place to place, trying to convince one another as well as laypersons, about the validity of their philosophy or the way they understood the world. Debates took place in the kutagarashala – literally, a hut with a pointed roof – or in groves where travelling mendicants halted. If a philosopher succeeded in convincing one of his rivals, the followers of the latter also became his disciples. So support for any particular sect could grow and shrink over time.

- Many of these teachers, including Mahavira and the Buddha, questioned the authority of the Vedas. They also emphasised individual agency – suggesting that men and women could strive to attain liberation from the trials and tribulations of worldly existence. This was in marked contrast to the Brahmanical position, wherein, as we have seen, an individual's existence was thought to be determined by his or her birth in a specific caste or gender.

Hence, the correct answer is (b).

16. (a) Only statement 1 is correct.

- The Buddha (and other teachers) taught orally – through discussion and debate. Men and women (perhaps children as well) attended these discourses and discussed what they heard. None of the Buddha's speeches were written down during his lifetime. After his death (c. fifth-fourth century BCE) his teachings were compiled by his disciples at a council of "elders" or senior monks at Vesali (Pali for Vaishali in present-day Bihar). These compilations were known as Tipitaka – literally, three baskets to hold different types of texts. They were first transmitted orally and then written and classified according to length as well as subject matter.

- The Vinaya Pitaka included rules and regulations for those who joined the sangha or monastic order; the Buddha's teachings were included in the Sutta Pitaka; and the Abhidhamma Pitaka dealt with philosophical matters. Each pitaka comprised a number of individual texts. Later, commentaries were written on these texts by Buddhist scholars.
- Hence, the correct answer is (a).**
17. (a) **Only statement 1 is correct.**
- As Buddhism travelled to new regions such as Sri Lanka, other texts such as the Dipavamsa (literally, the chronicle of the island) and Mahavamsa (the great chronicle) were written, containing regional histories of Buddhism. Many of these works contained biographies of the Buddha. Some of the oldest texts are in Pali, while later compositions are in Sanskrit.
 - When Buddhism spread to East Asia, pilgrims such as Fa Xian and Xuan Zang travelled all the way from China to India in search of texts. These they took back to their own country, where they were translated by scholars. Indian Buddhist teachers also travelled to faraway places, carrying texts to disseminate the teachings of the Buddha.
 - Buddhist texts were preserved in manuscripts for several centuries in monasteries in different parts of Asia. Modern translations have been prepared from Pali, Sanskrit, Chinese and Tibetan texts.
- Hence, the correct answer is (a).**
18. (c) Only pairs 1 and 2 are correctly matched.
- Makkhali Gosala belonged to the tradition of the Ajivikas. They have often been described as fatalists: those who believe that everything is predetermined.
 - Ajita Kesakambalin belonged to the tradition of the Lokayatas, usually described as materialists. Texts from these traditions have not survived, so we know about them only from the works of other traditions.
 - The Buddha's foster mother, Mahapajapati Gotami was the first woman to be ordained as a bhikkhuni. Many women who entered the sangha became teachers of dhamma and went on to become theris, or respected women who had attained liberation
- Hence, the correct answer is (c).**
19. (c) Only statements 1 and 2 are correct.
- The basic philosophy of the Jainas was already in existence in north India before the birth of Vardhamana, who came to be known as Mahavira, in the sixth century BCE. According to Jaina tradition, Mahavira was preceded by 23 other teachers or tirthankaras – literally, those who guide men and women across the river of existence.
 - The most important idea in Jainism is that the entire world is animated: even stones, rocks and water have life. Non-injury to living beings, especially to humans, animals, plants and insects, is central to Jaina philosophy. In fact the principle of ahimsa, emphasised within Jainism, has left its mark on Indian thinking as a whole. According to Jaina teachings, the cycle of birth and rebirth is shaped through karma. Asceticism and penance are required to free oneself from the cycle of karma. This can be achieved only by renouncing the world; therefore, monastic existence is a necessary condition of salvation.
 - Jaina monks and nuns took five vows: to abstain from killing, stealing and lying; to observe celibacy; and to abstain from possessing property.
 - According to Buddhist philosophy, the world is transient (anicca) and constantly changing.
- Hence, the correct answer is (c).**
20. (a)
- Just as the Buddha's teachings were compiled by his followers, the teachings of Mahavira were also recorded by his disciples. These were often in the form of stories, which could appeal to ordinary people. The Uttaradhyayana Sutta is a Prakrit text of Jainism describes how a queen named Kamalavati tried to persuade her husband to renounce the world.
 - Like the Buddhists, Jaina scholars produced a wealth of literature in a variety of languages – Prakrit, Sanskrit and Tamil. For centuries, manuscripts of these texts were carefully preserved in libraries attached to temples. Some of the earliest stone sculptures associated with religious traditions were produced by devotees of the Jaina tirthankaras, and have been recovered from several sites throughout the subcontinent.
- Hence, the correct answer is (a).**

21. (c) Both statements are correct.
- According to Buddhist philosophy, the world is transient (anicca) and constantly changing; it is also soulless (anatta) as there is nothing permanent or eternal in it. Within this transient world, sorrow (dukkha) is intrinsic to human existence. It is by following the path of moderation between severe penance and self-indulgence that human beings can rise above these worldly troubles. In the earliest forms of Buddhism, whether or not god existed was irrelevant.
 - The Buddha regarded the social world as the creation of humans rather than of divine origin. Therefore, he advised kings and gahapatis to be humane and ethical. Individual effort was expected to transform social relations.
 - The Buddha emphasised individual agency and righteous action as the means to escape from the cycle of rebirth and attain self-realisation and nibbana, literally the extinguishing of the ego and desire – and thus end the cycle of suffering for those who renounced the world. According to Buddhist tradition, his last words to his followers were: “Be lamps unto yourselves as all of you must work out your own liberation.”

