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2024

According to

CSAT
included
Syllabus

Central and State Civil Services Examinations
245 General Studies Question Papers

(2nd in 8 Part Series)

CHAPTERWISE SOLVED PAPER General Studies PREVIEW

{ पूर्वावलोकन }
English Version ...

Includes Question Papers from 1990 to March 2024
alongwith UPPCS Mains GS Question Papers

INDIAN HISTORY

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REVISION NOTES

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PREFACE

The book in hand titled "PREVIEW" is the English version of “**पूर्वावलोकन**”. “**पूर्वावलोकन**” has proved to be one of the most useful book series for Central and State Civil Services Examinations for the last 23 years. It has carved a special place for itself among **हिन्दी** Medium students for its authenticity and style of presentation.

The English edition of “**पूर्वावलोकन**” has been prepared keeping in view the requirements of the English medium students. The changes in the examination pattern have been kept in focus. Its contents are thoroughly updated and authenticated with a team of experts. The treatise has been enriched by incorporation of maximum number of questions of different examinations and their authentic explanations.

After the inclusion of CSAT as a compulsory part of civil services examinations by Union and State Public Services Commissions, the objective type questions have been compiled chapter-wise according to CSAT syllabus. In this edition, questions related to states, nations and the world have been compiled together. However, Geography, Polity, Science, Environment, Economics and State Based Questions find a place in a separate section. Thus, all the questions have been compiled in 8 sections, 7 of them are according to central civil services examination (IAS) and the 8th section caters to State based questions.

We hope that the book will fulfill the needs of English medium students. We have tried our best to present our highly esteemed and beloved readers an authentic and upto date book on General Studies. Any discrepancy brought to our notice will be taken care of in forth coming Editions. Suggestions for improvement are welcome.

May this book enjoy success unprecedented!!

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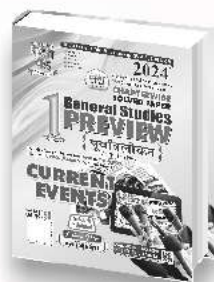
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General Studies **PREVIEW** 2024

{ English
Version of **पूर्वावलोकन** }

8 Parts



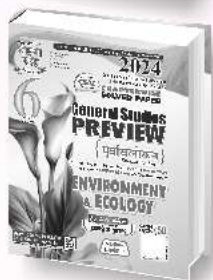
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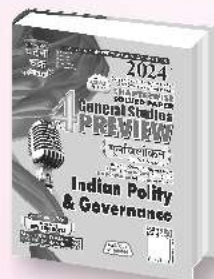
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PREVIEW

{ English
Version of पूर्वावलोकन }

About the Book

In the inaugural English version edition of Purvavalokan series, all the sections are redesigned as per the new syllabus (see the box) of Union and States Public Service Commission preliminary examinations. Following question papers have been included in this edition-

1. IAS preliminary exams conducted by Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) - 1993 to 2023
2. UPPCS, Lower Subordinate & UDA/LDA preliminary exams - 1990 to 2023 (General and Special exams) and UDA/LDA & RO/ARO mains exams 2010 to 2021, conducted by Uttar Pradesh Public Service Commission (UPPSC).
3. UPPCS Mains examination- from 2002 to 2017 and GIC- 2010 to 2017.
4. PCS and UDA/LDA pre. exams conducted by Uttarakhand Public Service Commission- from 2002 to 2016, PCS pre 2010 to 2021 and Lower Subordinate (pre) 2010.
5. PCS mains 2002 & 2006 and UDA/LDA mains 2007 conducted by Uttarakhand Public Service Commission.
6. PCS pre conducted by Madhya Pradesh Public Service Commission from 1990 to 2023.
7. Jharkhand PCS pre 2003, 2011, 2013, 2016, 2021 and 2023
8. Chhattisgarh PCS pre. - From 2003 to 2008 and from 2011 to 2023.

CSAT General Studies Paper I Syllabus

1. Current Affairs: Events of national and international importance.
2. History of India and Indian National Movement.
3. Indian and World Geography - Physical, Social, Economic geography of India and the World.
4. Indian Polity and Governance Constitution, Political System, Panchayati Raj, Public Policy, Rights, Issues, etc.
5. Economic and Social Development Sustainable Development, Poverty, Inclusion, Demographics, Social Sector Initiatives, etc.
6. General issues on Environmental Ecology, Bio-diversity and Climate Change (no subject specialization required).
7. General Science.

Note: This is the syllabus of Union Public Service Commission and Uttar Pradesh Public Service Commission preliminary exams only. Other states (Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand etc.) Public Service Commissions have included their state related information as well in the syllabus.

9. Rajasthan PCS pre. - From 1993 to 2023.

10. Bihar PCS pre. - From 1992 to 2023 (including Re-exam of 2022).

● Total 245 question papers of above exams have been included in this compilation. General Studies solutions can be presented in two ways-

1. Year-wise categorization of all examinations papers.

2. Chapter-wise categorization of all examinations paper.

We have opted for the second which is the toughest option for the benefit of aspirants so that all questions can be found as a question treasure. Presentation includes following process-

➤ **First Step-** collection of 245 General Studies MCQ question papers.

➤ **Second Step-** categorization of questions into 8 categories as per the new syllabus.

➤ **Third Step-** categorization of each category into chapters.

➤ **Fourth Step-** exclusion of repeated questions by mentioning the exams.

➤ **Fifth Step-** solution of all the questions with their detailed explanations. All the solutions are provided after referring the reference books and from prestigious subject matter experts/writers or from authenticated websites.

● This edition clearly explains the trend of MCQ questions in each chapter.

● Repeated questions from various examinations are specially highlighted in this edition.

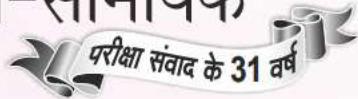
● This compilation provides the most probable questions of upcoming examinations.

● All the questions have been clearly explained in detail with full authenticity.

● Questions of upcoming examinations can be easily accessed from the type of questions on each chapter.

Thus by adopting arduous and complicated process, a treasure of about 31,000 questions have been presented here. Considering the repetitiveness of the questions in various exams, this release will surely benefit the aspirants. Authenticity is our topmost priority so we have verified our solutions with experts multiple times. Nevertheless, if you disagree with any of them please write to us or call on 9335140296 from 12:00 PM (noon) to 8:00 PM (Monday to Friday). After verification process we will communicate with you accordingly.

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Question Paper Analysis

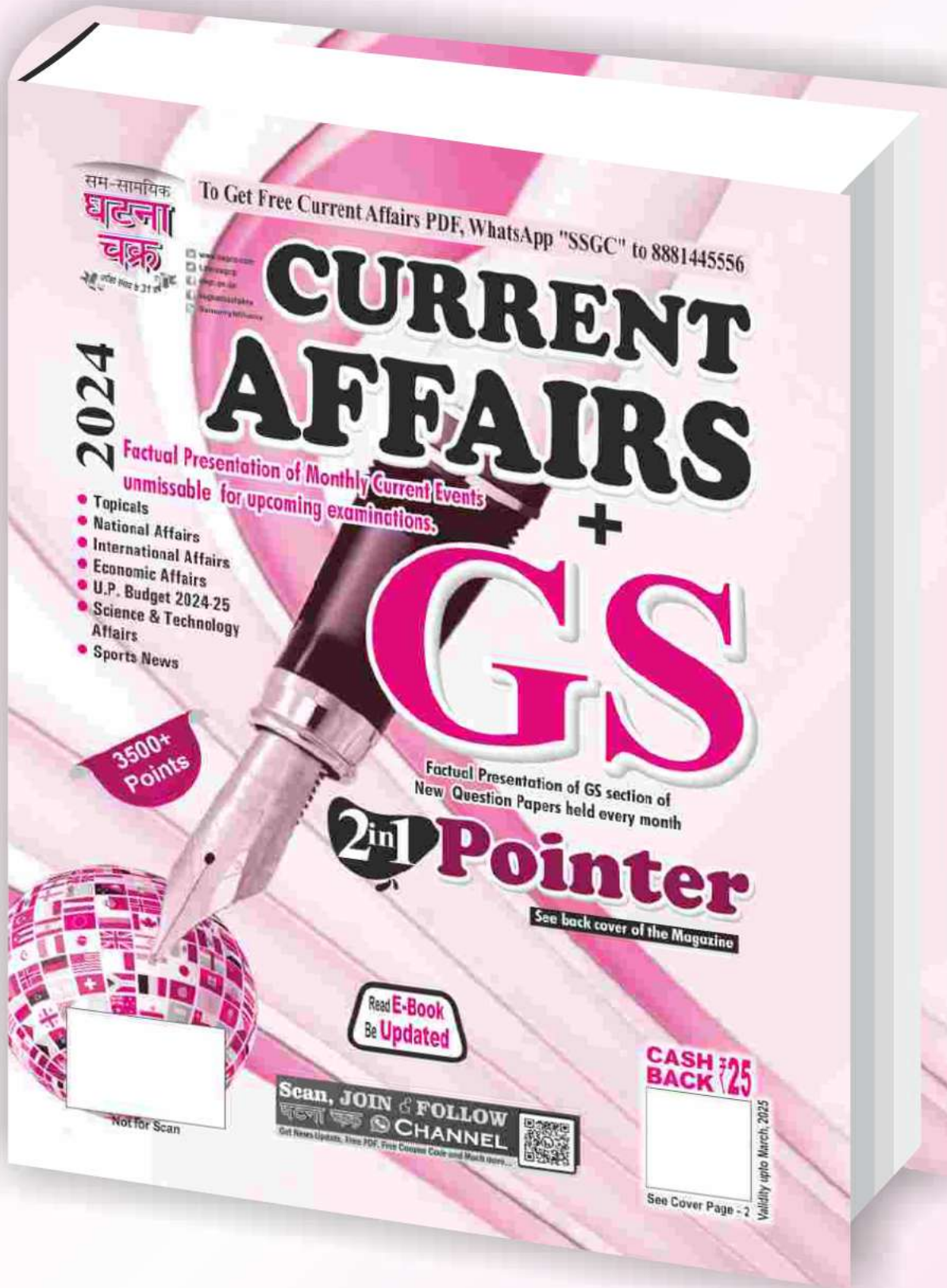
245 Multiple Choice Questions (MCQ) based question papers of General Studies of Union and State Public Service Commission preliminary and mains are integrated in this release. Detailed list of 245 question papers are as follows:

Exam	No. of Papers	No. of Ques.
IAS Pre exam 2011 2023	100 × 13	1300
IAS Pre exam 1993 2010	150 × 18	2700
UP PCS Pre exam 1998 2023	150 × 27	4050
UP PCS Pre exam 1990 1997	120 × 8	960
UP PCS Mains exam 2002 2003	150 × 2	300
UP PCS Mains exam (including special exams) 2004 2017	150 × 31	4650
UP PSCGIC exam 2010 and 2017	150 × 3	450
UP (UDA/LDA) Pre exam 2001 2006	150 × 3	450
UP (RO/ARO) Pre exam (General and Special exam) 2010 2018, 2021, 2023	140 × 9	1260
UP (UDA/LDA) Mains exam (General and Special exam) 2010 2021	120 × 7	840
UP Lower Subordinate Pre exam (General and Special exam) 1998 2009	100 × 11	1100
UP Lower Subordinate Pre exam (General and Special exam) 2013 2015	150 × 2	300
UP Lower Subordinate Mains exam (General and Special exam) 2013, 2015	120 × 2	240
UPPCS (RI) Pre Exam 2014	100 × 1	100
UP BEO Pre Exam 2019	120 × 1	120
Uttarakhand PCS Pre exam 2002 2021	150 × 8	1200
Uttarakhand (UDA/LDA) Pre exam 2007	150 × 1	150
Uttarakhand PCS Mains exam 2002 & 2006	150 × 2	300
Uttarakhand (UDA/LDA) Mains exam 2007	100 × 1	100
Uttarakhand Lower Subordinate Pre exam 2010	150 × 1	150
Madhya Pradesh PCS Pre exam 1990 2006	75 × 15	1125
Madhya Pradesh PCS Pre exam 2010	150 × 2	300
Madhya Pradesh PCS Pre exam 2012 2023	100 × 12	1200
Chhattisgarh PCS Pre exam 2003 2005	75 × 2	150
Chhattisgarh PCS Pre exam 2008 & 2013 2023	100 × 12	1200
Chhattisgarh PCS Pre exam 2011	150 × 1	150
Rajasthan PCS Pre exam 1992	120 × 1	120
Rajasthan PCS Pre exam 1993 2012	100 × 11	1100
Rajasthan PCS Pre exam 2013, 2018, 2021 & 2023	150 × 6	900
Bihar PCS Pre exam 1992 2023	150 × 23	3450
Jharkhand PCS Pre exam 2003 2011	100 × 2	200
Jharkhand PCS Pre exam 2013, 2016, 2021 & 2023	100 × 6	600
Jharkhand PCS Main exam 2016	80 × 1	80
Total	245	31295

After exclusion of repeated questions from above questions of 245 papers around 31000 questions have been categorized as following:

- ✓ Current Affairs
- ✓ History of India and Indian National Movement
- ✓ Indian and World Geography
- ✓ Indian Polity and Governance
- ✓ Economic and Social Development
- ✓ General issues on Environmental Ecology
- ✓ General Science
- ✓ State Related Question

In this 8th edition of **PREVIEW** (पूर्वावलोकन) series, we are presenting **Indian History** in **2nd section**. As per the new revised format, **5233** questions have been collected from **245** question papers of Union and States Civil Service Examinations. After elimination of **541** repetitive questions, **4692** questions have been included in this section. Repeated questions were given below the original questions so that our aspirants can analyze the trend of repetitive questions.



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Validity upto March, 2025



Not for Scan

I. Ancient History of India

Stone Age

*The period without a documented evidence of its history is called **Prehistoric period**. Proto-historic period is the period having shreds of evidence of a script which is still not deciphered. **Proto-historic** refers to the period between prehistoric and historical period. *The time after which we get documented description is called **historic period**. *Stone Age comes under the Prehistoric period. *Indus valley civilization and Copper Age culture comes under the protohistoric period. *The historical period starts from around 6th century B.C. *In India, the research on Stone Age Civilization started at first in **1863**. The whole Stone Age has been categorized into three parts on the basis of difference of tools used. These are **Palaeolithic period, Mesolithic period** and **Neolithic period**.

*Paleolithic Period is further categorized into three periods on the same basis-

(i) **The Lower Palaeolithic period** -Handaxe, Cleaver, Chopper, etc.

(ii) **The Middle Palaeolithic period**- Points, Borer, Scraper

(iii) **The Upper Paleolithic period** - Burins

*Chopper-chopping pebble pieces of tools were at first obtained from **Sohan river valley** of Punjab (Pakistan). At first, hand-axe pieces of equipment were found in **Pallavaram** and **Attirampakkam** near Chennai (Tamil Nadu). Other tools of this culture are cleaver, scraper, etc. ***Robert Bruce Foote** was a British geologist and Archeologist. *The expedition of Yale Cambridge team under the leadership of De. Terra did the most important research in **Sohan valley** in 1935. *In **Belan valley**, the research was carried under the direction of G.R. Sharma of Allahabad University. Nearly 44 archaeological sites were found in this valley which is related to the lower Paleolithic period. *Apart from tools, the statue of **bone-made Mother Goddess** of this age was obtained from Lohanda Nala region of Belan Valley which is currently preserved at the Kaushambi museum.

*The life of Palaeolithic people was completely natural. They were primarily dependent on hunting. They were **unfamiliar with fire**, so they ate raw meat. Paleolithic people were **unfamiliar with farming and animal husbandry**. *We came to know about Mesolithic period only after A.C.L. Carlleyle discovered (1867 A.D.) the Rock Painting from Vindhya region. *According to the excavated evidence, the **domestication**

of animals began in the Mesolithic period. The earliest pieces of evidence of domestication of animals in India have been found at Adamgarh (Narmadapuram, M.P.) and **Bagor** (Bhilwara, Rajasthan). *A large number of implements made of bones and horns have been found from the Mesolithic site, **Mahadaha** (located in Pratapgarh district of U.P.). The book titled 'Puratattva Vimarsh' written by Dr. Jai Narayan Pandey describes various pointed objects and ornaments made of bones which have been reported from Sarai Nahar Rai, Damdama and Mahadaha. ***Damdama** is a Mesolithic site in Pratapgarh district of Uttar Pradesh. In Damdama, **41 human graves** have been found. Out of these graves, 5 are **double burial**. One **triple burial** grave is also found here. A grave with **four human skeletons** has been found at Sarai Nahar Rai.

*The **Megaliths** usually refer to the burials made up of large stones in graveyards away from the habitation area. A large fraction of these is assumed to be associated with burial or post-burial rituals including memorials for those whose remains may or may not be available. Some of these are; Chamber tomb, Dolmens, Stone alignment, Stone circle (cromlech), Pit-circles, etc.