Hence, the correct answer is (c).

22. (a) Only statement 1 is correct.
- Soon there grew a body of disciples of the Buddha and he founded a sangha, an organisation of monks who too became teachers of dhamma. These monks lived simply, possessing only the essential requisites for survival, such as a bowl to receive food once a day from the laity. As they lived on alms, they were known as bhikkhus.
 - Initially, only men were allowed into the sangha, but later women also came to be admitted. According to Buddhist texts, this was made possible through the mediation of Ananda, one of the Buddha’s dearest disciples, who persuaded him to allow women into the sangha. The Buddha’s foster mother, Mahapajapati Gotami was the first woman to be ordained as a bhikkhuni. Many women who entered the sangha became teachers of dhamma and went on to become theris, or respected women who had attained liberation.

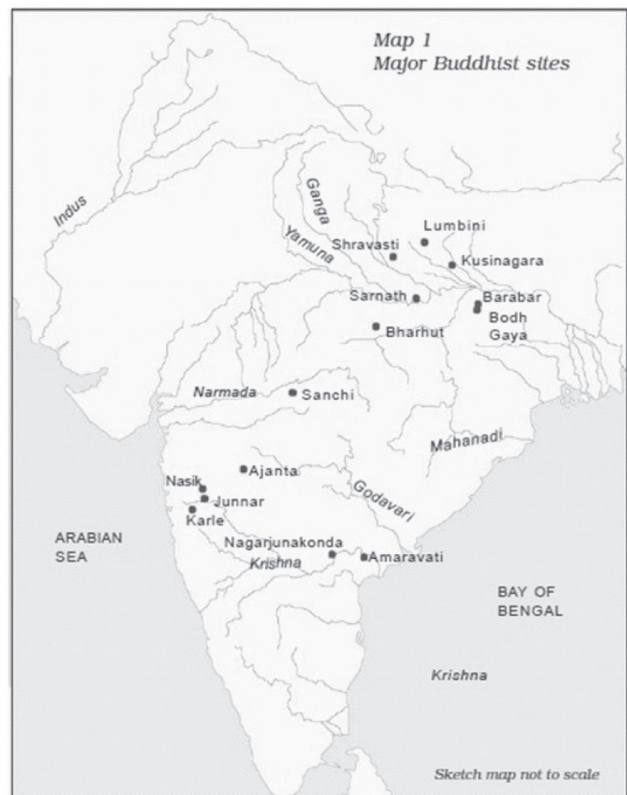
- The Buddha’s followers came from many social groups. They included kings, wealthy men and gahapatis, and also humbler folk: workers, slaves and craftspeople. Once within the sangha, all were regarded as equal, having shed their earlier social identities on becoming bhikkhus and bhikkhunis. The internal functioning of the sangha was based on the traditions of ganas and sanghas, where consensus was arrived at through discussions. If that failed, decisions were taken by a vote on the subject.

Hence, the correct answer is (a).

23. (b) The Therigatha, a unique Buddhist text, part of the Sutta Pitaka, is a collection of verses composed by bhikkhunis. It provides an insight into women’s social and spiritual experiences.

Hence, the correct answer is (b).

24. (c) See Map below



Hence, the correct answer is (c).

25. (b) Only pair 3 is correctly matched.
- Buddhist literature mentions several chaityas. It also describes places associated with the Buddha’s life – where he was born

(Lumbini), where he attained enlightenment (Bodh Gaya), where he gave his first sermon (Sarnath) and where he attained nibbana (Kusinagara).

- Gradually, each of these places came to be regarded as sacred. We know that about 200 years after the time of the Buddha, Asoka erected a pillar at Lumbini to mark the fact that he had visited the place.

Hence, the correct answer is (b).

26. (a) Only pair 1 is correctly matched.

Art historians had to acquire familiarity with hagiographies of the Buddha in order to understand Buddhist sculpture. According to hagiographies, the Buddha attained enlightenment while meditating under a tree. Many early sculptors did not show the Buddha in human form – instead, they showed his presence through symbols. The empty seat was meant to indicate the meditation of the Buddha, and the stupa was meant to represent the mahaparinibbana. Another frequently used symbol was the wheel. This stood for the first sermon of the Buddha, delivered at Sarnath. As is obvious, such sculptures cannot be understood literally – for instance, the tree does not stand simply for a tree, but symbolises an event in the life of the Buddha. In order to understand such symbols, historians have to familiarise themselves with the traditions of those who produced these works of art.

Hence, the correct answer is (a).

27. (d)

- Some sculptures at Sanchi were perhaps not directly inspired by Buddhist ideas. These include beautiful women swinging from the edge of the gateway, holding onto a tree. Initially, scholars were a bit intrigued about this image, which seemed to have little to do with renunciation. However, after examining other literary traditions, they realised that it could be a representation of what is described in Sanskrit as a shalabhanjika. According to popular belief, this was a woman whose touch caused trees to flower and bear fruit. It is likely that this was regarded as an auspicious symbol and integrated into the decoration of the stupa. The shalabhanjika motif suggests that many people who turned to Buddhism enriched it with their own pre-Buddhist and even non-Buddhist beliefs, practices and ideas.

- Another motif is that of a woman surrounded by lotuses and elephants, which seem to be sprinkling water on her as if performing an abhisheka or consecration. While some historians identify the figure as Maya, the mother of the Buddha, others identify her with a popular goddess, Gajalakshmi – literally, the goddess of good fortune – who is associated with elephants. It is also possible that devotees who saw these sculptures identified the figure with both Maya and Gajalakshmi.