*According to 'Puratattva Vimarsh' by J.N. Pandey **17 human skeletons** were found from rock shelter **1** of Lekhahiya in the Vindhya region. Some of these were in relatively pristine condition while most of the others were warped. *According to John R. Lucas of University of Oregon (USA), remnants of **27 human skeletons** were found in Lekhahiya. *The rock shelters of **Bhimbetka** are situated in Raisen district of Madhya Pradesh. UNESCO has included the rock art of Bhimbetka in the list of its world heritage site. These caves exhibit the earliest traces of human life on the Indian subcontinent and include the pictures of an elephant, sambhar, deer, etc.

***Grains** were first ever produced in **Neolithic Age**. It was the time when people were introduced to agriculture. **Koldihwa** and **Mehrgarh** were the two Neolithic sites from where clear pieces evidence of rice and wheat have been found. *There are mainly eight types of food grains consumed by modern human society, namely barley, wheat, maize, millet, sorghum, mustard, oat and rice. These crops were present in the form of weed in different areas, which were later grown as seed by a human being at different places, at different times. *According to the latest research, the earliest evidence of agriculture in Indian sub-continent was reported from the **Lahuradewa** site in Sant Kabir Nagar district, Uttar Pradesh. The evidence of human

activity and beginning of rice cultivation at this site dated back to around **9000-7000 BC**. *Significantly before this research, the earlier evidence of wheat was found at **Mehrgarh** (located in Balochistan, Pakistan) belonging to around 7000 BC and the earliest evidence of rice is known to be near the bank of the river Belan, district Prayagraj, from where rice bran was found dating back to 6500 BC. *The cultural remains from Stone Age to Harappan Civilization have been found in **Mehrgarh** located in Balochistan (Pakistan).

*The **Burzahom** site is a prehistoric settlement in the village of the same name in Kashmir valley. Both human and animal skeletons were found here with trepanning (bored holes) marks. In many pits, bones of dogs and antlered deer were found along with human skeletons. The skeletons of humans were found in the burial pits in a sitting position along with bones of animals.

*The first excavation at the Burzahom site was carried out by Helmut de Terra and Dr. Thomas Paterson in the year 1935.

*The people of **Jorwe** culture lived in large rectangular houses with wattle and daub walls and thatched roof. They believed in **life after death** and therefore buried the dead inside the houses under the floor. Children were buried in two urns that were joined mouth-to-mouth and set horizontally in the pit, while adults were placed in a supine position with the **head towards the north** (north to south). These sites were found in **Daimabad, Inamgaon, Chandoli, Nevasa** etc. *The 'Ash mounds' have been found from a Neolithic site **Sangana Kallu** located in Bellari district in Karnataka. They have also been found in Piklihal and Utnur. These ash mounds are the burnt relics of seasonal camps of Neolithic herdsman community.

*Fire was first used as in the Neolithic period.

*Copper was the first metal used. Copper Age is also known as the **Chalcolithic age**. The age in which instruments of copper were used in addition to stone is called as Chalcolithic Age. *Settlements of Chalcolithic period in India were found in South-East Rajasthan, Western Madhya Pradesh, western Maharashtra and South-East India. *Navdatoli has revealed excellent evidence of both round and rectangular residential structures which are located near Khargone district (M.P.). The former measures about 3m in diameter and the later is 2m × 2.2m. *The roofs were probably made of hay, tree branches and leaves and were supported on massive wooden posts, 22cm in diameter, raised at regular intervals around the huts. *The open spaces between the posts were provided with mud-plastered bamboo screens. *The house floors were made up of silt clay and river gravel, with the surface coated with lime. The huts were provided with one or two-mouthed 'chulhas' as well as storage jars and other earthen vessels.

***Ochre-Coloured Pottery** (known to archaeologists as OCP) as the name implies, its main distinguishing feature was its ochre colour. Other characteristics are its porous character and the fact that it is invariably worn out at the edges. Most of its evidence is mainly found from **Atranjikhera** and **Hastinapur**.

*The **Archaeological Survey of India** (ASI), under the Ministry of Culture, is a premier organization for the archaeological researches and protection of the cultural heritage of the nation. In **1871**, the Archaeological Survey was established as a separate department, and **Alexander Cunningham** was appointed as its first Director-General. In **1901**, during the tenure of **Lord Curzon**, it was centralized as Archaeological Survey of India and **John Marshall** assumed office in 1902 as its Director-General. ***National Museum of Mankind known as Indira Gandhi Rastriya Manav Sangrahalaya** is located in **Bhopal (M.P.)**. It is an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Culture.

1. **Robert Bruce Foote, who discovered first Palaeolithic tool in India, was a/an –**

- (a) Geologist (b) Archaeologist
(c) Paleobotanist (d) Historian

U.P. Lower Sub. (Pre) 2015

Ans. (a & b)

According to Encyclopaedia Britannica, Robert Bruce Foote was a British geologist and archaeologist. He is considered as the father of Indian pre-history. He was associated with the Geological Survey of India and documented the antiquities of the stone age. Hence, both options (a) and (b) can be considered as correct.

2. **The three-age system, divided into stone, bronze and iron from the collection of Copenhagen museum was coined by –**

- (a) Thomson (b) Lubbock
(c) Taylor (d) Childe

U.P. P.C.S. (Pre) 2010

Ans. (a)

The three age system- Stone, Bronze and Iron from the collection of Copenhagen museum was coined by Christian Jurgensen Thomsen.

3. **With reference to the Indian History, Alexander Rea, A. H. Longhurst, Robert Sewell, James Burgess and Walter Elliot were associated with**

- (a) Archaeological excavations
(b) Establishment of English Press in Colonial India
(c) Establishment of Churches in Princely States
(d) Construction of railways in Colonial India

I.A.S. (Pre) 2023

Ans. (a)

Alexander Rea, A.H. Longhurst, Robert Sewell, James Burgess and Walter Elliot were associated with archaeological excavations. They primarily worked in the field of South Indian history.

4. According to the excavated evidence, the domestication of animal began in –
- Lower Palaeolithic period
 - Middle Palaeolithic period
 - Upper Palaeolithic period
 - Mesolithic period

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2006

Ans. (d)

According to the excavated evidence, the domestication of animals began in the Mesolithic period. The earliest pieces of evidence of domestication of animals in India have been found at Adamgarh (Narmadapuram, M.P.) and Bagor (Bhilwara, Rajasthan).

5. In Mesolithic context, evidence of animal domestication has been found at :

- Langhnaj
- Birbhanpur
- Adamgarh
- Chopani Mando

U.P.P.C.S. (Spl) (Pre) 2008

Ans. (c)

See the explanation of above question.

6. From which one of the following sites bone implements have been found ?

- Chopani-Mando
- Kakoria
- Mahadaha
- Sarai Nahar Rai

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2010

Ans. (c & d)

A large number of implements made of bones and horns have been found from the Mesolithic site, Mahadaha and Sarai Nahar Rai (located in Pratapgarh district of U.P.). The book titled 'Puratattva Vimarsh' written by Dr. Jai Narayan Pandey describes various pointed objects and ornaments made of bones which have been reported from Sarai Nahar Rai, Damdama and Mahadaha.

7. Bone ornaments in the Mesolithic context in India have been obtained from –

- Sarai Nahar Rai
- Mahadaha
- Lekhahia
- Chopani Mando

U.P.R.O./A.R.O. (Mains) 2013

Ans. (a & b)

See the explanation of above question.

8. Arrange the following Mesolithic sites geographically in order from west to east –

- Paisra
- Lekhahia
- Birbhanpur
- Mahadaha

Select the correct answer from the code given below :

Code :

- 4, 2, 3 and 1
- 1, 4, 3 and 2
- 4, 2, 1 and 3
- 2, 4, 1 and 3

U.P. R.O./A.R.O. (Mains) 2021

Ans. (c)

Mesolithic sites in order from west to east geographically– Mahadaha (Pratapgarh, UP), Lekhahia (Mirzapur, UP), Paisra (Bihar) and Birbhanpur (W. Bengal)

9. Three human skeletons in a single grave were recovered at –

- Sarai Nahar Rai
- Damdama
- Mahadaha
- Langhnaj

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2016

Ans. (b)

Damdama is a Mesolithic site in Pratapgarh district Uttar Pradesh. In Damdama, 41 human graves were found. Out of these graves, 5 are double burial. One triple burial grave is also found here. A grave with four human skeletons has been found at Sarai Nahar Rai.

10. The cultivation of cereals first started in -

- Neolithic Age
- Mesolithic Age
- Palaeolithic Age
- Proto-Historic Age

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2005

Ans. (a)

Grains were first ever produced in Neolithic Age. It was the time when people were introduced to agriculture. Koldihwa and Mehrgarh were the two Neolithic archaeological sites from where clear pieces of evidence of rice and wheat have been found.

11. The earliest evidence of man in India is found in

- Nilgiri Hills
- Shiwalik Hills
- Nallamala Hills
- Narmada Valley

Uttarakhand P.C.S. (Pre) 2006

Ans. (d)

In India, the first evidence of man was found in Narmada valley region of Madhya Pradesh. It was discovered in 1982.

12. The first Human Fossil was found from which River Valley of India?

- Ganga Valley
- Yamuna Valley
- Narmada Valley
- Tapti Valley
- None of the above/more than one of the above

66th B.P.S.C. Re-Exam-2020

Ans. (c)

See the explanation of above question.

13. The first cereal used by man was :

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

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 1997

Ans. (c)

There are mainly eight types of food grains consumed by modern human society, namely barley, wheat, maize, millet, sorghum, mustard, oat and rice. These plants were present in the form of weed in different areas, which were later grown as seed by a human being at different places, in different times. Although, barley was the first grain to be cultivated by human beings during 8000 B.C. in western Asian countries located between the northeast Mediterranean Sea and Iran. Later, in the same area, wheat was also cultivated around 8000 B.C.

14. The earliest evidence of agriculture in Indian sub-continent comes from –

- (a) Koldihwa (b) Lahuradeva
(c) Mehrgarh (d) Tokwa

U.P. Lower Sub. (Pre) 2004

U.P. Lower Sub. (Pre) 2008

Ans. (b)

According to the latest research, the earliest evidence of agriculture in Indian sub-continent has been reported from the Lahuradeva site in Sant Kabir Nagar district, Uttar Pradesh. The evidence of human activity and beginning of rice cultivation at this site dates back to around 9000-7000 B.C. Significantly before this research, the earlier evidence of wheat was found at Mehrgarh (located in Balochistan, Pakistan) belonging to around 7000 B.C. and the earliest evidence of rice is known to be near the bank of the river Belan, district Prayagraj, from where rice bran was found dating back to 6500 B.C. With above reference, if Lahuradeva is one option, then it will be the correct answer, but if Lahuradeva is not an option, then Mehrgarh would be the right answer.

15. The earliest evidence of agriculture in the Indian Sub-continent has been obtained from –

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

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2010

Ans. (d)

See the explanation of above question.

16. The earliest evidence of Agriculture in Indian subcontinent is found at

- (a) Lothal (b) Harappa
(c) Mehrgarh (d) Mundigak

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2007

Ans. (c)

See the explanation of above question.

17. During the Neolithic Age the earliest evidence of the origin of agriculture has been found at which of the following place in the North-Western region of Indian sub-continent?

- (a) Munidgak (b) Mehargarh
(c) Damb Sadat (d) Balakot
(e) Amri

Chhattisgarh P.C.S. (Pre) 2017

Ans. (b)

See the explanation of above question.

18. The earliest evidence of animal domestication and agriculture in India has come from

- (a) Anjira
(b) Damb Sadat
(c) Kili Gul Muhammad
(d) Mehrgarh
(e) None of the above/more than one of the above

64th B.P.S.C. (Pre)-2018

Ans. (d)

See the explanation of above question.

19. With reference to the cultural heritage of Uttar Pradesh, which of the following statement/s is/are correct?

- (1) The oldest evidence of agriculture in the global context has been obtained from many excavated sites in this region.
(2) The oldest cultivated food grains are barley and paddy.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below –

Code -

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

U.P.R.O./A.R.O. (Pre.) 2021

Ans (c)

Uttar Pradesh has been blessed with a rich cultural heritage since prehistoric times. It is noteworthy that Koldihwa situated in the Belan river valley region of the state, has been considered to be the oldest evidence of paddy cultivation in the world for a long time. Similarly, Lahuradev, which currently presents the oldest evidence of paddy cultivation, is also a part of Sant Kabir Nagar district of Uttar Pradesh. Hence statement (1) is correct. Evidence of the oldest agriculture grains barley and paddy has been found from many excavated sites of Uttar Pradesh, evidence of barley and paddy has been found from Mahagada and evidence of paddy has been found from Koldihwa.

20. Name the site which has revealed the earliest evidence of settled life ?

- (a) Dholavira (b) Kile Gul Mohammad
(c) Kalibangan (d) Mehrgarh

U.P.P.C.S. (Spl) (Mains) 2008

Ans. (d)

Among the given options, the oldest evidence of permanent life has been found for the first time from Mehrgarh located in Kachhi plains of Balochistan, whose authentic date is around 7000 B.C., while the oldest date of Kile Gul Muhammad and Kalibangan is 4000 B.C. and 3500 B.C. respectively. Hence option (d) is correct option.

21. Which among the following sites provides evidence of domestication of animals in the Mesolithic period?

- (a) Odai (b) Bori
(c) Bagor (d) Lakhnia

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2018

Ans. (c)

The earliest pieces of evidence of domestication of animals in India have been found at Adamgarh (Narmadapuram, M.P.) and Bagor (Bhilwara, Rajasthan).

22. Which one of the following periods is also known as Chalcolithic Age?

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

44th B.P.S.C. (Pre) 2000

Ans. (c)

Copper Age is also known as the Chalcolithic age. The age in which instruments of copper were used in addition to stone, is called as Copper Age.

23. Consider the following statements pertaining to the Ahar Civilization –

- A. The natives of Ahar knew copper smelting
B. Rice was unknown to them
C. Metal work was one of the means of economy of the Ahar
D. Black - Red coloured pottery have been found here, on which generally white coloured geometrical designs have been carved.

Choose the correct option –

- (a) A, C and D are correct (b) A and B are correct
(c) A, B and C are correct (d) C and D are correct

R.A.S./R.T.S. (Pre.) 2021

Ans (a)

Ahar civilization belonged to chalcolithic period and flourished around the Mewar region of Rajasthan. They used copper tools and evidence of copper smelting is present too. Hence (A) and (C) statements are correct. Rice was known to them hence (B) is wrong. Mostly black-red coloured pottery decorated with white geometric design have been found here. Hence (D) is also correct.

24. The cultural remains from Stone Age to Harappan Civilization have been obtained from which one of the following ancient sites?

- (a) Amri (b) Mehrgarh
(c) Kotdiji (d) Kalibangan

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2009

Ans. (b)

The cultural remains from Stone Age to Harappan Civilization have been obtained from Mehrgarh located in Balochistan (Pakistan).

25. Excavation at Navdatoli was conducted by –

- (a) K.D.Bajpai (b) V.S. Wakankar
(c) H.D. Sankalia (d) Mortimer Wheeler

U.P. Lower Spl. (Pre) 2008

Ans. (c)

Navdatoli has revealed excellent evidence of both round and rectangular residential structures which are located near Khargone (Madhya Pradesh). The former measures about 3m in diameter and the latter 2m × 2.2m. The roofs were probably made of hay, branches and leaves and were supported on massive wooden posts, 22cm in diameter, raised at regular intervals around the huts. The open spaces between the posts were provided with mud-plastered bamboo screens. The house floors were made up of silt clay and river gravel, with the surface coated with lime. The huts were provided with one or two-mouthed 'chulhas' as well as storage jars and other earthen vessels. This site was excavated by Mr. H.D. Sankalia, Professor of Deccan College, Pune. This site was the most extensive excavated Chalcolithic site of Indian sub-continent, which is determined to be between 1500 B.C. and 1300 B.C.

26. In which state, the Navdatoli is located ?

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

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2009

Ans. (d)

See the explanation of above question.

27. Megaliths have been identified as-

- (a) Caves for hermits (b) Burial sites
(c) Temple sites (d) None of the above

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2005

Ans. (b)

The megaliths usually refer to the burials made up of large stones in graveyards away from the habitation area. A large fraction of these is assumed to be associated with burial or post-burial rituals including memorials for those whose remains may or may not be available. Few types of these are; Chamber tomb, Dolmens, Stone alignment, Stone circle (cromlech), Pit-circles, etc.

28. Ash mound is associated with the Neolithic site at –

- (a) Budihal (b) Sangana Kallu
(c) Koldihwa (d) Brahmagiri

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2009

Ans. (b)

The 'Ash mounds' have been found from a Neolithic site Sangana Kallu located in Bellari district in Karnataka. They have also been found in Piklihal and Utnur. These ash mounds are the burnt relics of seasonal camps of Neolithic herdsmen community.

29. 'Bhimbetka' is famous for -

- (a) Rock Paintings (b) Buddhist Statues
(c) Minerals (d) Origin of Son River

M.P.P.C.S. (Spl) (Pre) 2004

Ans. (a)

The rock shelters of Bhimbetka are located in Raisen (M.P.). UNESCO has included the shell pictures of Bhimbetka in the list of its world heritage site. These caves exhibit the earliest traces of human life on the Indian subcontinent and include the pictures of an elephant, sambhar, deer, etc. There are 500 pictures in approx. 700 rock shelters.

30. Which one of the following places is famous for pre-historic paintings ?

- (a) Ajanta (b) Bhimbetka
(c) Bagh (d) Amravati

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2011

Uttarakhand U.D.A./L.D.A. (Mains) 2007

Ans. (b)

See the explanation of above question.

31. Where are the caves of Bhimbetka situated?

- (a) Bhopal (b) Pachmarhi
(c) Singrauli (d) Abdullahganj-Raisen

M.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2013

Ans. (d)

See the explanation of above question.

32. In India, from which rock-shelter, pictures has been found the most ?

- (a) Ghagharia (b) Bhimbetka
(c) Lekhahia (d) Adamgarh

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2008

Ans. (b)

See the explanation of above question.

33. Which of the following Indian Archaeologists first visited 'Bhimbetka Caves' and discovered prehistoric significance of its rock paintings?

- (a) Madho Swaroop Vatsa (b) H.D. Sankalia
(c) V.S. Wakankar (d) V.N. Mishra

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2020

Ans. (c)

'Bhimbetka Caves' are located in Raisen District of MP. They are best example of Rock Painting of prehistoric era. It was discovered by V.S. Wakankar in 1957. It is a UNESCO world heritage site for its prominent prehistoric Rock Paintings.

34. Bhimbetka was discovered by

- (a) Dr. H.D. Sankhalia
(b) Dr. Shyam Sundar Nigam

- (c) Dr. Vishnu S. Wakankar
(d) Dr. Rajbali Pandey

M.P.P.C.S. (Pre.) 2020

Ans (c)

See the explanation of above question.

35. The Ochre-coloured Pottery (O.C.P.) was christened at:

- (a) Hastinapur (b) Ahichhatra
(c) Noh (d) Red Fort

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2006

Ans. (a)

Discovery and Naming (Christen) of OCP was done by B.B. Lal in 1950-52 at Hastinapur. Ochre-Coloured Pottery (known to archaeologists as OCP) as the name implies, its main distinguishing feature was its ochre colour, which gives it a first appearance of being badly fired. Other characteristics are its porous character and the fact that it is invariably worn out at the edges.

36. In the Chalcolithic period people of Maharashtra buried their dead under the floor of their houses in the following orientation:

- (a) North to South position
(b) East to West position
(c) South to North position
(d) West to East position

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 1997

Ans. (a)

The people of Jorwe culture lived in large rectangular houses with wattle and daub walls and thatched roof. They believed in life after death and therefore buried the dead inside the houses under the floor. Children were buried in two urns that were joined mouth-to-mouth and set horizontally in the pit, while adults were placed in a supine position with the head towards the north (north to south). These sites were found in Daimabad, Inamgaon, Chandoli, Nevasa, etc.

37. Which of the following sites has yielded skeleton of the dog along with human skeleton in burial ?

- (a) Brahmagiri (b) Burzahom
(c) Chirand (d) Maski

U.P. Lower Sub. (Pre) 2008

Ans. (b)

The Burzahom site is a prehistoric settlement in the village of the same name in Kashmir valley. Both human and animal skeletons were found here with trepanning (bored hole) marks. In many pits, bones of dogs and antlered deer were found along with human skeletons. The skeletons of humans were found in the burial pits in a sitting position along with bones of animals. The first excavation at the Burzahom site was carried out by Helmut de Terra and Dr. Thomas Paterson in the year 1935.

38. The evidence of burying the dog with human body is found from which of the following places ?

- (a) Burzahom (b) Koldihwa
(c) Chaupani-mando (d) Mando

Uttarakhand P.C.S. (Pre) 2010

Ans. (a)

See the explanation of above question.

39. The evidence of pit dwelling has been obtained from –

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

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2011

Ans. (a)

See the explanation of above question.

40. Correctly match the following :

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------|
| (I) | (II) |
| A. Paleolithic Age | (i) Bhimbetka Caves |
| B. Mesolithic Age | (ii) Burzahom |
| C. Neolithic Age | (iii) Banas Valley |
| D. Chalcolithic Age | (iv) Sohan/Soan River Valley |

Code :

- | | | | |
|----------|------|-------|-------|
| A | B | C | D |
| (a) (i) | (ii) | (iv) | (iii) |
| (b) (iv) | (i) | (ii) | (iii) |
| (c) (iv) | (ii) | (i) | (iii) |
| (d) (i) | (iv) | (iii) | (ii) |

Chhattisgarh P.C.S. (Pre) 2022

Ans. (b)

Correctly matched	
Paleolithic Age	Sohan/Soan River Valley
Mesolithic Age	Bhimbetka Caves
Neolithic Age	Burzahom
Chalcolithic Age	Banas Valley

41. Match list-I with list-II and choose the correct answer using the code given below the lists –

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| List-I | List-II |
| (Archaeological site) | (Present location) |
| A. Nevasa | (1) Rajasthan |
| B. Isampur | (2) Tamil Nadu |
| C. Didwana | (3) Maharashtra |
| D. Gudiyam cave | (4) Karnataka |

Code –

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

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2023

Ans. (c)

Correct match is as follows –

Archaeological site	Present location
Nevasa	– Maharashtra
Isampur	– Karnataka
Didwana	– Rajasthan
Gudiyam cave	– Tamil Nadu

42. Consider the following pairs :

(Historical place) (Well-known for)

- Burzahom Rock-cut shrines
- Chandra-ketugarh Terracotta art
- Ganeshwar Copper artefacts

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

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

I.A.S. (Pre) 2021

Ans. (d)

Burzahom is a Neolithic site in Kashmir valley. The site is famous for pit dwelling and neolithic tool industry and not for rock cut shrines. Hence pair 1 is not correctly matched. Chandraketugarh is located in the Ganga delta in West Bengal. In early historic times, Chandraketugarh was connected to the Ganga by the Vidyadhari river, and must have been an important centre of trade, and possibly also a political centre. Chandraketugarh was a major centre of terracotta craft. Various kinds of artefacts have been found at the site over the years, including coins, pottery, seals and sealings and figurines made of ivory, wood and bronze. Hence pair 2 is correctly matched. The Ganeshwar-Jodhpura culture was located in Rajasthan. Hundreds of copper objects have been found at this site. Hence pair 3 is correctly matched.

43. From which rock shelter of Vindhya, a maximum number of human skeletons have been found?

- (a) Morahana Pahar (b) Ghagharia
(c) Baghahi Khor (d) Lekhahia

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2016

Ans. (d)

According to 'Puratatva Vimarsh' by J.N. Pandey 17 human skeletons were obtained from rock shelter 1 of Lekhahiya in the Vindhya region. Some of these were in relatively pristine condition while most of the others were warped. According to John R. Lucas of University of Oregon (USA), remnants of 27 human skeletons were found in Lekhahiya.

44. Given below are two statements, one is labelled as Assertion (A) and other as Reason (R).

Assertion (A) : The stone age people of the Vindhya migrated to the Ganga Valley in terminal Pleistocene period.

Reason (R) : Due to climatic change, it was dry phase in this period.

Choose the correct answer from the code given below.
Code :

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

U.P.R.O./A.R.O. (Mains) 2016

Ans. (a)

Stone age people of the Vindhyas migrated to the Ganga Valley in terminal pleistocene period because of climatic change Vindhyan Valley had become dry.

45. Which of these departments/ministries deals with Archaeological Survey of India as an accessory office ?

- (a) Culture
 (b) Tourism
 (c) Science and Technology
 (d) Human Resource and Development

Jharkhand P.C.S. (Pre) 2011

Ans. (a)

The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), under the Ministry of Culture, is a premier organization for the archaeological researches and protection of the cultural heritage of the nation. In 1871, the Archaeological Survey was established as a separate department, and Alexander Cunningham was appointed as its first Director-General. In 1901, during the tenure of Lord Curzon, it was centralized and designated as Archaeological Survey of India. In 1902 John Marshall assumed office of its Director General.

46. Who is called the 'Father of Indian Archaeology'?

- (a) Alexander Cunningham
 (b) John Marshall
 (c) Mortimer Wheeler
 (d) James Prinsep

M.P.P.C.S (Pre)-2017

Ans. (a)

Alexander Cunningham (1814-1893 AD) was appointed as British army officer with Bengal Engineer Group. He is known as 'Father of Indian Archaeology'.

47. Where is National Human Museum situated ?

- (a) Guwahati (b) Bastar
 (c) Bhopal (d) Chennai

M.P. P.C.S. (Pre) 1997

Ans. (c)

National Museum of Mankind known as Indira Gandhi Rastriya Manav Sangrahalaya is located in Bhopal (M.P.). It is an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Culture.

48. Country's biggest museum showing history of human development, The Indira Gandhi Rastriya Manav

Snagrahalaya is located at which place?

- (a) Bhopal (b) New Delhi
 (c) Mumbai (d) Ahmedabad

M.P. P.C.S. (Pre) 2019

Ans. (a)

See the explanation of above question.

Indus Valley Civilization

The Indus Valley Civilization is also known as the Harappa Civilization. *Archaeologists use the term "culture" for a group of objects, distinctive in style, that are usually found together within a specific geographical area and at a period of time. *In the case of Harappan culture, these distinctive objects include **seals, beads, weights, stone blades** and even **baked bricks**.

*The Harappan seal is possibly the most distinctive artefact of the Harappan or Indus valley civilization. **John Marshall**, Director-General of the ASI, announced the discovery of a new civilization in the Indus valley to the world in 1921.

*Harappa is located in the **Montgomery district** (currently it is Sahiwal district) of Punjab province, Pakistan. ***Mohenjodaro** is located on the right bank of the Indus River in **Larkana District** of Sindh Province Pakistan. *According to the Stuart Piggott, the two cities, Harappa and Mohenjodaro were "**Twin capital of an Extensive Kingdom**". *Harappa is located at the left bank of Ravi River.

*The carbon-14 (C¹⁴) dating process indicates the Harappan period to be from 2300 BC to 1700 BC which is highly accepted. During the period 2300 BC to 1900 B.C., the growth of this civilization was at its peak. **Mesopotamia** and **Egyptian civilization** are contemporary to the Indus civilization. The timeline of the Indus valley civilization by various researchers –

Researcher	Timeline
John Marshall	3250 B.C. -2750 B.C.
Ernest Mackay	2800 B.C. – 2500 B.C.
Madho Sarup Vats	3500 B.C. – 2000 B.C.
C.J. Gadd	2350 B.C. – 1700 B.C.
Mortimer wheeler	2500 B.C. – 1500 B.C.
Walter A. Fairservis	2000 B.C. – 1500 B.C.

*The Harappan culture covered parts of Afghanistan, Punjab, Sindh, Baluchistan in Pakistan and in India Gujarat, Rajasthan, Haryana, the fringes of western Uttar Pradesh, J & K, Western Maharashtra. It extended from Manda (Jammu and Kashmir) in the north to the Daimabad (Maharashtra) in the South, and from the Sutkagen Dor of Baluchistan in the West to Alamgir Pur Meerut (Utter Pradesh) in the east. The area formed a triangle and accounted for about 13 lakhs square kilometers

which is larger than Pakistan and certainly bigger than ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia.

*As the evidence stands, the population of Mohenjodaro, was a mixture of at least four races –

1. Proto-Australoids (Caucasian)
2. Mediterraneans
3. Alpines
4. Mongoloids

*Founders of Indus valley civilization based on the assessments of various archaeologists -

S.N.	Archaeologists	Founder
1.	Dr. Laxman Swaroop	Arya
2.	V. Gordon Childe and Wheeler	Sumerians
3.	Rakhal Das Banerji	Dravidians (Dravid)

*The cities excavated in Indus valley area can be categorized in the following groups.

1. Central city
2. Coastal city and dockyards
3. Other cities and towns

*The four major cities of Indus valley civilization- Harappa, Mohenjodaro, Banawali and Dholavira were the large towns.

*The vast mounds were first reported by **Charles Masson** in **1826**. *January 1921, Mr. Dayaram Sahni surveyed the Harappa site in the Montgomery district (currently in Sahiwal) of Punjab (Pakistan) on the left bank of Ravi river and excavation process started with continuity. During the year **1926-27 to 1933-34**, **Mr. Madho Sarup Vats** and in **1946** Mr. Mortimer wheeler had started the excavation process. *Harappa had two mounds, the eastern side mound was known as city mound and the western one was called as Citadel mound. The remnants of **Granary** were available in the form of 12 rooms, which were arranged in the form of two rows each, having six rooms each. *The first artefact uncovered in Harappa was a unique stone seal carved with a **unicorn** and an inscription. Similar seals with different animal symbols and writings have been found throughout the region. Although the writing has not yet been deciphered, evidence found during the early archaeological excavations is the major source to know about the Harappan culture. *The figures of **elephant, rhinoceros, tiger, deer, sheep**, etc. are depicted on the seals and terracotta arts of Harappan culture. But the **cow** was not depicted on the seals and terracotta art of the Harappan cultures.

*Mohenjodaro is a Sindhi language word whose literal translation means "**Mound of the dead**". Mohenjodaro is located on the right bank of the Indus River in Larkana district,

Sindh, Pakistan. Mohenjodaro was discovered by **Rakhal Das Banerjee** in 1922. *The most important public place of Mohenjodaro seems to be **Great bath**. This great bath seems to have been used for ritual bathing. *In Mohenjodaro, a large building, in the form of ruins, has been obtained. This is in the northeast direction of great bath, with the dimension 70.1 × 23.77 meters. This building, perhaps meant for the residence of a very high official, possibly the high priest himself, or a college of priests. *The main quality of Mohenjodaro was their **roads**. The main road had a width of 9.15 meters, which is known as Rajpath. The straight roads intersect each other at the right angle and the parted roads form square and quadrangle shapes. *The artefacts found from Mohenjodaro are **mother goddess idol, dancing girl statue, a seated male soapstone (Priest-King), Pashupati (Shiva) seal and skeleton** in the wells, teeth of horse, evidence of cotton cloth, etc.

*The **Chanhudaro** situated about 130 km south of Mohenjodaro was discovered by **N.G. Majumdar** in **1931** and excavated on a large scale by **E.J.H. Mackay** in **1935-36**. *Remnants of **Jhukkar** and **Jhangar culture** were found at this site. This place may have been a industrial hub where shell making, bangle making, bead making took place. Ornamented elephant, toys, the vestige of a dog that followed a cat, lipsticks, etc have been found at this site.

*Lothal is situated on the Bhogava River in **Ahmedabad** district of Gujarat. It was discovered by **S.R. Rao**. Along the eastern side of the town was a brick-basin, which has been identified as **dockyard** by its excavator. Lothal city on the basis of planning and material goods seems to be micro Harappa or micro Mohenjodaro city. The evidence of **Rice husk, metal workers, shell ornament makers, bead makers shop, fire altars, terra cotta figurine of a horse, a terracotta model of a ship, Persian seal, painted jar**, etc has been found here.

***Kalibangan** is located in **Hanumangarh** district of Rajasthan. Excavation was started by **B.B. Lal & B.K. Thapar** in 1960-61. ***Ploughed field surface** has been found at this site. The pieces of evidence of **Mesopotamian seals, wheels of a toy cart, fire altars** are found here.

***Dholavira**, which is the second largest site of Harappan Civilization in India (after Rakhigarhi) is located in Rann of Kutch (Gujarat). **R.S. Bisht and his colleagues excavated it in 1990-91**. *Dholavira is one of the most prominent archaeological sites of Harappa, which gives us important information about great bath and reservoir which was of 7 metres in depth and 79 metres long. *The town was built in a rectangular shape. It was divided into **three parts** - citadel, middle town and lower town. People of Dholavira were familiar with the **advanced water management system**. From the

earliest evidence, people used to store water in this reservoir by building dams.

***Surkotada** is located in Kutch district of Gujarat. The evidence of horse bones and **pot burials** has been found here.

***Daimabad** is situated on the left bank of the Pravara River in **Ahmednagar** district of Maharashtra. This site was discovered by B.P. Bopardikar in 1958. Daimabad is famous for the recovery of many bronze goods, some of which were influenced by Harappan culture. ***Rakhigarhi** is situated in the **Hisar** district of Haryana. This site is located in the Ghaggar-Hakra River plain. This site is the **largest site of Indus Valley civilization in India**. ***Ropar** (Punjab) is located on the left bank of the river Satluj. The current name of this city is Rupnagar. This city was discovered by B.B. Lal in 1950. This site was excavated by Yagyadatt Sharma in 1953-55. ***Rangpur** is located in Saurashtra region of western India, on the coast of Arabian Sea in Gujarat state. On the basis of large vegetative remains, it can be said that these people used to cultivate Rice, Bajra and Sorghum. ***Dadheri** (Kotla Dadheri) was a pre-historic excavation site of Govindgarh, district Fatehgarh Sahib (Punjab). Dadheri is known for its **painted grey ware culture**, which is supposed to be associated with the arrival of the Aryans.