- Another motif of the serpent is found on several pillars. This motif seems to be derived from popular traditions, which were not always recorded in texts. Interestingly, one of the earliest modern art historians, James Fergusson, considered Sanchi to be a centre of tree and serpent worship.

Hence, the correct answer is (d).

28. (b) Only statement 2 is correct.

- By the first century CE, there is evidence of changes in Buddhist ideas and practices. Early Buddhist teachings had given great importance to self-effort in achieving nibbana. Besides, the Buddha was regarded as a human being who attained enlightenment and nibbana through his own efforts. However, gradually the idea of a saviour emerged. It was believed that he was the one who could ensure salvation. Simultaneously, the concept of the Bodhisatta also developed. Bodhisattas were perceived as deeply compassionate beings who accumulated merit through their efforts but used this not to attain nibbana and thereby abandon the world, but to help others. The worship of images of the Buddha and Bodhisattas became an important part of this tradition.

- This new way of thinking was called Mahayana – literally, the “great vehicle”. Those who adopted these beliefs described the older tradition as Hinayana or the “lesser vehicle”. Hence, the correct answer is (b).

29. (b) Supporters of Mahayana regarded other Buddhists as followers of Hinayana. However, followers of the older tradition described themselves as Theravadins, that is, those who followed the path of old, respected teachers, the theras.

Hence, the correct answer is (b).

1.3

Pre Mauryan, Mauryan and Post Mauryan Periods

Source

1. *Themes in Indian History: Part I (New NCERT) Class XII*
2. *Ancient India (Old NCERT) Class XI*

1. What is the correct sequence of occurrence of the following early states in ancient India as one proceeds from east to west?
 1. Anga
 2. Vajji
 3. Gandhara
 4. Koshala
 Select the correct answer using the code given below.
 - (a) 1-2-3-4
 - (b) 1-2-4-3
 - (c) 2-1-3-4
 - (d) 2-1-4-3
2. Consider the following pairs:

Mahajanapadas	Their Capitals
1. Koshala	: Varanasi
2. Matsya	: Viratnagara
3. Vatsa	: Kausambi

 Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?
 - (a) 1 and 2 only
 - (b) 3 only
 - (c) 2 and 3 only
 - (d) 1, 2 and 3
3. With reference to early states in ancient India, consider the following statements:
 1. Between the sixth and the fourth centuries BCE, Magadha became the most powerful mahajanapada.
 2. Initially, Pataliputra was the capital of Magadha but Later, in the fourth century BCE, the capital was shifted to Rajgir.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 - (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) Both 1 and 2
 - (d) Neither 1 nor 2
4. With reference to ancient India, the term 'Shrenis' refers to an organisations of
 - (a) craft producers and merchants
 - (b) religious teachers
 - (c) weavers
 - (d) goldsmiths
5. What is the correct sequence of occurrence of the following major towns in ancient India as one proceeds from south to north?
 1. Puhar
 2. Ujjayani
 3. Paithan
 4. Dhanyakataka
 Select the correct answer using the code given below.
 - (a) 1-2-4-3
 - (b) 3-4-1-2
 - (c) 1-4-3-2
 - (d) 4-3-2-1
6. In the context of the Pataliputra, which of the following statements is/are correct?
 1. By the fourth century BCE, it was the capital of the Mauryan Empire.
 2. Chinese pilgrim Xuan Zang visited the city in the fifth century CE.
 Select the correct answer using the code given below.
 - (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) Both 1 and 2
 - (d) Neither 1 nor 2
7. With reference to Bimbisara of Magadha Empire in ancient India, consider the following statements:
 1. Magadha came into prominence under the leadership of Bimbisara, who belong to the Haryanka dynasty.
 2. He was a contemporary of Buddha.
 3. He also strengthened his position by marriage alliances.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 - (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 and 3 only
 - (c) 1 and 3 only
 - (d) 1, 2 and 3
8. Which one of the following kings of Magadha Empire claimed to be ekarat, the sole sovereign who destroyed all the other ruling princes?
 - (a) Mahapadma Nanda
 - (b) Bimbisara
 - (c) Ajatashatru
 - (d) Udayin
9. "This capital of Magadha enjoyed an advantageous geographical position because the richest iron deposits were situated near to it. It was surrounded by a group of five hills, and so it was rendered impregnable in those days when there were no easy means of storming citadels such as cannons which came to be invented much later."

- The above passage describes which of the following places?
 (a) Patliputra (b) Rajgir
 (c) Vaishali (d) Ujjain
10. Which of the following was/were causes of Magadha's success in ancient India?
 1. Availability of iron ores
 2. Presence of various rivers
 3. Use of elephants on a large scale in wars
 4. Availability of alluvium soil
 Select the correct answer using the code given below.
 (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only
 (c) 1, 2 and 3 only (d) All of the above
11. Patliputra was a water-fort and enabled the Magadha princes to protect themselves from external invasions. Patliputra was surrounded by which of the following rivers?
 1. Son 2. Ganga
 3. Poonpun 4. Ghaghara
 Select the correct answer using the code given below.
 (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only
 (c) 1, 2 and 3 only (d) All of the above
12. With reference to Iranian invasion in ancient India, consider the following statements:
 1. The Iranian ruler Darius penetrated into north-west India and annexed Punjab, west of the Indus, and Sindh.
 2. Xerxes, the successor of Darius, employed Indians in the long war against the Greeks.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
13. With reference to ancient India, the term 'Satrapy' refers to
 (a) house of the head of a village
 (b) a hut where travelling mendicants halted
 (c) a province of Iran
 (d) None of the above
14. With reference to Kharoshthi script, consider the following statements:
 1. The Greeks scribes brought into India a form of writing which came to be known as the Kharoshthi script.
 2. It was written from right to left like the Arabic.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
15. With reference to Alexander of Macedonia, consider the following statements:
 1. In the first century B.C, Alexander of Macedonia destroyed the Iranian empire.
 2. Herodotus had painted India as a fabulous land, which tempted Alexander to invade it.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
16. Which of the following rulers was/were resisted the advance of Alexander between the Jhelum and Chenab region in ancient India?
 1. Ambhi 2. Porus
 3. Chanda Pradyota Mahasena
 Select the correct answer using the code given below.
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
 (c) 1 and 2 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
17. Due to the presence of which of the following Magadhan rulers, Alexander, who invaded Punjab in ancient time, did not dare to move towards the east?
 (a) Bimbisara (b) Ajatashatru
 (c) Udayin (d) Mahapadma Nanda
18. With reference to effects of Alexander's invasion in ancient India, consider the following statements:
 1. Alexander's campaign opened up four distinct routes by land and sea.
 2. Alexander's invasion led to the establishment of Greek settlements in the Avanti.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
19. With reference to Alexander's campaign in India, consider the following statements:
 1. He added to his empire an Indian province which was much larger than that conquered by Iran.
 2. Alexander's historians give us important information about the sale of girls in market places by poor parents, and the fine breed of oxen in north-west India.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