Major sites of Indus Valley Civilization and related rivers –

Sites	Rivers
Harappa	Ravi
Mohenjodaro	Indus
Kalibangan	Ghaggar
Lothal	Bhogwa
Ropar	Sutlej
Manda	Chenab
Daimabad	Pravara
Alamgirpur	Hindon
Sutkagendor	Dasht
Bhagwanpura	Sarasvati

***Alamgirpur** is located in Meerut district of Uttar Pradesh. It is situated along the Hindon River. A small terracotta bead-like structure coated with gold and evidence of cloth was found at this site. Utensils with triangle, peacock and squirrel impressions were found here.

***Hulas** is located in Saharanpur district of Uttar Pradesh. Hand made and wheel made pottery with geometric or naturalistic designs painted in black, chert blades, bone points, etc. have been found here. ***Banawali** is located in the Fatehabad district of Haryana. Clay figures of the mother goddess and **toy plough** have been found here.

***Bhagwanpura** is located in Kurukshetra district, Haryana. It is located on the Southern bank of river Saraswati. The site was excavated by J.P. Joshi. ***Manda** is situated on the bank of river Chenab in Jammu and Kashmir. It was excavated by J.P. Joshi and Madhubala in 1982. It is considered a site used to procure wood from Himalayan regions and send them downstream to other towns of the Indus valley civilization. ***Sinauli** is an archaeological site located in Baraut Tehsil, Baghpat district, Uttar Pradesh, where 125 graves belonging to Indus Valley Civilization were found. These graves are oriented in a **North-South direction** and most are identified as primary human burials. Some of the burials are found with animal bones, gold, copper and bangles.

*Harappans were known to **silver**. The evidence of its proper use has been found from Mohanjodaro and Harappa. These people used to get silver from mines of **Zawar** and **Ajmer** in Rajasthan. Other sources of silver for Harappa and Mohenjodaro were Afghanistan and Iran.

*The Harappan pottery is bright or dark red and uniformly sturdy and well baked. It consists of wheel-made wares, both plain and painted. The plain wares are usually of red clay with or without a fine red slip. The painted pottery was of red and black colours. Several methods were used by people for the decoration of pottery. Polychrome pottery was rare and mainly comprised small vases decorated with geometric patterns, mostly in red, black and green and less frequently in white and yellow. The colour- scheme adopted for painting was light black, chocolate or light red over buff or greenish- buff background. *The Indus Valley Civilization was a Bronze age Civilization. People of this age were not familiar with **iron**. *The drainage system was advanced and covered with slabs. *The trade and commerce were in an advanced stage. The pieces of evidence of both internal and external trade have been found. *Many pieces of evidence of worshipping of Mother Goddess from Indus Valley have been found.

*Marshall identified the figure which he found during excavation as an early form of the Hindu **God Shiva (or Rudra)** or **Pashupati** (lord of animals) from the excavation of Harappa. The Pashupati seal in which the **three faced male God** is shown sitting in a yogic posture, surrounded by a **rhino** and a **buffalo** on right side and an **elephant** and a **tiger** on the left side, make the historian conclude that the people of those days worshipped Lord Shiva and cylindrical stones show that the people worshipped Lingam, the symbol of Lord Shiva. ***Cotton** was first cultivated in India for clothing. The evidence of the earliest cotton cultivation was found in excavation in India. From India, it reached to Greece where it was called as "**Sindon**". The cotton cultivation in India started in 3000

BC while it was cultivated in Egypt in 2500 BC. *Indus Valley Civilization is considered to be a secular civilization with no trace of theocratic or organized religion. *No temple or place of worship has been found after excavation from Indus Valley Civilization till date. The only religious source from this civilization is statues made of mud and stone and seals which were found here. By this, it is known that female deities, Shiva or Pashupati and animals like snake, elephant were worshipped. Worship of plant and trees, or inanimate stone or other objects in the form of 'Linga' or 'Yoni' symbols was famous during that period.

Major metals and their production site –

Metals	Production sites
Copper	Khetri(Rajasthan), Balochistan and Oman
Lazurite	Badakhshan (Afghanistan)
Tin	Iran, Afghanistan
Silver	Jowar and Ajmer mines of Rajasthan, Afghanistan and Iran
Lead	Afghanistan, Iran and Rajasthan
Shilajit	Himalaya
Garnet stone (Gomed)	Gujarat
Gold	South India (Karnataka)

*Ancient Egyptian Civilization flourished along the banks of the river Nile for almost 3,000 years. **Nile river** is known as 'lifeline of Egypt.' The Nile is a major north-flowing river in northeastern Africa, generally regarded as the longest river in the world. Indus Valley Civilization (India) and Mesopotamian civilisation of Iraq are the contemporary civilizations. The correct sequence of the civilizations from North to South is: **Aztec - Maya- Moiscu - Inca**. The expansion of Aztec civilization was on the Northern Part of Mesoamerica. Mesoamerica included the Region from central Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Northern Costa Rica. Mayan civilization was spread over the southern part of Mesoamerica. Moiscu civilization was distributed in the eastern part of Columbia (South America continent), whereas Inca civilization is spread in the western part of south America till the north of Quito and Santiago to the south. *People of Sumerian Civilization were the first to develop the **art of writing** in a proper system. Their original script was very simple and primitive. *Cuneiform script of Sumeria is generally known as one of the earliest systems of writing.

Researchers and their opinion on the disappearance of Indus Valley Civilization –

Reason of devastation	Researchers
Flood	Marshall, Mackay, S.R. Rao
Attack of Aryan's	Gordon Childe, Mortimer Wheeler, and Stuart Piggott
Climate change	Aurel Stein, Amalananda Ghosh
Geological change	M.R. Sahni, H.T. Lambrick, G.F. Dales
Epidemic	K.U.R. Kennedy

1. **Human Society is unique because it depends mainly on–**
 (a) Culture (b) Economy
 (c) Religion (d) Science
U.P.P.C.S.(Spl) (Mains) 2004

Ans. (b)

Human Society mainly depends on economy. As economy changes, human society changes accordingly.

2. **Which of the following is related to Harappa civilization?**
 (a) Sumerian civilization
 (b) Indus Valley Civilization
 (c) Vedic civilization
 (d) Mesopotamian civilization
M.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 1990

Ans. (b)

Harappa is an archaeological site related to Indus Valley Civilization. Since the first archaeological evidence of this civilization was obtained from Harappa, Indus Valley Civilization is also known as Harappa Civilization. Along with ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia, it was one of the three ancient civilizations of the world.

3. **Indus Civilization existed in–**
 (a) Prehistoric age (b) Proto-historic age
 (c) Historic age (d) Post-Historic age
U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 1996
39th B.P.S.C. (Pre) 1994

Ans. (b)

Historical period is determined with respect to the available written literature. The period before which knowledge of the art of writing was not available is called early historical age. Indus Civilization is Proto historical civilization although the writing was known during this period, but it is still to be deciphered.

4. **Indus Valley civilization was Non-Aryan because -**
 (a) It was an Urban Civilization
 (b) It has its own script
 (c) It has an agricultural economy
 (d) It extended up to the Narmada valley

U.P.P.S.C. (GIC) 2010

Ans. (a)

Indus Valley Civilization was an earliest known urban civilization of Indian subcontinent whereas Aryan Civilization was rural civilization.

5. The important reason to keep Indus-Valley civilization before Aryan civilization is –

- (a) Script (b) Town Planning
(c) Copper (d) Potteries

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 1990

Ans. (d)

The knowledge of script and town planning of Indus Valley Civilization was more developed than that of Pre-Aryans. Different archaeological pieces of evidence of pottery have been found in the early settlements of Mehrgarh from the Indus Valley Civilization. Pottery found during excavations proves that Indus Valley Civilization existed before Aryan Civilization. The red potteries painted with black figures were the speciality of Harappan Civilization, whereas the grey painted potteries were used by Aryans.

6. The Indus Valley culture was different from the Vedic Civilization because

- (a) It had the amenities of developed city life
(b) It has a pictographic script
(c) It lacked knowledge of iron and defensive arrow
(d) All of the above

U.P.P.C.S. (Spl) (Mains) 2004

Ans. (d)

The culture of the Indus Valley Civilization was different from the Vedic culture in many ways. The Indus Valley Civilization was urban while the Vedic culture was rural. The script of Indus Valley Civilization was of depictive expressions. The people of Indus Valley Civilization did not know the use of iron, whereas the people of Vedic Civilization used iron weapons extensively.

7. The source of knowledge about Harappan culture is:

- (a) Rock edicts
(b) Writing in terracotta seals
(c) Archaeological excavations
(d) All of the above

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 1996

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 1994

Ans. (c)

The first artefact uncovered in Harappa was a unique stone seal carved with a unicorn and an inscription. Similar seals with different animal symbols and writings have been found throughout the region. Although the writing has not yet been deciphered, evidence found during the early archaeological excavations is the major source to know about the Harappan culture.

8. Which of the following throw light on Harappan culture?

- (a) Inscription
(b) Archaeological excavations
(c) Handwriting seals on the utensils
(d) Religious books.

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 1993

Ans. (b)

See the explanation of above question.

9. The main source of knowledge about the inhabitants of Indus valley civilizations is the discovery of :

- (a) Seals
(b) Utensils, Jewellery, weapons, tools
(c) Temple
(d) Scripts

R.A.S./R.T.S. (Pre) 1996

Ans. (a)

The site of Indus Valley Civilization was excavated (started) in year 1921 and objects such as tools, weapons, ornaments of archaeological or historical interest were found there but the main source to know about this civilization is seals. There were more than 3000 seals found.

10. Which of the following match is not correct regarding the origin of Harappan civilization?

- (a) M. Rafique Mughal - Harappan civilization was inspired by Mesopotamian civilization
(b) E.J.H. Mackay - Migration of people from Sumer
(c) Mortimer Wheeler - Migration of the idea of civilization from Western Asia
(d) Amalandanda Ghosh - Pre-Harappan culture matured to make Harappan civilization

R.A.S./R.T.S. (Pre) (Re. Exam) 2013

Ans. (a)

About the origin of the Harappan civilization, many scholars have presented different views. E.J.H. Mackay has considered that the origin of the Harappan civilization was due to the migration of people from Sumer (Mesopotamia), while historian D.H. Gordon and Mortimer Wheeler considered that the Harappan civilization was the result of migration of idea of civilization from Western Asia. In this context, Amalananda Ghosh considered that pre-Harappan culture matured into Harappan civilization. M.F. Rafique Mughal consider that the development of Harappan civilization

occurred in the region of Ravi river at Harappa. He refutes the old belief that Harappan civilization was inspired by Mesopotamian civilization.

11. Match List-I with List-II and select the correct answer using the codes given below the lists:

List-I	List-II
A. Harappa	1. N.G. Majumdar (1936-37)
B. Hastinapur	2. John Marshall (1913-34)
C. Takshashila	3. Daya Ram Sahni (1923-24 & 1924-25)
D. Kaushambi	4. B.B. Lal (1950-52)

Codes :

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

U.P.R.O/A.R.O. (Mains) 2017

Ans. (c)

The correctly matched list is as follows :

List-I	List-II
Harappa	Daya Ram Sahni (1923-24 & 1924-25)
Hastinapur	B.B. Lal (1950-52)
Takshashila	John Marshall (1913-34)
Kaushambi	N.G. Majumdar (1936-37)

12. The earliest evidence of silver in India is found in the-

- (a) Harappan culture
- (b) Chalcolithic cultures of western India
- (c) Vedic texts
- (d) Silver Punch- marked coins

I.A.S. (Pre) 1994

Ans. (a)

Harappans were known to silver. The evidence of its proper use has been found from Mohan Jodaro and Harappa. These people used to get silver from mines of Zawar and Ajmer in Rajasthan.

13. Which colour was commonly used in the Harappan Pottery?

- (a) Red
- (b) Blue-grey
- (c) Yellow
- (d) Blue

40th B.P.S.C. (Pre) 1995

Ans. (a)

The Harappan pottery is bright or dark red and uniformly sturdy and well baked. It consists of wheel-made wares, both plain and painted. The plain ware is usually of red clay with or without a fine red slip. The painted pottery was of red and black colours. Several methods were used by people

for the decoration of pottery. Polychrome pottery was rare and mainly comprised small vases decorated with geometric patterns, mostly in red, black and green and less frequently in white and yellow. The colour- scheme adopted for painting was light black, chocolate or light red over buff or greenish buff background.

14. The beginning of idol worship is to be considered in –

- (a) Pre-Aryan
- (b) later Vedic period
- (c) Mauryan Period
- (d) Kushan Period

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 1992

Ans. (a)

The pre-Aryan period is considered as the beginning of idol worship. Idol worship was prevalent in Indus Civilization and it is evident from the coins discovered from Mohenjodaro having the seal of God. They probably worshipped Mother Goddess in addition to male and female deities.

15. Which one of the following animals was not represented on the seals and terracotta art of the Harappan culture?

- (a) Cow
- (b) Elephant
- (c) Rhinoceros
- (d) Tiger

I.A.S. (Pre) 2001

Ans. (a)

The figures of elephant, rhinoceros, tiger, deer, sheep, etc. are depicted on the seals and terracotta arts of Harappan culture. But the cow was not depicted on the seals and terracotta art of the Harappan cultures.

16. Which one of the following is not a Harappan site?

- (a) Chanhudaro
- (b) Kotdiji
- (c) Sohgaoura
- (d) Desalpur

I.A.S. (Pre) 2019

Ans. (c)

Sohgaoura is a village located on the bank of Rapti river in Gorakhpur district of Uttar Pradesh. A copper plate inscription of Mauryan period has been found here which gives us information about the storehouses present here. Chanhudaro, Kot Diji and Desalpur are Harappan sites. Chanhudaro and Kot Diji are present in the current Sindh province of Pakistan whereas Desalpur is located in the Kutchh region of Gujarat.

17. Match List-I (Ancient site) with List-II (Archaeological finding) and select the correct answer using the code given below the lists :

List- I (Ancient site)	List- II (Archaeological finding)
A. Lothal	1. Ploughed field

- B. Kalibangan** 2. Dockyard
C. Dholavira 3. Terracotta replica of a Plough
D. Banawali 4. An inscription comprising
 ten large-sized signs of the
 Harappan script

Code :

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

I.A.S. (Pre) 2002

Ans. (b)

The archaeological remains of the Harappan port-town of Lothal are located along the Bhogava River, a tributary of Sabarmati, in the Gulf of Cambay. Kalibangan town is located on the bank of Ghaggar River (Saraswati River) in Hanumangarh district, Rajasthan. Kalibangan has given the evidence of the earliest ploughed agricultural field ever revealed through excavation. An inscription comprising ten large-sized signs of the Harappan scripts were found from Dholavira of Harappan script. Banawali is located in Fatehabad district of Haryana from where a terracotta replica of a plough was found.

18. A ploughed field was discovered at –

- (a) Mohenjodaro (b) Kalibangan
 (c) Harappa (d) Lothal

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2005

Ans. (b)

See the explanation of above question.

19. In which of the following Harappan cities, furrows of ploughed fields have been found?

- (a) Kalibangan
 (b) Dholavira
 (c) Mohenjo-daro
 (d) Lothal
 (e) None of the above/More than one of the above

66th B. P.S.C. (Pre) 2020

Ans. (a)

See the above explanation

20. Match List-I with List-II and select the correct answer from the codes given below :

List-I	List-II
A. Harappa	1. Cemetery R-37
B. Lothal	2. Dockyard
C. Kalibangan	3. Dancing Girl Statue
D. Mohenjo-Daro	4. Furrowed land

Codes :

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

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2017

Ans. (d)

The correctly matched list is as follows :

List-I	List-II
Harappa	Cemetery R-37
Lothal	Dockyard
Kalibangan	Furrowed land
Mohenjo-Daro	Dancing Girl Statue

21. Match List-I with List-II and select the correct answer by using the codes given below the lists :

List-I	List-II
A. Harappa	1. Godavari
B. Hastinapur	2. Ravi
C. Nagarjuna Konda	3. Ganga
D. Paithan	4. Krishna

Code :

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

U.P.P.C.S. (Spl) (Mains) 2008

Ans. (b)

The correctly matched list is as follows :

Harappa	Ravi river
Hastinapur	Ganga river
Nagarjuna Konda	Krishna river
Paithan	Godavari river

22. Match List-I with List-II and select the correct answer from the code given below :

List – I (Harappan Settlement)	List – II (River on which located)
A. Harappa	1. Bhogava
B. Kalibangan	2. Ghaggar
C. Lothal	3. Ravi
D. Ropar	4. Sutlej

Code :

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

Ans. (a)

The correctly matched list is as follows :

Village	River
Harappa	- Ravi
Kalibangan	- Ghaggar
Lothal	- Bhogava
Ropar	- Sutlej

Hence, option (a) is correct.

23. Harappa was situated on the bank of river

- (a) Beas (b) Sutlej
(c) Ravi (d) Ghaggar

[Jharkhand P.C.S. (Mains)-2016]

Ans. (c)

See the explanation of above question.

24. The Great Bath was found from the Indus Valley civilization at -

- (a) Mohenjodaro (b) Harappa
(c) Lothal (d) Kalibangan

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 1992

Ans. (a)

The Great Bath is one of the well-known structures among the ruins of the ancient Indus Valley Civilization at Mohenjo-daro in Sindh, Pakistan. The foundation of Great Bath, measures 55 metres North-South and 33 metres East-West. In the Middle of Great Bath the pond measures 11.8 metres x 7.04 metres and has a maximum depth of 2.4 metres.

25. The 'Great Bath' was found at the archaeological site of

- (a) Ropar (b) Harappa
(c) Mohenjodaro (d) Kalibangan

U.P.P.S.C. (GIC) 2010

Uttarakhand U.D.A./L.D.A. (Mains) 2007

Ans. (c)

See the explanation of above question.

26. From which archaeological site of Indus Valley Civilization, the figures or models of boat are found?

- (a) Harappa and Kotdiji
(b) Kalibangan and Ropar
(c) Dhaulabira and Bhagatray
(d) Mohenjodaro and Lothal

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2022

Ans. (d)

Clay model boats have been found from Lothal's excavation. From Mohenjodaro seals having model of boat were discovered during excavation.

27. Which of the following statements about the Indus civilization is not true?

- (a) Accurate drainage system in cities
(b) Trade and commerce were in an advanced stage.
(c) Worshipping of Mother Goddess
(d) People knew about iron

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 1992

Ans. (d)

The Indus Valley Civilization was a Bronze Age Civilization. People of this Age were not familiar with iron. The drainage system was advanced and covered with slabs. The trade and commerce were in an advanced stage. The pieces of evidence of both internal and external trade have been found. Many pieces of evidence of worshipping of Mother Goddess from Indus Valley have been found.

28. Based on findings of excavation of Harappan Civilization, what are not true?

- (i) For all kinds of constructions, same size of bricks were used.
(ii) Mostly all the houses were single storey.
(iii) Main roads were on average ten meters in width.
(a) (i) and (ii) (b) (ii) and (iii)
(c) (i) and (iii) (d) (i), (ii) and (iii)

Chhattisgarh P.C.S. (Pre) 2022

Ans. (a)

In Indus Valley civilisation both baked and raw bricks were used. Generally the dimensional ratio of burned bricks received from all the Indus town was 4 : 2 : 1. However ornamental bricks from Kalibangan and curved bricks from Chahundaro have been found. Hence statement (i) is wrong. Most of the houses built in the Indus Valley civilisation were built with one storey only, but some houses were also built with two stories as evidence of stairs have been found from some houses. Hence statement (ii) is wrong. The width of roads in Harappan cities was generally 10 meters. Hence statement (iii) is right.

29. Indus valley civilization is known for

- For its town planning
- For Mohenjodaro and Harappa
- For their agricultural work
- For its industrialization

Select the correct answer from the codes given below.

Code :

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

Uttarakhand U.D.A./L.D.A. (Pre) 2003

Ans. (d)

Town planning was the unique feature of the Indus Valley Civilization. The cities and towns were well planned. Harappa and Mohanjodaro were two major cities of Indus Valley Civilization. Since the Harrapa site was discovered first, that is why it is known as Harrapan Civilization. Kalibangan in Rajasthan has given the first evidence of the ploughed agricultural field and evidence of business has been found from Lothal. Thus, all four statements are correct.

30. Which of the following is not correctly matched –

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| (a) Alamgirpur | - Uttar Pradesh |
| (b) Lothal | - Gujarat |
| (c) Kalibangan | - Haryana |
| (d) Ropar | - Punjab |

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 1996

Ans. (c)

Kalibangan is located in Hanumangarh district of Rajasthan. It was discovered by Luigo Pio Tessitory, an Italian Indologist and was excavated by A. Ghosh in 1950-52 as a Harappan site. The excavations revealed that the western mound was a fortified enclosure with rectangular salients and towns. Except this, all are correctly matched.

31. Which of the following centres related to Indus Valley are situated in Uttar Pradesh?

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

- | | |
|------------------|-------------|
| (i) Kalibanga | (ii) Lothal |
| (iii) Alamgirpur | (iv) Hulas |

Codes :

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| (a) I, II, III, IV | (b) I, II |
| (c) II, III | (d) III, IV |

[U.P.P.C.S. (Pre)-2018]

Ans. (d)

Kalibanga is in Rajasthan, Lothal is situated in Gujarat. Alamgirpur is situated in Meerut, U.P. and Hulas is situated in Saharanpur, U.P. hence option (d) is correct option.

32. Which one of the following Harappan sites is in Gujarat?

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| (a) Lothal | (b) Dabarkot |
| (c) Kalibanga | (d) Rakhigarhi |
| (e) None of the above/More than one of the above | |

67th B.P.S.C. (Pre) 2022

Ans. (a)

See the explanation of above question.

33. For the Harrapan Cultural sites and its position, which of the following is not correctly matched ?

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| (a) Alamgirpur | - Uttar Pradesh |
| (b) Banawali | - Haryana |
| (c) Daimabad | - Maharashtra |
| (d) Rakhigarhi | - Rajasthan |

U.P.U.D.A./L.D.A. (Pre) 2006

Ans. (d)

Rakhigarhi village is situated in Hisar district of Haryana along the bank of Ghaggar-Hakra river. Rest of the options are correctly matched.

34. Eastern boundary of the Harappa culture is indicated by which of the following?

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| (a) Manda | (b) Harappa |
| (c) Alamgirpur | (d) Rakhigarhi |

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2023

Ans. (c)

Eastern boundary of the Harappa culture is indicated by Alamgirpur (Meerut, Uttar Pradesh), Western Boundary is indicated by Sutkagendor (Baluchistan, Pakistan), Northern boundary by Manda (Jammu and Kashmir) and southern boundary by Daimabad (Maharashtra).

35. Match List-I with List-II and select the correct answer from the code given below :

List – I (Harappan Site)	List – II (Location)
A. Manda	1. Rajasthan
B. Daimabad	2. Haryana
C. Kalibangan	3. Jammu-Kashmir
D. Rakhigarhi	4. Maharashtra

Code :

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

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2012

Ans. (c)

The correctly matched Harappan sites and their relative locations is as follows :

Harrapan sites -	Places
Manda	- Jammu-Kashmir
Daimabad	- Maharashtra
Kalibangan	- Rajasthan
Rakhigarhi	- Haryana

36. Match List-I with List-II and select the correct answer from the code given below the lists.

List-I (Harappan Site)	List-II (UT/State of India)
A. Balu	1. Uttar Pradesh
B. Manda	2. Jammu and Kashmir
C. Padri	3. Haryana
D. Hulas	4. Gujarat

Code :

	A	B	C	D
(a)	3	2	1	4

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

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2020

Ans. (d)

Correct match of List-I with List-II is as follows :-

List-I	List-II
(Harappan Site) -	(UT/State of India)
Balu -	Haryana
Manda -	Jammu and Kashmir
Padri -	Gujarat
Hulas -	Uttar Pradesh

37. Which of the following sites of Harappan culture are located in Sindh?

1. Harappa 2. Mohenjodaro
 3. Chanhudaro 4. Surkotada

Indicate the correct answer from the code given below:

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

U.P.P.S.C. (GIC) 2010

Ans. (b)

Among the above options, Harappa is located in Punjab (Pakistan), Mohenjodaro and Chanhudaro both are located in Sindh province in Pakistan and Surkotada is located in Gujarat.

38. Mohenjodaro is situated in which of the following?

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

M.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2012

Ans. (c)

See the explanation of above question.

39. The excavation at Chanhudaro was directed by –

- (a) J. H. Mackay (b) Sir John Marshall
 (c) R. E. M. Wheeler (d) Sir Aurel Stein

U.P. Lower Sub. (Pre) 2015

Ans. (a)

The ruined township of Chanhudaro situated near about 130 km south of Mohenjodaro was discovered by N.G. Majumdar in 1931 and excavated on a large scale by E.J. H. Mackay in 1935-36. Mackay found bead making factory and furnace here. Some phase cut bricks were found at Chanhudaro.

40. Which site of Indus Valley is now in Pakistan?

- (a) Kalibangan (b) Harappa
 (c) Lothal (d) Alamgirpur

U.P.P.C.S. (Spl.) (Pre) 1994

Ans. (b)

Harappa is an archaeological site in Montgomery district of Punjab province (now in Sahiwal district of Pakistan). It is located on the bank of the Ravi river. Kalibangan is located in Hanumangarh district of Rajasthan. Lothal is in Gujarat and Alamgirpur is located in Uttar Pradesh.

41. Rangpur, where the contemporary of Harappan civilization was found, is in –

- (a) Punjab (b) Eastern Uttar Pradesh
 (c) Saurashtra (d) Rajasthan

R.A.S./R.T.S. (Pre) 1999

Ans. (c)

Rangpur is located in Saurashtra region of western India on the coast of Arabian sea in Gujarat state. On the basis of large vegetative remains, it can be said that these people used to cultivate Rice, Bajra and Sorghum.

42. Dadheri is a late Harappan site of –

- (a) Jammu (b) Punjab
 (c) Haryana (d) Uttar Pradesh

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2014

Ans. (b)

Dadheri (Kotla Dadheri) was a prehistoric excavation site of Govindgarh, district Fatehgarh Sahib (Punjab). Dadheri is known for its painted grey ware culture which is supposed to be associated with the arrival of the Aryans.

43. Which site of Indus Valley Civilization is located in India?

- (a) Harappa (b) Mohenjodaro
 (c) Lothal (d) None of the above

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 1995

Ans. (c)

Lothal is situated near the village of Saragwala in the Dholka Taluka in Ahmedabad district of Gujarat. It is situated on the bank of Bhogava river. It was discovered by S.R. Rao in 1954. Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro are situated in Pakistan.

44. The Harappan city represented by the archaeological site of Lothal was situated on the river –

- (a) Narmada (b) Mahi
 (c) Bhogva (d) Bhima

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2012

Ans. (c)

See the explanation of above question.

45. Harappan civilization, Lothal, is located in–

- (a) Gujarat (b) Punjab

- (c) Rajasthan (d) Sindh

Uttarakhand P.C.S. (Pre) 2010

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2009

Ans. (a)

See the explanation of above question.

46. The port city of Indus Valley Civilization was –

- (a) Harappa (b) Kalibangan
(c) Lothal (d) Mohenjodaro

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 1999

Ans. (c)

Lothal is the only place of Indus Valley Civilization from where the pieces of evidence of ports have been found, which is located in the east of the city.

47. Which of the following is a Harappan port?

- (a) Alexandria (b) Lothal
(c) Mahasthangarh (d) Nagapattinam

53rd to 55th B.P.S.C. (Pre) 2011

Ans. (b)

See the explanation of above question.

48. What is the most significant feature of the Indus Valley Civilization?

- (a) Burnt brick buildings
(b) First true arches
(c) Buildings of worship
(d) Art and architecture
(e) None of the above/ More than one of the above

63rd B.P.S.C (Pre.) 2017

Ans (e)

The use of burnt bricks in the construction of buildings was one of the main features of the Indus Valley Civilization. Burnt bricks were used in abundance in Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro. In Lothal, burnt bricks were used in the construction of drainage. Well planned architecture, advanced trade and commerce were other main feature of this civilisation.

49. At which of the following Indus Valley sites was a terracotta replica relating to exploration of a plough discovered?

- (a) Dholavira (b) Kalibangan
(c) Rakhigarhi (d) Banawali

Jharkhand P.C.S. (Pre) 2023

Ans. (*)

According to the Archaeological Survey of India, Terracotta plough along with ploughed field have been found from the early phase of the Kalibangan site (Rajasthan). Apart from this, terracotta plough has also been recovered from the Indus site named Banawali located in Fatehabad district of Haryana.

50. Which among the following Harappan site terracotta of 'plough' was found?

- (a) Dholavira (b) Banawali
(c) Kalibangan (d) Lothal
(e) None of the above/More than one of the above

60th to 62nd B.P.S.C. (Pre) 2016

Ans. (*)

See the explanation of above question.

51. Which of the following is not an Indus Valley Civilization site?

- (a) Kalibangan (b) Ropar
(c) Patliputra (d) Lothal

M.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2013

Ans. (c)

Kalibangan, Ropar, and Lothal are related to Indus Valley Civilization but Pataliputra adjacent to modern-day Patna was not associated with Indus Valley civilization..

52. The largest site of Harappa in India is –

- (a) Alamgirpur (b) Kalibangan
(c) Lothal (d) Rakhigarhi

U.P.P.C.S. (Spl) (Mains) 2004

Ans. (d)

The largest site of Indus Valley civilization in India is Rakhigarhi (Hisar district of Haryana).

53. The biggest Harappan site in India is

- (a) Rakhigarhi (b) Dholavira
(c) Kalibangan (d) Lothal

Jharkhand P.C.S. (Pre) 2016

Ans. (a)

See the explanation of above question.

54. Indus Valley Civilization, which was placed on the banks of the river, they were?

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

Choose the correct answer from the code given below-
Code :

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

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2009

Ans. (b)

Geographically Indus Valley Civilization was spread from Jhelum-river to Hindon river, a tributary of Yamuna river in South (Alamgirpur). It consisted of rivers like Chenab, Ravi, Sutlej and Jhelum, but Ganga river did not belong to this.

55. The people of Indus valley believed in –

- (a) Spirit and Brahma (b) Ritual
(c) Sacrificial system (d) Mother Goddess

R.A.S./R.T.S. (Pre) 1993

Ans. (*)

Undeciphered script of Indus civilization has attracted speculations and hypothesis. The people of Indus civilization probably worshipped Mother Goddess, Lord Shiva. They may have performed Yagya (fire pit found in Rajasthan and Gujarat sites). Burial rituals indicates belief in Atma or spirit, evidence of human sacrifice were also found in Mohenjodaro.

56. The Indus valley people worshipped –

- (a) Shiva (b) Indra and Varun
(c) Brahma (d) Vishnu

Uttarakhand P.C.S. (Mains) 2006

Ans. (a)

Marshall identified the figure which he found during excavation as an early form of the Hindu God Shiva (or Rudra) or Pashupati (lord of animals) from the excavation of Harappa. The Pashupati seal in which the three faced male God is shown sitting in a yogic posture, surrounded by a rhino and a buffalo on the right side, an elephant and a tiger on the left side, make the historian conclude that the people of those days worshipped Lord Shiva or cylindrical stones show that the people worshipped Lingam, the symbol of Lord Shiva.

57. Who was the director of the archaeological excavation that led to the discovery of Harappa and Mohenjodaro?

- (a) Lord Macaulay (b) Sir John Marshall
(c) Clive (d) Colonel Tad

R.A.S./R.T.S. (Pre) 1997

Ans. (b)

Sir John Marshall was the Director-General of the Archaeological Survey of India from 1902 to 1928. He appointed Mr. Dayaram Sahni, who carried out excavations in the Sahiwal district of Punjab Province (Pakistan) on the left bank of Ravi river. Mr. Sahni's excavation lead to findings of ruins of Harappa in 1921. Mr. Rakhil Das Banerjee dug out the ruins of the city of Mohenjodaro (Larkana district of Sindh Province, Pakistan) in 1922.

58. Two Indians who were associated with discovery of Indus Valley Civilization, are :

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

Chhattisgarh P.C.S. (Pre) 2003

Ans. (a)

See the explanation of above question.

59. Which one of the following is not correctly matched ?

- (a) Harappa - Daya Ram Sahni
(b) Lothal - S.R. Rao
(c) Surkotada - J.P. Joshi
(d) Dholavira - B.K. Thapar

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2006

Ans. (d)

Harappa was excavated by Daya Ram Sahni, Lothal was by S.R. Rao and Surkotada by J.P. Joshi. But Dholavira was not excavated by B.K. Thapar. Instead, it was excavated by R.S. Bisht. Therefore, option (d) is not correctly matched.