20. With reference to Pali texts of ancient India, the term 'Bhojaka' refers to
 (a) Village headman (b) Higher official
 (c) Merchant (d) Rich peasant
21. With reference to the administrative system in the age of Buddha, consider the following statements:
 1. It seems that higher officers and ministers were largely recruited from the clan of the king.
 2. The village headmen had direct links with the kings and they maintained law and order in their locality.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
22. With reference to the administrative system in the age of Buddha, the term 'Mahamatra' refers to
 (a) Village headman (b) Higher official
 (c) Merchant (d) Rich peasant
23. In the context of the fiscal system of Magadha empire, which of the following statements is/are correct?
 1. It seems that one-tenth of the produce was collected as tax by the king from the peasants.
 2. The kshatriyas and the brahmanas, were exempted from payment of taxes.
 Select the correct answer using the code given below.
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
24. With reference to ancient India in the age of Buddha, the term 'Bali' refers to
 (a) a compulsory payment to be made by the peasants
 (b) a voluntary payment made by the tribesmen
 (c) payment of customs on the sale of commodities made by the traders
 (d) None of the above
25. With reference to ancient India in the age of Buddha, the term 'shaulkika' refers to
 (a) a compulsory payment to be made by the peasants
 (b) a voluntary payment made by the tribesmen
 (c) payment of customs on the sale of commodities made by the traders
 (d) a tax collecting officers
26. In the context of the republican system of government in ancient India, which of the following statements is/are correct?
 1. The republican system of government existed in the foothills of the Himalayas in the eastern Uttar Pradesh and Bihar only.
 2. The republican tradition in the country is as old as the age of the Buddha.
 3. In the republics, real power lay in the hands of tribal oligarchies.
 Select the correct answer using the code given below.
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
 (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
27. In the context of the difference between a monarchy and a republic in the age of the Buddha, which of the following statements is/are correct?
 1. Every monarchy maintained its standing army but in a tribal oligarchy, each raja was not allowed to maintain his own army.
 2. The difference between a monarchy and a republic lay in the fact that the later functioned under the leadership of oligarchic assemblies and not of an individual, as was the case with the former.
 Select the correct answer using the code given below.
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
28. With reference to religious texts in India, the 'Digha Nikaya' text belongs to
 (a) Buddhism (b) Jainism
 (c) Vaishnavism (d) Shaivism
29. In the ninth century, the machinations of Chanakya against Chandragupta's enemies are described in detail in the Mudrarakshasa, a drama written by
 (a) Vishakhadatta (b) Pulakeshin
 (c) Kalidasa (d) Kapila
30. With reference to Megasthenes, consider the following statements:
 1. Megasthenes was a Greek ambassador sent by Seleucus to the court of Chandragupta Maurya.
 2. According to Megasthenes, the king was assisted by a council whose members were noted for wisdom.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
31. In the context of Ashokan inscriptions, which of the following statements is/are correct?
1. The name of Ashoka occurs on all inscriptions.
2. The Ashokan inscriptions are found in India, Pakistan and Afghanistan only.
Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
32. The Kalinga war brought grief and huge remorse to Ashoka due to massacre. So he replaced 'bherighosha' with 'dhammaghosha'. In this context, what does the term 'dhammaghosha' imply?
(a) Military conquest
(b) Conquest by temple priests
(c) Cultural conquest
(d) Conquest by local tribals
33. Which of the following scripts was/were used to write the Ashokan inscriptions?
1. Greek 2. Brahmi
3. Kharoshthi
Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
34. With reference to the age of the Maurya, the term 'Rajukas' refers to
(a) house of the head of a village
(b) a hut where travelling mendicants halted
(c) house of merchants
(d) a class of officers
35. With reference to Ashoka's policy and Buddhism, which one of the following statements is not correct?
(a) According to Buddhist tradition, the third Buddhist council was held by Ashoka.
(b) Ashoka appointed dhammamahamatras for propagating dharma among various social groups including women.
(c) He held that if the people behaved well they would attain nirvana.
(d) Ashoka's teachings were intended to maintain the existing social order on the basis of tolerance.
36. With reference to achievements of Ashoka, consider the following statements:
1. Ashoka brought about the political unification of the country.
2. Ashoka did not follow a tolerant religious policy.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
37. With reference to economic regulations in the age of the Maurya, consider the following statements:
1. The domestic slaves were not found in the age of Maurya.
2. The 'samaharta' was the highest officer in charge of assessment and the 'sannidhata' was the chief custodian of the state treasury and store-house.
3. The punch-marked silver coins, which carry the symbols of the peacock, was the imperial currency of the Maurya.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
38. In the context of material culture in the age of the Maurya, consider the following statements:
1. The new material culture in the Gangetic basin was based on the intensive use of copper.
2. There was the abundance of beautiful pottery called Northern Black Polished Ware.
3. In the Mauryan period, burnt bricks were used for the first time in north-eastern India.
Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only (b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
39. Which of the following were the causes of the fall of the Mauryan Empire?
1. Preference given to Brahmanas by the Mauryan kings
2. Neglect of the north-west frontier
3. Financial crisis
Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
40. Which of the following rulers had constructed the Great wall of China?