60. The first archaeologist who excavated Harappa, but could not recognize its significance, was :

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

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2006

Ans. (a)

Alexander Cunningham, who headed the Archaeological Survey of India, visited this site in 1853 A.D. and 1856 A.D. Cunningham made a few small excavations at the site and reported some discoveries of ancient pottery, stone, tools and a stone seal but did not recognize its significance. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

61. Who among the following was not associated with the excavation of Harappa and Mohenjodaro?

- (a) R. D. Banerjee (b) K.N. Dikshit
(c) M.S. Vats (d) V.A. Smith

56th to 59th B.P.S.C. (Pre) 2015

Ans. (d)

In 1921, Daya Ram Sahni excavated Harappa. From 1926-27 to 1933-34, M.S. Vats was associated with the excavation of Harappa. Mohenjodaro excavation was done in 1922 by Rakhil Das Banerjee. In addition to him, some other scholars like K.N. Dixit, Ernest Mackay, Aurel Stein, A. Ghosh, J.P. Joshi also contributed in the discovery of this civilization. Hence, it is clear that V.A. Smith was not associated with the discovery of Harappan Civilization rather was a Irish Indologist and historian.

62. Who among the following discovered 'Surkotda', a site of Harappan culture?

- (a) B.B. Lal (b) S.R. Rao
(c) Y.D. Sharma (d) Jagatpati Joshi
(e) Question not attempted

Raj. P.C.S. (Pre) 2023

Ans. (d)

Surkotda is situated in Kutch district of Gujarat. It was discovered and excavated by Jagatpati Joshi.

63. From which one of the following places, remains of wells have been found in houses belonging to the developed stage of the Indus Valley Civilization?

- (a) Harappa (b) Kalibangan
(c) Lothal (d) Mohenjodaro

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2004

Ans. (*)

Remains of Well and Bathroom have been found in approximately every major city of Indus Civilization.

64. What is the correct chronological order in which the following appeared in India ?

1. Gold coins
2. Punch- marked silver coins
3. Iron plough
4. Urban culture

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

I.A.S. (Pre) 1998

Ans. (d)

Harappan Civilization, the most ancient civilization of India is famous for its town planning. Indus Valley Civilization was a Bronze Age Civilization. The knowledge of iron was known much later after bronze during, the post Vedic period around 1000 B.C. The first punch-marked coin came into existence in India during 7th-6th century B.C. Gold coins were introduced by Indo-Greek rulers during second century B.C.

65. The first metal used by man was :

- (a) Gold (b) Silver
(c) Copper (d) Iron

R.A.S./R.T.S. (Pre) 2012

Ans. (c)

Copper was the metal which was first used by humans, though there is variation in the period around the globe as far as the use of copper is concerned.

66. An ivory scale in Harappan context was found at –

- (a) Kalibangan (b) Lothal
(c) Dholavira (d) Banawali

U.P.R.O./A.R.O. (Mains) 2014

Ans. (b)

An ivory scale in the Harappan context was found at Lothal. Lothal is a place associated with Indus Valley Civilization currently in Gujarat.

67. Which metal has so far not been discovered in Harappan sites?

- (a) Copper (b) Gold
(c) Silver (d) Iron

Chhattisgarh P.C.S. (Pre) 2011

Ans. (d)

Harappan civilization is also known as the Bronze Age Civilization. From here pieces of evidence of gold, silver, copper and brass have been found, except iron. In fact, the people of Harappa were not aware of iron. In India, the beginning of Iron Age is considered to be from the later Vedic period (app. 1000 B.C.).

68. Which one among the following sites is located in the valley of Ghaggar and its associated rivers?

- (a) Alamgirpur (b) Lothal
(c) Mohenjodaro (d) Banawali

R.A.S./R.T.S.(Pre) 2010

Ans. (d)

Banawali is an archaeological site belonging to Indus Valley Civilization period in Fatehabad district, Haryana. Banawali is located in the valley of Ghaggar and its tributaries. Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

69. Consider the following statements and select the correct answer from the given code :

1. Mohenjodaro, Harappa, Ropar and Kalibangan are the main sites of Indus valley civilization.
2. People of Harappa developed the road, proper housing and drainage system.
3. People of Harappa were unknown about the use of metals.

Code :

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

M.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2008

Ans. (a)

Harappa, Mohenjodaro, Ropar, Lothal and Kalibangan are the main sites of Indus Valley Civilization. In this civilization, most of the cities were designed in a grid pattern. A proper drainage system was aligned along the roads, which was covered with big stones and bricks. The forms of art were found from various sites of this civilization including seals, pottery, gold ornaments and necklaces.

70. Assertion (A) : Mohenjodaro and Harappa cities are dead now.

Reason (R) : They were discovered during excavations.
In the context of the above, which one of the following is correct?

Code :

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

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2009

Ans. (b)

Mohenjodaro (now in Pakistan) is in the Larkana district of Sindh province on the right bank of the Indus river. Harappa is located in the Sahiwal district of Punjab province of Pakistan. Rakhaldas Banerjee and Dayaram Sahni were the two archaeologists who excavated the two major cities of Indus Valley Civilization. At present, these towns are extinct. Therefore, Assertion (A) and Reason (R) both are correct, but the reason is not the correct explanation. Therefore, option (b) is the correct answer.

71. From where the evidence of rock-cut architecture was found, with reference to Harappa civilization?

- (a) Kalibangan (b) Dholavira
(c) Kot Diji (d) Amri

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2006

Ans. (b)

Dholavira, which is the second largest site of Harappan Civilization in India (after Rakhigarhi) is located in Rann of Kutch (Gujarat). R.S. Bisht and his colleagues excavated this site in 1992. Dholavira is one of the most prominent archaeological sites of Harappa which gives us important information about great bath and rock-cut reservoir which was 7 metres deep and 79 metres long.

72. Dholavira is located in the State of –

- (a) Gujarat (b) Haryana
(c) Punjab (d) Rajasthan

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2010

Ans. (a)

See the explanation of above question.

73. Which Harappan city is divided into three parts?

- (a) Lothal (b) Kalibangan
(c) Dholavira (d) Surkotada

Ans. (c)

Dholavira is a Harappan site located in Kutch district of Gujarat. The town was built in a rectangular shape. It was divided into three parts- citadel, middle town and lower town.

74. In which of the following site remnants of three townships have been revealed?

- (a) Mohenjodaro (b) Sanghol
(c) Kali Bangan (d) Dholavira
(e) None of the above

Chhattisgarh P.C.S. (Pre) 2015

Ans. (d)

See the explanation of the above question.

75. Which one of the following ancient towns is well-known for its elaborate system of water harvesting and management by building a series of dams and channelizing water into connected reservoirs?

- (a) Dholavira (b) Kalibangan
(c) Rakhigarhi (d) Ropar

I.A.S. (Pre.) 2021

Ans (a)

Dholavira in Gujarat is well known for its elaborate system of water harvesting and management by building a series of dams and channelizing water into connected reservoirs.

76. A highly advanced water management system of Harappan times has been unearthed at–

- (a) Alamgirpur (b) Dholavira
(c) Kalibangan (d) Lothal

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2010

Ans. (b)

From Dholavira, a huge Rock-cut reservoir is found, whose size is about 80.4 m × 12 m and 7.5 meters deep, having a huge capacity to store water. People of Dholavira were familiar with the advanced water management system. From the earliest evidence, people used to store water in this reservoir by building dams.

77. Which of the following sites has yielded evidence of a double burial?

- (a) Kuntasi (b) Dholavira
(c) Lothal (d) Kalibangan

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2016

Ans. (*)

The evidence of three double burial has been found from Lothal. It was an important port of the Harappan culture. The evidence of double burial also has been found from Kalibangan and Rakhigarhi.

78. Recently, from excavations of Harappan site Sonauli what was found ?

- (a) Human burials (b) Animal burials
(c) Residential building (d) Protecting wall

U.P. Lower Sub. (Pre) 2004

Ans. (a)

Sinauli is an archaeological site located in Baraut Tehsil, Baghpat district, Uttar Pradesh, where 125 graves belonging to Indus Valley Civilization were found. These graves are oriented in a North-South direction and most are identified as primary human burials. Some of the burials are found with animal bones and gold, copper and bangles.

79. In which State of India is the Harappan Civilization site Mandi situated?

- (a) Gujarat (b) Haryana
(c) Rajasthan (d) Uttar Pradesh

[U.P.P.C.S. (Pre)-2021]

Ans. (d)

Mandi is a village in the Muzaffarnagar district of Uttar Pradesh. It became famous after discovery and loot of ancient treasure trove by villagers in June 2000. As per ASI, the jewelry found belonged to the late Harappan period.

80. For clothing, cotton cultivation was first introduced in—

- (a) Egypt (b) Mesopotamia
(c) Central America (d) India

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2006

Ans. (d)

Cotton was first cultivated in India for clothing. In 1922, Rakhil Das Banerjee took interest in the site of Mohenjodaro for excavation. Evidence of the earliest cotton cultivation was found by excavation in India. From India, it reached Greece where it was called as "Sindon". The cotton cultivation in India started in 3000 B.C. while it was cultivated in Egypt in 2500 B.C.

81. Which of the following characterizes/characterize the people of Indus Civilization?

1. They possessed great places and temples.
2. They worshipped, both male and female deities.
3. They employed horse-drawn chariots in warfare.

Select the correct answer using the code given below

- (a) 1 and 2 (b) Only 2
(c) All of these (d) None of these

I.A.S. (Pre) 2013

Ans. (b)

No temple or place of worship has been found in excavation from Indus Valley Civilization till date. The only religious source from this civilization is statues made of mud and stone

and seals which were found here. By this, it is known that female deities, Shiva or Pashupati and animals like snake, elephant were worshipped. Worship of plant and trees, or inanimate stone or other objects in the form of 'Linga' or 'yoni' symbols were famous during that period.

82. Regarding the Indus Valley Civilization, consider the following statements

1. It was predominantly a secular civilization and the religious element, though present, did not dominate the scene.
2. During this period, cotton was used for manufacturing textiles in 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

I.A.S. (Pre) 2011

M.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2012

Ans. (c)

Indus Valley Civilization is considered to be a secular civilization with no trace of theocratic or organized religion. Cotton textiles were produced during the Harappan period as shown by artefact evidence.

83. One of the following sites from where the famous bull-seal of Indus Valley Civilization was found—

- (a) Harappa (b) Chanhudaro
(c) Lothal (d) Mohenjodaro

R.A.S./R.T.S. (Pre) 2008

Ans. (d)

Mohenjodaro is an archaeological site in the province of Sindh, Pakistan (excavated by R.D. Banerjee in 1922). From this site, various sculptures, seals, pottery, gold and jewellery have been found. But the most famous among them is the humped bull seal.

84. The shape of which tree is found in the seals from the Indus Civilization?

- (a) Mango (b) Pipal
(c) Parijat (d) Sal

M.P. P.C.S. (Pre) 2021

Ans. (b)

Most of the seals discovered from Indus Valley Civilisation were made of steatite. A few of them were also made of terracotta, agate, chert etc. Most of seals were square in shape but few were in cube, circle and cylindrical shape too. Pipal tree is represented number of times on Indus seals depicting that Pipal had important/sacred value to Indus people.

85. Which one of the following animals is not depicted on the Harappan seal ?

- (a) Bull (b) Elephant
(c) Horse (d) Sheep

Ans. (c)

People of Harappa civilization were known to horses, but no pieces of evidence has been found on seals. A great majority of seals found in Indus valley civilization carry short inscriptions with figures of the one-horned animal (most common), the buffalo, the tiger, the rhinoceros, the goat and the elephant.

86. Remains of which animal have not been discovered in the Indus Valley Civilization?

- (a) Lion (b) Horse
(c) Cow (d) Elephant

Chhattisgarh P.C.S. (Pre) 2011

Ans. (a)

Among given options, the evidence of cow and elephant have been found and there is some dispute regarding horse, but the latest excavation has revealed the evidence of horse. The evidence of lion from the excavation of Harrapan Civilization has not been mentioned anywhere. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

87. Which of the following animals was not known to the people of the Indus Valley Civilization?

- (a) Bull (b) Horse
(c) Elephant (d) None of the above

69th B.P.S.C. (Pre) 2023

Ans. (d)

Among the given options evidence of bull and elephant have been found. Seal of zebu bull have been found. Seals depicting elephant has also been found. There is some dispute regarding horse but latest excavation has revealed the evidence of horse. However Horse did not play any major role during Indus Valley Civilisation. BPSC has accepted (b) as correct answer.

88. According to the report of IIT Kharagpur study group, continuous low rainfall for how many years was the cause of fall of the Indus valley civilization?

- (a) 600 years (b) 700 years
(c) 800 years (d) 900 years
(e) None of the above/More than one of the above

B.P.S.C. (Pre) 2018

Ans. (d)

According to the reports of IIT Kharagpur, the continuous low or negligible rainfall for 900 years was the cause of fall of the Indus Valley Civilisation. In other words, it can be said that continuous drought for 900 years led the fall of Indus Valley Civilisation.

89. A horned deity engraved on a terracotta cake has been recovered from

- (a) Banawali (b) Kalibangan
(c) Lothal (d) Surkotada

Ans. (b)

From excavations at Kalibangan, a series of 'fire altars' on mud-brick platforms were discovered. A triangular terracotta cake found at Kalibangan had a carving of a horned deity on one side and an animal (goat) being dragged by a rope by a human on the other. This shows the way to the emergence of a sacrificial tradition in the entire era.

90. Which of the following civilizations flourished on the bank of River Nile ?

- (a) Roman Civilization
(b) Indus Valley Civilization
(c) Greek Civilization
(d) Egyptian Civilization

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2004

Ans. (d)

Ancient Egyptian Civilization flourished along the banks of the River Nile for almost 3,000 years. Nile River is known as 'lifeline of Egypt.' The Nile is a major north-flowing river in northeastern Africa, generally regarded as the longest river in the world. Indus Valley Civilization (India) and Mesopotamia (Iraq) are the contemporary civilization.

91. What is the correct North-South sequence of the following civilizations?

- (a) Maya – Aztec – Muisca – Inca
(b) Maya – Muisca – Inca – Aztec
(c) Aztec – Muisca – Maya – Inca
(d) Aztec – Maya – Muisca – Inca

U.P.R.O./A.R.O. (Pre) 2016

Ans. (d)

The correct sequence of the following civilization from North to South is: Aztec - Maya- Moiscu - Inca. The expansion of Aztec civilization was on the Northern Part of Mesoamerica. Mesoamerica included the Region from central Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Northern Costa Rica. Mayan civilization was spread over the southern part of mesoamerica. Moiscu civilization was distributed in the eastern part of Columbia (South America continent), whereas Inca civilization is spread in the western part of southern America till the north of Quito and Santiago to the South.

92. The first ancient civilization to develop the art of writing in a proper system was?

- (a) Indus (b) Egypt
(c) Sumerian (d) China

R.A.S. / R.T.S. (Pre) 1992

Ans. (c)

People of Sumerian Civilization were the first to develop the art of writing in a proper system. Their primary script was very simple and primitive. Cuneiform script of Sumeria is generally known as one of the earliest system of writing.

Vedic Age

*The word 'Vedic' is derived from Sanskrit word 'Veda' which means knowledge. The civilization that developed in India after Indus civilization is called Vedic or Aryan Civilization.

*Arya means **Great** or **highborn**. In classic Sanskrit the word Arya means – '**A noble man**'. The history of Aryans is mainly known from Vedas. Generally Aryans are said to be the author of the Vedas. There is a difference of opinion on the place of origin of Aryans. Prominent historians have different theories on the homeland of Aryans.

Homeland of Aryans	Scholars
Kashmir or Himalayan region	L.D. Kala
Brahmarshi Desh	P. Ganganath Jha
Seven Indus states	Dr. Avinash Chandra Das
Devika State	D.S. Trivedi
South Russia	Gorden Childe & Nehring
Central Asia	Max Muller
North Pole	Pt. Bal Gangadhar Tilak
Tibet	Swami Dayanand Saraswati
Valley of Danube River	Gyles
Germany	Hart & Penca

*Vedic Age is divided into two parts – Rigvedic or Pre-Vedic Age (1500-1000 BCE) and Later-Vedic Age (1000-600 BCE).

*Each of the Vedas is divided into four parts (or the sections). Their correct order is **Samhitas, Brahmanas, Aranyakas** and **Upanishads**. *Samhitas and Brahmanas form the Karma-Kanda segment of the Vedas. ***Aranyakas** and **Upanishads** from the Gyan-Kanda segment of the Vedas. They explicitly focus on philosophy and spirituality. *The history of Rigvedic age is known from Rigveda. It is the oldest known book in the world but scholars have dispute over its author and period of composition. ***Iron** is not mentioned in Rigveda but is found in later vedic literature. *Four rivers of Afghanistan namely **Krumu, Kubha, Gomati** and **Suvastu** are mentioned in Rigveda. *It also mentions seven rivers of the Sapta-Sindhu states (land of seven rivers). These are **Saraswati, Vipasa, Parushni, Vitasta, Sindhu** (Indus), **Shutudri** and **Asakini**. River Yamuna and Ganga are mentioned in Rigveda three and one times respectively. *A river of Kashmir Marudvridha is also mentioned. *River Indus is mentioned for the most number of times while river Saraswati was the **most sacred river** which was known as '**Matetama**' (best of all mothers), '**Devitama**' (best of all goddesses) and '**Naditama**' (best of all rivers). *Indus is called '**Hiranyayi**' for its importance and it falls in Arabian Sea. *Ganga-Yamuna doab and its adjoining areas were called as **Brahmarshi Desh** by Aryans. They gave the name **Madhya Desh** to the area between Himalaya and Vindhya mountain ranges. Later Aryans expanded

themselves to the whole of North India and the area come to be known as **Aryavarta**.

Rivers of Rigvedic Age –

Ancient Name	Modern Name
Asakini	Chenab
Vipasa	Beas
Parushni	Ravi
Vitasta	Jhelum
Kubha	Kabul
Krumu	Kurram
Gomati	Gomal
Suvastu	Swat
Sadaneera	Gandak
Shutudri	Sutlej
Drishdvati	Ghaggar

*Vedic literature is also called **Shruti**. The Vedas are the most ancient literature in India. There are four Vedas- **Rigveda, Samveda, Yajurveda** and **Atharvaveda**. *Rigveda, Yajurveda and Samveda are also called **Vedtrayi** or **Trayi**. *Each Vedas have four parts – Samhita, Brahmana text, Aranyakas and Upanishad. *Rigveda has **10** mandals, **1028** suktas and 10552 verses (Richa). **2** to **7** mandals of Rigveda are known to be most ancient.

Rigvedic Mandals and their writers –

Mandals	Writers
First	Maducchanda, Meghatithi, etc.
Second	Gritasamada
Third	Vishvamitra
Fourth	Vamadeva
Fifth	Atri
Sixth	Bhardvaja
Seventh	Vashishtha
Eighth	Kanva & Angiras
Ninth	Aangiras and many others
Tenth	Vimada, Indra, Shachi and many other.

***Gayatri Mantra** is mentioned in the **third** mandal. It is written by **Vishvamitra**. It is dedicated to Lord Savitra (Surya). *All **114** hymns in the ninth mandal are dedicated to '**Soma**'. *Three varnas are described in the beginning namely – Brahman, Kshtriya and Vaishya. The Varna **Shudra** is mentioned for the first time in **Purush Sukta** of **10th** mandal. *The priests of Rigveda were called '**Hota**'. ***Aitreya** and **Kaushitki** are the two Brahmanas of Rigveda. *According to **Patanjali**, there are 21 branches of Rigveda.

***Yajurveda** in Sanskrit means 'wisdom of sacrificial formulas.'

This Veda, compiled a century or two after the Rig-Veda, contains prose and verse formulas that were to be pronounced by the priests performing the manual part of the sacrifice. It describes in prose about the procedural details of performing different rituals and Yajnas using the hymns of the Rig Veda. The Samhitas of Yajur Veda is divided into two parts: **Shukla (White) Yajur Veda** and **Krishna (Black) Yajur Veda**. Shukla Yajur Veda has a separate Brahmana text written as **Satapatha Brahmana**. ***Vajasneyi** is the samhita of Shukla Yajurveda. *Shukla Yajurveda is available only in the poetic form whereas Krishna Yajurveda contains both poetic as well as prose form. *The **Shatpath Brahmana** is a prose text describing Vedic rituals, history and mythology associated with the Yajurveda. In context to Ancient Indian Vedic literature, Shatpath Brahmana has been placed just after the Rig Veda. It also describes social subjects including Vedic rituals. ***'Purusha Medha'** has been mentioned in Shatpath Brahmana. *The Shatapatha Brahmana narrates the story of King Videgha Madhava (a king of Videha) accompanied by his priest **Rishi Gautama Rahugana**. King was carrying fire (Agni Vaisvanara) in his mouth which on incitation of his guru falls out of his mouth and burned the earth towards his east.

*The **Samaveda** is shortest among all the four Vedas. It is closely connected with the Rig Veda. It has taken many verses from the Rig Veda. The Samaveda is compiled for ritual application and all its verses are meant to be chanted in ceremonies. *Samaveda Samhita consists of total **1875** verses. Amongst these except 75 or 99 verses, all are compiled in Rig Veda.

*Priest Chanting mantras were called **Brahma** in **Atharvaveda**. The first reference to the '**Anga**' and '**Magadha**' is found in the Atharvaveda where they are mentioned along with Gandhari and Mujavats. In the post-Vedic period, this region of Kuru & Panchala was considered as the axis of Aryan culture because here great achievements happened in science, mathematics, astronomy, religion and philosophy. ***'Ayurveda'** that is 'Science of Life' appeared first in Atharvaveda. Ayurveda is an Upaveda of Atharvaveda. It is also considered as Upanga of Atharvaveda. Atharvaveda describes the thoughts and superstitions of common people. It comprises of various contents such as disease prevention, coordination, loyalty, marriage and love poetry. *The **Gopatha Brahmana** is the only Brahmana associated with the Atharvaveda. It is a genre of the prose texts describing the Vedic rituals.

*The **Upanishad** literature is not a religious scripture but represents a philosophy for all times and for all. The philosophy of Upanishads does not oppose any school of thought, religion or interpretation of the scriptures but its method for explaining its concepts is unique. *The word salvation or Moksha is not used in Vedas. It was firstly discussed in Upanishads. *Moksha means "liberation". The continuous cycle of life and death

is not the actual aim of the human soul. *According to the Upanishads, **the core of our self is not the body or the mind but the Atman (Soul)**.

***Kathopanishad** is the story of the conversation between Yama, Lord of death and Nachiketa, the young 12 years old boy who left home in search of the meaning of death and beyond. This forms the subject matter of one of the Upanishads called Katha Upanishad or Kathopanishad.

*The phrase "**Satyameva Jayate**" is a Sanskrit word taken from the '**Mundakopanishad**'. The meaning of the word is "**truth alone triumphs.**" It was adopted as the **national motto of India**. It is inscribed in the script at the base of the national emblem. It was adopted by the Government of India on **26 January, 1950**. ***Satyakama Jabala** is a boy, and later a Vedic sage, who first appears in chapter IV of ancient Hindu text, the **Chhandogya Upanishad**. *The phrase "**Tamso Ma Jyotirgamaya**" is originally mentioned in Brihadaranyaka Upanishad. This phrase means - "**lead us from darkness to light or lead us from ignorance to truth**".

***Puranas** are the sacred literature of Hinduism. There are 18 Puranas namely, (1) Matsya Purana (2) Markandeya Purana (3) Bhagavat Purana (4) Bhavishya Purana (5) Brahmanda Purana (6) Brahma Vaivrata Purana (7) Brahma Purana (8) Vamana Purana (9) Varaha Purana (10) Vishnu Purana (11) Vayu Purana (12) Agni Purana (13) Narada Purana (14) Padma Purana (15) Linga Purana (16) Garuda Purana (17) Skanda Purana (18) Kurma Purana. *Out of these 18 Puranas, Srimad Bhagvatam is considered as the 'Crown Jewel' of all the Vedic literature.

***Shrimad Bhagavad Gita** was originally written in Sanskrit language often referred in short as Gita. ***Mahabharata** originally has only 8,800 Shlokas and its original name is '**Jaya**' or **Jayasamhita**. *Mahabharata today has 100,000 Shlokas and is believed to be written by Sage **Veda Vyasa**. ***Puranas** have five characteristics like Sarga, Pratisarga, Vansa, Manvantara and Vanshanucharita. Among these, **Sarga** and **Pratisarga** are the natural creation and renovation (cosmogony). ***Vansa** means the history of Sage and God. ***Manvantara** is meant for the period of different Manus and Vanshanucharit means Genealogy of kings. *Pancha-Jana suggested five specific tribes whose eponymous ancestors were the founders of the clans, namely **Yadu, Turvasa, Druhya, Anu** and **Puru**. *There is an ancient story mentioned in the Rig Veda called the Dasharajnya was or '**Battle of 10 Kings**' long before Ramayana. There lived a descendant of India's eponymous king Bharata, named Sudas. The greatest achievement of Sudas was his thumping victory over a confederacy of ten kings.

*Many hymns of the Rig Veda were composed by women and they were called **Brahmavadini**. The prominent amongst them were **Lopamudra, Vishwawara, Sikta, Ghosa etc.** ***Lopamudra** was the wife of Agastya Rishi/sage.

***Family** or **Kul** was the smallest unit of Rigvedic society.

*Rigvedic society was a **patriarchal society**. It is known from Varun sukta that **a father can sell his child**. *The word **‘Yava’** mentioned in Rig Veda is used for the food grain **barley**. The gold necklace was called as **‘Nishka’**.

Terms of Rigvedic period and their meaning –	
Nivi	Clothes worn below waist
Vasas	Clothes worn above waist
Taksha	Carpenter
Karma	Metal worker
Veknat	Moneylender
Aritri	Boatmen

*The religion of early Vedic Aryans was mainly related to worship of the nature and performing of Yajnas. *The most interesting aspect of Rig Vedic religion was its **polytheistic** character in which a number of Gods were worshipped. The Rig Vedic Aryans worshipped nature with intense feeling and endowed it with animated soul. Vedic Gods were mainly classified into three groups- (1) God of sky-Varuna, Mitra, Surya, Vishnu, etc. (2) God of space- Indra, Rudra, etc. (3) God of earth- Agni, Brihaspati, Soma, etc. ***‘Indra’** has been described as the most powerful deity in the Rig Veda. ‘Indra’ is called **Purandara (Destroyer of forts)**. Very large number of Rigvedic hymns (as maximum as **250 hymns**) are devoted to him followed by **‘Agni’** (200 hymns). ***Boghaz-Koi inscription** (Asia Minor, Turkey) is important because there is mention of four Vedic Gods, namely **Indra, Varuna, Mitra and Nasatyas**. *According to ancient Hindu scriptures, during Vedic period, the ‘Hindu’ tradition recognized four stages or ashramas in human life namely **Brahmacharya, Grihastha, Vanaprastha and Sanyasa**. *In the context of ancient Indian society, Vansha, Gotra and Kula are the words associated with the family system. The word **‘Kosa’** is related to the treasury. *As a Rigvedic term, **Gotra** simply means “cow shelter” or “herd of cows”.

***Cow** was considered as **‘Aghanya’** during Vedic period. “Aghanya” means not worthy to be killed. This status of the cow shows that how pious it was considered during the Vedic period. ***Cattle breeding** was the most important economic activity of the Rigvedic people. Prayers were offered to increase the number of cattle. It was medium of exchange. *Cow is considered as a deity in some suktas of Rig Veda.

***Dharma and Rita** in the Vedic period appear as early as the Rig Veda. Usually, Dharma signifies cosmic ordinance often in connection with the sense of natural or divine law. ‘Rita’ as such is closely related to universal harmony in which all things in the world have a proper place and function. *The concept of **‘Rit’** i.e., universal principal of natural order, is of Vedic origin. The ‘Rit’ has been the basis of Indian culture, legal theory, politics and philosophy. ***God Varuna** was supposed to

uphold ‘Rit’ or the natural order that is why he was also called as **‘Ritasyagopa’**.

*Most popular and prevalent system of governance during the Vedic era was inherited monarchy. Although some examples of election by the people were also found but the general interest of the public was towards monarchy. *During the Vedic era, the two institutions namely **‘Sabha’** and the **‘Samiti’** has been mentioned as the controlling powers upon the autocracy of the king. *The ‘Sabha’ was the assembly of the learned and elite ones, while the ‘Samiti’ was the assembly of the common people in the state.

*The distinction between Sabha and Samiti cannot be made out with precision, but it is clear that ‘Sabha’ and ‘Samiti’ are clearly mentioned at least eight times and nine times respectively in the Rigveda. According to Atharvaveda, Sabha and Samiti are the **two daughters of Prajapati**.

Purohit	Advisor of king
Senani	Head of army
Gramani	Head of Village
Mahishi	Wife of king
Suta	Head of Chariot army
Sangrahita	Treasurer
Bhagdudh	Tax collector
Akshavap	Accountant
Palagal	Messenger
Kshata	Keeper of the King's household

*There are total sixteen **Sanskars** that have been described. The sixteen Sanskaras are as follows- **Garbhadhana** (Conception), **Punsavana** (Foetus protection), **Simantonnayana** (Satisfying the cravings of the pregnant mother), **Jatakarma** (Childbirth), **Namakaran** (Naming the child), **Nishkramana** (Taking the child outdoors for the first time), **Annprasana** (Giving solid food), **Chudakarma** (Hair cutting), **Karnavedha** (Ear piercing), **Vidhyarambha** (Starting education), **Upanayana** (Sacred thread ceremony), **Vedarambha** (Study of Vedas), **Keshant**, **Samavartana** (Returning home after completion of education), **Vivaha** (Marriage) and **Antyesthi** (Cremation).

Name of kings having territories in different directions –	
East	Samrat
West	Swarat
North	Virat
South	Bhoj
Centre	Raja

***Bal Gangadhar Tilak** in his book ‘The Arctic Home in the Vedas’ propounded the theory that North Pole (Arctic region) was the original home of Aryans. "Although this theory of Tilak is not acceptable to historians.

1. The term 'Aryan' denotes :

- (a) An ethnic group (b) A nomadic people
(c) A speech group (d) A superior race

I.A.S. (Pre) 1999
U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 1999

Ans. (d)

'Aryan' is a term meaning 'noble' which was used as a self-designation by Indo-Iranian people. In classic Sanskrit the word Arya means- 'A nobleman'. The word was used by the people of the Vedic period in India as an ethnic label for themselves as well as to refer noble class. Scholars point out that even in ancient times, the idea of being an 'Aryan' was religious, cultural and linguistic, not racial.

2. Meaning of the term 'Arya' in classical Sanskrit is

- (a) Believer of the God
(b) A hereditary cast
(c) A believer in particular religion
(d) A Noble man

U.P. Lower Sub. (Pre) 1998

Ans. (d)

See the explanation of above question.

3. Which one of the following is oldest Veda :

- (a) Yajurveda (b) Rig Veda
(c) Samaveda (d) Atharvaveda

Uttarakhand P.C.S. (Pre) 2010

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 1995

Uttarakhand U.D.A./L.D.A. (Pre) 2007

Ans. (b)

In Indian literature, Vedas are the most ancient scriptures which are four in numbers, namely Rig Veda, Yajurveda, Samaveda and Atharvaveda. Rig Veda is the most important and oldest among all these.

4. 'Trayi' is a name for –

- (a) Three Vedas
(b) Dharma, Sangha and Buddha
(c) Three Gods in Hindu Pantheon
(d) Three seasons

U.P.P.S.C. (GIC) 2010

Ans. (a)

Rig Veda, Yajurveda and Samaveda are called Vedatrayi or simply Trayi.

5. In which Vedic text the term 'Varna' is found referred for the first time?

- (a) Rig Veda (b) Atharvaveda
(c) Samaveda (d) Yajurveda

Uttarakhand P.C.S. (Pre) 2012

Ans. (a)

The 'Varnas' have been known from Rig Veda since a hymn in the Rig Veda portrays the Brahmin (Priest), the Kshatriya (noble), the Vaishya (commoner) and the Shudra (servant) issued forth at creation from the mouth, arms, thighs and the feet of the primeval person (Purusha). Although the literal meaning of the word Varna is colour or class (in Sanskrit).

6. The 'Purush Sukta' related to Varna System is originally found in –

- (a) Atharvaveda (b) Samaveda
(c) Rig Veda (d) Manusmriti
(e) None of these

Chhattisgarh P.C.S. (Pre) 2014

Ans. (c)

See the explanation of above question.

7. Match the following:

- | | |
|----------------|----------------------|
| A. Atharvaveda | 1. God Grace |
| B. Rig Veda | 2. Sacrifice process |
| C. Yajurveda | 3. Medicine |
| D. Samaveda | 4. Music |

Code :

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

M.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 1999

Ans. (a)

The correctly matched list is as follows -

- | | | |
|-------------|---|-------------------|
| Atharvaveda | - | Medicine |
| Rig Veda | - | God Grace |
| Yajurveda | - | Sacrifice process |
| Samaveda | - | Music |

8. Match List- I with List- II and select the correct answer from the codes given below :

- | | |
|----------------|----------------------|
| List- I | List- II |
| A. Rig Veda | 1. Musical hymns |
| B. Yajurveda | 2. Hymns and rituals |
| C. Samaveda | 3. Charms and spells |
| D. Atharvaveda | 4. Hymns and prayers |

Code :

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

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2003

U.P.U.D.A./L.D.A. (Pre) 2002

Ans. (a)

Rigveda consists of 1028 hymns and 10552 Verses or mantras or shlokas. Yajurveda contains the description of stotras and recitals. The Samaveda consists of many hymns which are taken from Rig Veda and are indeed lyrical and melodious. The Atharvaveda contains a lot of knowledge of the physical world and spirituality.