- (a) Shih Huang Ti (b) Ho Chi Minh
(c) Hu Jintao (d) Jiang Zemin
41. With reference to Indian epigraphy, consider the following statements:
1. James Prinsep deciphered Brahmi and Kharosthi, two scripts used in the earliest inscriptions and coins.
 2. He found that most of these mentioned a king referred to as Piyadassi.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
42. Which of the following sources, historians have used to reconstruct the history of the Mauryan Empire?
1. Sculpture
 2. The account of Megasthenes
 3. Arthashastra
 4. Jaina literature
- Select the correct answer using the code given below.
- (a) 1 and 3 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only (d) All of the above
43. In the context of Mauryan Empire, which of the following statements is/are correct?
1. Asoka was the first ruler who inscribed his messages to his subjects and officials on stone surfaces.
 2. There were five major political centres in the empire – the capital Pataliputra and the provincial centres of Taxila, Ujjayini, Tosali and Suvarnagiri.
 3. Megasthenes mentions a committee with ten subcommittees for coordinating military activity.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below.
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
44. With reference to the history of ancient India, the term 'Samantas' refers to
- (a) men who usually collect taxes.
 - (b) men who maintained themselves through local resources including control over land.
 - (c) Artisans
 - (d) Merchants
45. With reference to the history of ancient India, the term 'Gahapati' refers to
- (a) Tax collector
 - (b) Chief of army
 - (c) Head of household
 - (d) Head of village
46. Consider the following statements:
1. The Jatakas were written in Pali around the middle of the first millennium CE.
 2. Gandatindu Jataka describes the plight of the subjects of a wicked king.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
47. With reference to Land grants in ancient India, consider the following statements:
1. According to Sanskrit legal texts, women were not supposed to have independent access to resources such as land.
 2. The inscription indicates that Prabhavati Gupta had no access to land, despite she was the daughter of Chandragupta II.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
48. With reference to the ancient India, the term 'Agrahara' refers to
- (a) Pastoralists
 - (b) Ploughmen
 - (c) Fishermen
 - (d) Land granted to a Brahmana
49. In the context of Languages and scripts, which of the following statements is/are correct?
1. All Asokan inscriptions were written in the Prakrit and Greek languages only.
 2. All Prakrit inscriptions were written in the Brahmi script only.
 3. The Aramaic and Greek scripts were used for inscriptions in Afghanistan.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below.
- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
50. The Prayaga Prashasti, also known as the Allahabad Pillar Inscription composed in Sanskrit by
- (a) Harishena
 - (b) Shudraka
 - (c) Bhasa
 - (d) Kalidasa
51. Consider the following major Advances in Epigraphy:
1. Decipherment of Asokan Brahmi by James Prinsep
 2. Alexander Cunningham publishes a set of Asokan inscriptions
 3. Founding of the Asiatic Society (Bengal)
 4. First issue of Epigraphia Indica
- Which of the following is the correct chronological sequence of the above advancement?

- (a) 1-2-3-4 (b) 1-2-4-3
(c) 3-1-2-4 (d) 2-1-4-3
- 52.** Consider the following pairs:
- | Thinkers | : | Countries |
|-----------------|---|------------------|
| 1. Zarathustra | : | Iran |
| 2. Kong Zi | : | Japan |
| 3. Socrates | : | Greece |
- Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?
- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
- 53.** With reference to Greek invasion, consider the following statements:
- They were the first to invade India in 206 B.C.
 - Pushed by the Scythian tribes, the Bactrian Greeks were forced to invade India.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 54.** With reference to religious texts in India, the 'Milinda Panho' text belongs to
- (a) Jainism (b) Buddhism
(c) Vaishnavism (d) Shaivism
- 55.** With reference to the contribution of Indo-Greeks in India, consider the following statements:
- The Indo-Greeks were the first to issue gold coins in India.
 - The Greek rule introduced features of Hellenistic art in south India.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 56.** With reference to the Shakas in ancient India, consider the following statements:
- An era called the Vikrama Samvat is reckoned from the event of the victory of the king of Ujjain over the Shakas in 87 B.C.
 - The most famous Shaka ruler, Rudradaman issued the first-ever long inscription on chaste Sanskrit.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 57.** St. Thomas is said to have come to India for the propagation of Christianity during the reign of
- (a) Vikramaditya I (b) Rudradaman
(c) Gondophernes (d) Kanishka
- 58.** With reference to the Kushans in ancient India, consider the following statements:
- Their empire extended from the Oxus to the Ganga, from Khorasan in central Asia to Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh.
 - The early Kushan kings issued numerous gold coins with a higher degree of metallic purity than is found in the Gupta gold coins.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 59.** With reference to the Kushan ruler, Kanishka in ancient India, consider the following statements:
- He started an era in A.D. 58, which is now known as the Shaka era and is used by the Government of India.
 - He held a Buddhist council in Kashmir, where the doctrines of the Mahayana form of Buddhism were finalized.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 60.** In the context of the Shaka and Kushan rulers in the post-Muryan period, which of the following statements is/are correct?
- They introduced better cavalry and the use of the riding horse on a large scale.
 - The Kushans controlled the Silk Route, which started from China.
 - The Shakas and Kushans introduced turban, tunic, trousers, and heavy long coat.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below.
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
- 61.** Which of the following political developments were introduced during the reigns of the Central Asian conquerors?
- Development of a feudatory organization
 - Satrap system of government
 - Hereditary dual rule
 - Military governorship

- Select the correct answer using the code given below.
- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only (d) All of the above
- 62.** Which of the following texts was/were written by Ashvaghosha?
1. Buddhacharita
 2. Saundarananda
 3. Harshacharita
- Select the correct answer using the code given below.
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
- 63.** Which of the following texts was/were composed in what is known as the Buddhist-Hybrid Sanskrit?
1. Mahavastu
 2. Tripitaka
 3. Divyavadana
- Select the correct answer using the code given below.
- (a) 1 only (b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
- 64.** In the context of the Satavahanas in the post-Muryan period, which of the following statements is/are correct?
1. The earliest inscriptions of the Satvahanas belong to the fourth century B.C.
 2. It seems that the empire of Satavahana extended from Malwa in the north to Karnataka in the south.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below.
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 65.** In the context of the material culture of Satavahanas in the post-Muryan period, which one of the following statements is not correct?
- (a) The people of the Deccan knew the art of paddy transplantation
 - (b) The Satavahanas issued gold coins as the Kushans did.
 - (c) They also issued Potin, copper and bronze money.
 - (d) In foreign accounts, Andhra is considered to be famous for its cotton products.
- 66.** With reference to ancient India, the term 'Gandhikas' refers to
- (a) Artisans
 - (b) Commanders
 - (c) Treasurers
 - (d) Higher officials
- 67.** With reference to ancient India, the term 'Gaulmika' refers to
- (a) Artisans
 - (b) The head of a village
 - (c) Treasurer
 - (d) The head of a military regiment
- 68.** With reference to ancient India, the term 'Kataka' and 'Skandhavaras' were associated with
- (a) military camps and settlements.
 - (b) rituals conducted during the coronation of a new king.
 - (c) land revenue system.
 - (d) Administrative posts during the Satavahana rulers.
- 69.** With reference to the Satavahana rulers, consider the following statements:
1. The Satavahanas were the first rulers to make land grants to the Brahmanas.
 2. The Satavahanas started the practice of granting tax-free villages to Buddhist monks only.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 70.** One Prakrit text called 'Gathasattasai' is attributed to a Satavahana king called
- (a) Simuka
 - (b) Kanha
 - (c) Hala
 - (d) Gautamiputra Satakarni
- 71.** With reference to the history of south India, the term 'Megalith' refers to
- (a) Ashokan inscription
 - (b) Grave
 - (c) Chief local god
 - (d) Vedic sacrifice
- 72.** With reference to chiefs in the ancient south India, consider the following statements:
1. Their functions were performing special rituals, leadership in warfare, and arbitrating disputes.

2. They were authorised to collect taxes from his subordinates.
3. They had to maintain regular armies and officials.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
- 73.** Which among the following rulers adopted the title devaputra, or “son of god”?
- (a) Kushana rulers (b) Satavahanas
(c) Shakas (d) Pandyas
- 74.** With reference to the introduction of coinage in ancient history, consider the following statements:
1. Coins were not issued by any tribal republics.
 2. The first gold coins were issued c. first century CE by the Kushanas.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 75.** With reference to ancient India, the term ‘Setthis and Satthavahas’ refer to
- (a) Blacksmiths
(b) Carpenters
(c) Weavers
(d) Successful merchants
- 76.** With reference to the introduction of coinage in ancient history, consider the following statements:
1. Punch-marked coins made of silver and copper were amongst the earliest to be minted and used.
 2. The first coins to bear the names and images of rulers were issued by the Indo-Greeks.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 77.** Which one of the following languages was used in the earliest inscriptions in India?
- (a) Prakrit (b) Pali
(c) Tamil (d) Sanskrit
- 78.** Which of the following contents were mentioned in the inscriptions during ancient India?
1. Achievements
 2. Activities or ideas of those who commissioned them
 3. Donations made by women and men to religious institutions
 4. Routine agricultural practices
 5. The joys and sorrows of daily existence
- Select the correct answer using the code given below.
- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only (b) 3, 4 and 5 only
(c) 1, 2 and 4 only (d) 2, 3 and 5 only
- 79.** Consider the following ancient events:
1. End of the Mauryan empire
 2. Invasion of Alexander of Macedon
 3. Chinese pilgrim Xuan Zang comes in search of Buddhist texts
 4. Reign of Samudragupta
- Which of the following is the correct chronological sequence of the above events?
- (a) 1-2-3-4 (b) 1-2-4-3
(c) 2-1-3-4 (d) 2-1-4-3
- 80.** With reference to the Sudarshana lake in Gujarat, consider the following statements:
1. The Sudarshana lake was an artificial reservoir.
 2. It was broken down by the Shaka ruler Rudradaman.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 81.** In the context of Satavahana rulers, which of the following statements is/are correct?
1. Satavahana rulers were identified through metonymics.
 2. In the case of the Satavahana dynasty, succession to the throne was generally matrilineal.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below.
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

- 82.** Which of the following dynasties have non-Kshatriya kings in ancient India?
 1. Shungas 2. Kanvas
 3. Shakas 4. Satavahana
 Select the correct answer using the code given below.
 (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 and 4 only
 (c) 1, 2 and 4 only (d) All of the above
- 83.** With reference to the Pandyas kingdom, consider the following statements:
 1. The Pandyas are first mentioned by Megasthenes, who says that their kingdom was celebrated for pearls.
 2. The Pandya kings sent embassies to the Roman emperor Augustus.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 84.** Which of the following Chola kings in ancient India, conquered Sri Lanka and ruled over it for nearly 50 years?
 (a) Vijayalaya Chola (b) Aditya I
 (c) Rajaraja Chola I (d) Elara
- 85.** With reference to the history of south India, the term 'Pariyars' refers to
 (a) Agricultural labourers
 (b) Military chiefs
 (c) Merchants
 (d) Fishermen
- 86.** With reference to the history of south India, the term 'Murugan' refers to
 (a) Agricultural labourers
 (b) Military chiefs
 (c) Merchants
 (d) Chief local god
- 87.** Consider the following pairs:
- | Tamil Texts | Deals with |
|--------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Tolkkappiyam | : Grammar and poetics |
| 2. Tirukkural | : Love story |
| 3. Silappadikaram | : Philosophy and wise maxims |
- Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?
 (a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2 only
 (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
- 88.** With reference to the ancient texts in India, the 'Puranaruru' text belongs to
 (a) Sangam Literature (b) Buddhist text
 (c) Vaishnavite text (d) Shaivite text
- 89.** With reference to craft and trade in Post-Mauryan age, consider the following statements:
 1. Indian iron and steel including cutlery were exported to the Abyssinian ports.
 2. Mathura was a great centre for the manufacture of a special type of cloth which was called shataka.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 90.** With reference to crafts in Post-Mauryan age, consider the following statements:
 1. The knowledge of glass-blowing reached India and attained its peak about the beginning of the Christian era.
 2. In Kushan and Satavahana times the manufacture of beautiful pieces of terracotta almost went out of fashion.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
- 91.** Consider the following Ports in Post-Mauryan age:
 1. Broach 2. Sopara
 3. Arikamedu 4. Tamralipti
 Which of the ports given above were situated on the western coast of India?
 (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 and 4 only
 (c) 1, 2 and 3 only (d) All of the above
- 92.** Consider the following items:
 1. Spices 2. Muslin
 3. Cutlery 4. Wine
 5. Lead
 Which of the items given above were exported to the Romans by India during Post-Mauryan age?
 (a) 1, 3 and 5 only (b) 2, 4 and 5 only
 (c) 1, 2 and 3 only (d) All of the above

HINTS & EXPLANATIONS

1. (b) See Map below



Hence, the correct answer is (b).

2. (c) Only pairs 2 and 3 are correctly matched.

Mahajanapadas Their Capitals

1. Koshala : Sravasti
2. Matsya : Viratnagara
3. Vatsa : Kausambi

Hence, the correct answer is (c).

3. (a) **Only statement 1 is correct.**

- Between the sixth and the fourth centuries BCE, Magadha (in present-day Bihar) became the most powerful mahajanapada. Modern historians explain this development in a variety of ways: Magadha was a region where agriculture was especially productive. Besides, iron mines (in present-day Jharkhand) were

accessible and provided resources for tools and weapons. Elephants, an important component of the army, were found in forests in the region. Also, the Ganga and its tributaries provided a means of cheap and convenient communication.

- Initially, Rajagaha (the Prakrit name for present-day Rajgir in Bihar) was the capital of Magadha. Interestingly, the old name means “house of the king”. Rajagaha was a fortified settlement, located amongst hills. Later, in the fourth century BCE, the capital was shifted to Pataliputra, present-day Patna, commanding routes of communication along the Ganga.

Hence, the correct answer is (c).

4. (a)
- By the second century BCE, we find short votive inscriptions in a number of cities. These mention the name of the donor, and sometimes specify his/ her occupation as well.

Sometimes, guilds or shrenis, organisations of craft producers and merchants, are mentioned as well. These guilds probably procured raw materials, regulated production, and marketed the finished product.

Hence, the correct answer is (a).

5. (c) See Map below



Hence, the correct answer is (c).

6. (a) Only statement 1 is correct.
- Pataliputra, began as a village known as Pataligrama. Then, in the fifth century BCE, the Magadhan rulers decided to shift their capital from Rajagaha to this settlement and renamed it. By the fourth century BCE, it was the capital of the Mauryan Empire and one of the largest cities in Asia.
 - Subsequently, its importance apparently declined. When the Chinese pilgrim Xuan Zang visited the city in the seventh century

CE, he found it in ruins, and with a very small population.

Hence, the correct answer is (a).

7. (d) All statements are correct.

Magadha came into prominence under the leadership of Bimbisara, who belong to the Haryanka dynasty. He was a contemporary of Buddha. He started the policy of conquest and aggression which ended with the Kalinga war of Ashoka. Bimbisara acquired Anga and placed it under the viceroyalty of his son

Ajatashatru at Champa. He also strengthened his position by marriage alliances.

Hence, the correct answer is (d).

8. (a)

- The Shishunagas were succeeded by the Nandas, who proved to be the most powerful rulers of Magadha. So great was their power that Alexander, who invaded Punjab at that time, did not dare to move towards the east. The Nandas added to the Magadhan power by conquering Kalinga from where they brought an image of the Jina as a victory trophy. All this took place in the reign of Mahapadma Nanda.

- He claimed to be ekarat, the sole sovereign who destroyed all the other ruling princes. It seems that he acquired not only Kalinga but also Koshala which had probably rebelled against him.

Hence, the correct answer is (a).

9. (b)

- The kingdom of Magadha enjoyed certain advantages. The two capitals of Magadha, the first at Rajgir and the second at Patliputra, were situated at very strategic points. The given passage describes about Rajgir. It was not easy to destroy forts like Rajgir in those days.

- Ujjain was the capital of Avanti while Vaishali was the capital of Lichchhavis.

Hence, the correct answer is (b).

10. (d)

- Rajgir, the capital of Magadha enjoyed an advantageous geographical position because the richest iron deposits were situated near to it. The ready availability of the rich iron ores in the neighbourhood enabled the Magadha princes to equip themselves with effective weapons, which were not easily available to their rivals.

- Patliputra was situated at the confluence of the Ganga, the Gandak and the Son, and the fourth river called the Ghaghara joined the Ganga not far from Patliputra. In pre-industrial days, when communication was difficult, the army could move north, west, south and east by following the courses of rivers.

- Magadha lay at the centre of the middle Gangetic plain. The alluvium, once cleared of the jungles, proved immensely fertile. Because of heavy rainfall, the area could be made productive even without irrigation.

- Magadha enjoyed a special advantage in military organisation. Although the Indian states were well acquainted with the use of horses and chariots, it was Magadha who first used elephants on a large scale in its wars against its neighbours. We learn from Greek sources that the Nandas maintained 6000 elephants.

Hence, the correct answer is (d).

11. (c) The position of Patna itself was rendered invulnerable because of its being surrounded by rivers on almost all sides. While the Son and the Ganga surrounded it on the north and west, the Poonpun surrounded it on the south and east. Patliputra therefore was a true water-fort(jaladurg(a), and it was not easy to capture this town in those days.

Hence, the correct answer is (c).

12. (c) Both statements are correct.

- The Achaemenian rulers of Iran, who expanded their empire at the same time as the Magadhan princes, took political advantage of the political disunity on the north-west frontier. The Iranian ruler Darius penetrated into north-west India in 516 B.C. and annexed Punjab, west of the Indus, and Sindh. This area constituted the twentieth province or satrapy of Iran, the total number of satrapies in the Iranian empire being 28.

- The Indian subjects were also enrolled in the Iranian army. Xerxes, the successor of Darius, employed Indians in the long war against the Greeks. It appears that India continued to be a part of the Iranian empire until Alexander invaded India.

Hence, the correct answer is (c).

13. (c) The Indian satrapy (province of Iran) included Sindh, the north-west frontier and the part of Punjab that lay to the west of the Indus. It was the most fertile and populous part of the empire. It paid a tribute of 360 talents of gold, which accounted for one-third of the total revenue of Iran from its Asian provinces.

Hence, the correct answer is (c).

14. (b) Only statement 2 is correct.

The Indo-Iranian contact lasted for about 200 years. It gave an impetus to Indo-Iranian trade and commerce. The cultural results were more important. The Iranian scribes brought into India a form of writing which came to

be known as the Kharoshthi script. It was written from right to left like the Arabic. Some Ashokan inscriptions in north-west India were written in the third century B.C. in this script, which continued to be used in the country till the third century A.D.

Hence, the correct answer is (b).

15. (b) Only statement 2 is correct.

- In the fourth century B.C. the Greeks and the Iranian fought for the supremacy of the world. Under the leadership of Alexander of Macedonia, the Greeks finally destroyed the Iranian empire. Alexander conquered not only Asia minor and Iraq but also Iran.

- From Iran, he marched to India, obviously attracted by its great wealth. Herodotus, who is called the father of history, and other Greek writers had painted India as a fabulous land, which tempted Alexander to invade it. Alexander also possessed a strong passion for geographical enquiry and natural history.

Hence, the correct answer is (b).

16. (c)

- Among the Rulers of the north-west territories of India, two were well known—Ambhi, the prince of Taxila, and Porus whose kingdom lay between the Jhelum and the Chenab. Together they might have effectively resisted the advance of Alexander. But they could not put up a joint front: the Khyber pass remained unguarded.

- After the conquest of Iran, Alexander moved on to Kabul, from where he marched to India through the Khyber pass in 326 B.C. It took him five months to reach the Indus. Ambhi, the ruler of Taxila, readily submitted to the invader, augmented his army and replenished his treasure. When he reached the Jhelum, Alexander met from Porus the first and the strongest resistance. Although Alexander defeated Porus, he was impressed by the bravery and courage of the Indian prince. So he restored his kingdom to him and made him his ally.

Hence, the correct answer is (c).

17. (d)

- The Shishunagas were succeeded by the Nandas, who proved to be the most powerful rulers of Magadha. So great was their power that Alexander, who invaded Punjab at that time, did not dare to move towards the east.

- It was the kingdom of Magadha ruled by the Nandas who maintained an army far outnumbering that of Alexander. So despite the repeated appeals of Alexander to advance, the Greek soldiers did not budge an inch.

- The king who had never known defeat at the hands of his enemies had to accept defeat from his own men. He was forced to retreat, and his dream of an eastern empire remained unfulfilled.

Hence, the correct answer is (c).

18. (a) Only statement 1 is correct.

- The most important outcome of Alexander's invasion was the establishment of direct contact between India and Greece in different fields. Alexander's campaign opened up four distinct routes by land and sea. It paved the way for Greek merchants and craftsmen and increased the existing facilities for trade.

- Alexander's invasion led to the establishment of Greek settlements in the north-west region. The important of them were the city of Alexandria in the Kaaabbul region, Boukephala on the Jhelum, and Alexandria in Sindh. Although these areas were conquered by the Mauryas, the Greeks continued to live under both Chandragupta Maurya and Ashoka.

Hence, the correct answer is (a).

19. (c) Both statements are correct.

- The Indian campaign of Alexander was a triumphant success. He added to his empire an Indian province which was much larger than that conquered by Iran, though the Greek possessions in India were soon lost to the Maurya rulers.

- Alexander's historians give us important information about social and economic conditions. They tell us about the sati system, the sale of girls in market places by poor parents, and the fine breed of oxen in north-west India. Alexander sent from there 200000 oxen to Macedonia for use in Greece.

Hence, the correct answer is (c).

20. (a)

- The Pali texts speak of three types of villages. The first categories included the typical village inhabited by various castes and communities. Its number seems to have been the largest, and it was headed by a village headman called bhojaka. The second included