9. Which one of the following four Vedas contains an account of magical charms and spells?

- (a) Rig Veda (b) Yajurveda
(c) Atharvaveda (d) Samaveda

Jharkhand P.C.S. (Pre) 2011

Ans. (c)

The earliest description of charms and spells can be found in Atharvaveda.

10. In Rig Veda there are..... mantras –

- (a) 1028 (b) 1017
(c) 1128 (d) 1020

Chhattisgarh P.C.S. (Pre) 2011

Ans. (*)

Rigveda consists of 1028 hymns and 10552 Verses (mantras)

11. The Rig Veda is the

- (a) Collection of hymns (b) Collection of stories
(c) Collection of words (d) Text of war

U.P. R.O./ A.R.O. (Pre) 2016

Ans. (a)

The Rig Veda is an ancient collection of Vedic Sanskrit hymns. It consists of thousands of such hymns of several seers, each hymn averaging around ten verses. It is one of the four canonical sacred texts (Shruti) of Hinduism known as 'Vedas.'

12. Match the List-I and List-II and choose your answer from the codes given below:

- | List-I | List-II |
|----------------|----------------|
| A. Rig Veda | i. Gopatha |
| B. Samaveda | ii. Shatpatha |
| C. Atharvaveda | iii. Aitariya |
| D. Yajurveda | iv. Panchvisha |

Code:

- | | A | B | C | D |
|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|
| (a) | iv | ii | iii | i |
| (b) | ii | iv | iii | i |
| (c) | iii | iv | i | ii |
| (d) | i | ii | iv | iii |

R.A.S./R.T.S.(Pre) 2013

Ans. (c)

The correctly matched order is :

- | | | |
|-------------|---|------------|
| Rig Veda | - | Aitariya |
| Samaveda | - | Panchvisha |
| Atharvaveda | - | Gopatha |
| Yajurveda | - | Shatpatha |

13. Which one of the following Brahmana texts belongs to the Rigveda?

- (a) Aitareya Brahmana (b) Gopatha Brahmana
(c) Shatpatha Brahmana (d) Taittiriya Brahmana

M.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2017

Ans. (a)

See the explanation of above question.

14. 'Gopatha Brahmana' is associated with –

- (a) Yajurveda (b) Samveda
(c) Atharvaveda (d) Rig Veda

U.P.R.O./A.R.O (Pre) 2014

Ans. (c)

The Gopatha Brahmana is the only Brahmana, a genre of the prose texts describing the Vedic rituals, associated with the Atharvaveda. The text is associated with both the Shaunaka and the Paippalada recensions of the Atharvaveda.

15. Which of the following is a Samhita of Shukla Yajurveda?

- (a) Vajasanami (b) Maitrayani
(c) Taittiriya (d) Kathak

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2018

Ans. (a)

There are two branches of Yajurveda-Shukla Yajurveda and Krishna Yajurveda. Vajasnayni is the Samhita of Shukla Yajurveda. Shukla Yajurveda is available only in the poetic form whereas Krishna Yajurveda contains both poetic as well as prose form.

16. Which Mandala of Rig Veda is completely dedicated to 'Soma'?

- (a) Seventh Mandala (b) Eighth Mandala
(c) Ninth Mandala (d) Tenth Mandala

42nd B.P.S.C. (Pre) 1997

Ans. (c)

Rig Veda is the oldest Veda. It comprises of 10 Mandals. The 9th Mandal of Rig Veda comprises 114 hymns dedicated to 'Soma.'

17. The ninth mandala of the Rig Veda is devoted wholly to:

- (a) Indra and his elephant
(b) Urvashi and the Heaven

- (c) Gods related to plants and drugs
 (d) 'Soma', the god who is named after the drink

40th B.P.S.C. (Pre) 1995

Ans. (d)

See the explanation of above question.

18. Rights and Rituals related to Yajnas are mentioned in—

- (a) Rig Veda (b) Samaveda
 (c) Brahmin Granthas (d) Yajurveda

R.A.S./R.T.S. (Pre) 1999

Ans. (d)

Yajurveda in Sanskrit means 'wisdom of sacrificial formulas.' This Veda, compiled a century or two after the Rig-Veda, contains prose and verse formulae that were to be pronounced by the priests performing the manual part of the sacrifice. It describes in prose about the procedural details of performing different rituals and Yajnas using the hymns of the Rig Veda. The Samhitas of Yajur Veda are divided into two parts: Shukla or white Yajur Veda and Krishna or black Yajur Veda.

19. The compilation of which among the following is based upon the Rig Veda?

- (a) Yajurveda (b) Samaveda
 (c) Atharvaveda (d) None of the above

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 1997

Ans. (b)

The Samaveda is shortest among all the four Vedas. It is closely connected with the Rig Veda. It has taken many verses from the Rig Veda. The Samaveda is compiled inclusively for ritual application and all of its verses are meant to be chanted in ceremonies. Samaveda Samhita consists a total of 1875 verses. Amongst these except 75 or 99 verses, all of them are compiled in Rig Veda.

20. The earliest evidence of the use of iron in India has been discovered from :

- (a) Taxila (b) Atranjikhhera
 (c) Kaushambi (d) Hastinapur

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 1998

Ans. (b)

Atranjikhhera is a prehistoric and historic excavated archaeological site on the bank of Kali river, a tributary of Ganga. This site was first identified by Sir Alexander Cunningham in his survey report in 1861-62 but excavated by R.C. Gaur. A Trial trench put in 1962, was followed in the next year by digging on a small scale. Regular excavation was started in 1964. The earliest evidence of iron used in the region dates back to around 1000 B.C.

21. When did the use of iron begin in Indian subcontinent?

- (a) Around 9000 years ago
 (b) Around 12000 years ago
 (c) Around 6000 years ago
 (d) More than one of the above
 (e) None of the above

68th B.P.S.C. (Pre) 2022

Ans. (e)

The history of early iron smelting, practised by the tribal artisans in different regions of ancient India dates back to 1300 to 1200 B.C. Most of archaeologist accept around 1000 B.C. as start of Iron age in subcontinent. So earliest use of Iron in Indian subcontinent can be placed around 3000 years ago. Hence option (e) none of the above is correct.

22. Upanishads are books on –

- (a) Religion (b) Yoga
 (c) Law (d) Philosophy

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2004

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2002

Ans. (d)

The Upanishad literature is not a religious scripture but represents a philosophy for all times and for all. The philosophy of Upanishads does not oppose any school of thought, religion or interpretation of the scriptures, but its method for explaining its concepts is unique. Upanishad means pupils sit near the teacher to learn from him about the secret doctrine.

23. The main theme of Upanishads is –

- (a) Social structure (b) Philosophy
 (c) Law (d) State

U.P.Lower Sub. (Pre) 1998

Ans. (b)

See the explanation of above question.

24. Which one of the following Vedic literature talks about salvation :

- (a) Rig Veda (b) Later Samhitas
 (c) Brahmins (d) Upanishads

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2003

Ans. (d)

The word salvation or Moksha is not used in Vedas, It was firstly discussed in Upanishads. Moksha means "liberation". The continuous cycle of life and death is not the actual aim of the human soul. According to the Upanishads, the core of our self is not the body or the mind but the Atman (Soul).

25. The famous dialogue between Nachiketa and Yama is mentioned in the :

- (a) Brihadaranyaka Upanishad
- (b) Chhandogyopanishad
- (c) Kathopanishad
- (d) Kenopanishad

I.A.S. (Pre) 1997

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 1999

U.P.U.D.A./L.D.A. (Pre) 2002

Uttarakhand P.C.S. (Pre) 2005

Ans. (c)

Kathopanishad is the story of the conversation between Yama, Lord of death and Nachiketa, the young 12 years old boy, who left home in search of the meaning of death and beyond. This forms the subject matter of one of the Upanishads called Katha Upanishad or Kathopanishad.

26. 'Nachiketa' legend finds mention in :

- (a) Atharvaveda
- (b) Satapatha Brahmin
- (c) Kathopanishad
- (d) Brihadaranyaka Upanishad

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2006

Ans. (c)

See the explanation of above question.

27. King Asvapati of the Upanishadic period was the ruler of:

- (a) Kashi
- (b) Kekaya
- (c) Panchala
- (d) Videha

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 1999

Ans. (b)

The Upanishads state that some Kshatriya kings who were great scholars and philosophers also imparted knowledge to Brahmins. Some of them were- King Janak of Videha, King Pravahanjabali of Panchal, King Asvapati of Kekaya and King Ajatshatru of Kashi. Asvapati was a Kshatriya king. He was well known as a learned teacher of the age. The Kekaya kingdom was situated on the bank of river Beas, east of Gandhara kingdom. King Asvapati ruled Kekaya when Janak was the king of Videha.

28. Which of the following is the correct order of the Vedic literature?

- (a) Vedic Samhitas, Brahmanas, Aranyakas, Upanishads
- (b) Vedic Samhitas, Upanishads, Aranyakas, Brahmanas
- (c) Vedic Samhitas, Aranyakas, Brahmanas, Upanishads
- (d) Vedic Samhitas, Vedangas, Aranyakas, Smritis

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2014

Ans. (a)

Each of the Vedas is divided into four parts (or the sections). The correct order of them is Samhitas, Brahmanas, Aranyakas and Upanishads. Samhitas and Brahmanas form the Karma-Kanda segment of the Vedas. Aranyakas and Upanishads form the Gyan-Kanda segment of the Vedas. They explicitly focus on philosophy and spirituality.

29. The river mentioned most in early Vedic literature is :

- (a) Sindhu
- (b) Shutudri
- (c) Sarasvati
- (d) Ganga

I.A.S. (Pre) 1996

Ans. (a)

Sindhu river was the most important river during the Vedic period; that is why it was mentioned most of the times in the Rig Veda. Sindhu river due to its economic importance was called as 'Hiranyayi' and its place of termination is in 'Arabian Sea.' Saraswati river was the most pious river of Rigvedic Aryans and called as "Naditama".

30. Vedic river Askini is identified with which one of the following rivers?

- (a) Beas
- (b) Ravi
- (c) Chenab
- (d) Jhelum

U.P. P.S.C. (GIC) 2010

Ans. (c)

Vedic river Askini is identified with a present-day river named as Chenab, also popularly known as Chandrabhaga. The river Chenab originates from Tandi in Lahul Spiti where two rivulets namely Chandra and Bhaga meet to form this river.

31. Which of the following rivers mentioned in the Rig Veda indicates the relations of Aryans with Afghanistan?

- (a) Askini
- (b) Parushni
- (c) Kubha, Kramu
- (d) Vipasha, Shutudri

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2010

Ans. (c)

Rivers mentioned in the Rig Veda namely Kubha (Kabul), Kramu (Kurram), Gomti (Gomal) and Suvastu (Swat) were flowing through Afghanistan which indicates that there were deep relations of Aryans with the country.

32. The Vedic river Kubha was located in:

- (a) Afghanistan
- (b) Chinese Turkistan
- (c) Kashmir
- (d) Punjab

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 1999

Ans. (a)

See the explanation of above question.

33. Match the List-I and List-II and choose the correct answer from the code given below:

List-I (Vedic Rivers)	List-II (Modern Name)
A. Kubha	1. Gandak
B. Parushni	2. Kabul
C. Sadaneera	3. Ravi
D. Shutudri	4. Sutlej

Code:

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

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2012

Ans. (b)

Rivers given in the options are correctly matched as follows with their modern names –

(Vedic Rivers)		(Modern name)
Kubha	-	Kabul
Parushni	-	Ravi
Sadaneera	-	Gandak
Shutudri	-	Sutlej

34. In the period of Mahabharata, the name of Mahanadi was

- (a) Kaveri (b) Tapti
(c) Mahananda (d) Ganga
(e) None of these

Chhattisgarh P.C.S. (Pre) 2016

Ans. (e)

The name of Mahanadi during the period of Mahabharat was 'Chitrotapala'. In the Bhishma Parv of Mahabharata, the Chitrotapala river is praised as Punayadayini and Paap (sin) Nashini. Indian people drank the water of Chitrotapala. This fact is proved by the following Verse of Mahabharata –

"चित्रोत्पला चित्ररथां मंजुलां वाहिनीं तथा। मंदाकिनीं वैतरणीं कोषं चापि महानदीम्॥"

The Mahanadi has been called Chitrotapala Ganga in the Mahoba copper plate of Someshwar Dev.

35. As per the Vayu Puran, what is the mythological name of Mahanadi river?

- (a) Chitrotapala (b) Nilotapala
(c) Kanak Nandini (d) Mahananda

Chhattisgarh P.C.S. (Pre) 2022

Ans. (b)

In Vayu Puran the Mythological name of Mahanadi river is Nilotapala. In Matsya Puran river Mahanadi was stated as Chitrotapala.

36. Which of the following custom emerged during the post-Vedic period :

- (a) Dharma, Artha, Kama, Moksha
(b) Brahmin, Kshatriya, Vaishya, Shudra

- (c) Brahmcharya, Grihasthaashramas, Vanaprastha, Sanyasa
(d) Indra, Surya, Rudra, Maruta

I.A.S. (Pre) 1994

Ans. (a & c)

According to ancient Hindu scriptures, during Post-Vedic period, the 'Hindu' tradition recognized four stages or ashramas in human life namely Brahmacharya, Grihastha, Vanaprastha and Sanyasa and four purusharth namely Dharma, Artha, Kama, Moksha.

37. The 'dharma' and 'rita' depict a central idea of ancient Vedic civilization of India. In this context, consider the following statements :

- 'Dharma' was a conception of obligations and the discharge of one's duties to oneself and to others.
- 'Rita' was the fundamental moral law governing the functioning of the universe and all it contained.

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

I.A.S. (Pre) 2011

Ans. (c)

Dharma and Rita in the Vedic period appear as early as the Rig Veda. Usually, Dharma signifies cosmic ordinance often in connection with the sense of natural or divine law. 'Rita' as such is closely related to universal harmony in which all things in the world have a proper place and function. So the term 'Rita' means an impersonal law, while Dharma characterizes those personal actions that engender or maintain the cosmic order. Thus, the correct answer is option (c).

38. In context on Indian culture 'Rit' means

- (a) Natural law (b) Artificial law
(c) Human law (d) Social law
(e) None of these

Chhattisgarh P.C.S. (Pre) 2016

Ans. (a)

The concept of 'Rit' i.e., the universal principle of natural order, is of Vedic origin. The 'Rit' has been the basis of Indian culture, legal theory, politics and philosophy. God Varuna was supposed to uphold 'Rit' or the natural order that is why he was also called as 'Ritasyagopa'.

39. Who among the following Vedic deities was believed to be their priest ?

- (a) Agni (b) Brihaspati

- (c) Dyaus (d) Indra

U.P.P.C.S. (Main) 2013

Ans. (b)

Brihaspati is also known as Deva-guru (teacher or priest of Gods), is the guru of the Devas (Gods).

40. Who among the following was a Brahnavadini who composed some hymns of the Vedas?

- (a) Lopamudra (b) Gargi
(c) Leelavati (d) Savitri

I.A.S. (Pre) 1995

Ans. (a)

Many hymns of the Rig Veda were composed by women and they were called Brahnavadini. The prominent amongst them were Lopamudra, Vishwawara, Sikta, Nivavari and Ghosa. Lopamudra was the wife of Agastya Rishi/sage.

41. During the Rigvedic Period word 'Nishka' was used for a Jewellery but in later period it was used for the meaning of :

- (a) Arms (b) Farming equipment
(c) Script (d) Coin

I.A.S. (Pre) 1993

Ans. (d)

During Vedic period, the gold necklace was called as 'Nishka-Griwa' but later on word Nishka got associated with the gold coins.

42. During the Rig Vedic period Nishka was an ornament of-

- (a) Ear (b) Neck
(c) Arm (d) Wrist

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2007

Ans. (b)

See the explanation of above question.

43. 'Nishka' in ancient India was known as -

- (a) Gold Ornament (b) Cows
(c) Copper Coins (d) Silver Coins

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2005

Ans. (a)

See the explanation of above question.

44. Boghaz-Koi is important because:

- (a) It was an important trading centre between Central Asia and Tibet
(b) Inscriptions were found which mentioned the names of Vedic Gods and Goddesses
(c) Original Texts of the Vedas were composed here
(d) None of the above

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 1996

39th B.P.S.C. (Pre) 1994

Ans. (b)

Boghaz-Koi inscription (Asia Minor, Turkiye) is important because there is mention of four Vedic Gods, namely Indra, Varuna, Mitra and Nasatyas.

45. Which of the following inscriptions tells about the Aryan's movement of Aryan from Iran to India ?

- (a) Man Sehra (b) Shahbazgarhi
(c) Boghaz-Koi (d) Junagarh

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2009

Ans. (c)

See the explanation of above question.

46. An inscription of 14th century B.C. which describes the Vedic Gods has been found in

- (a) Ecbatana (b) Boghaz-Koi
(c) Babylon (d) Bisotun

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2016

Ans. (b)

Boghaz-Koi inscription which mentions four Vedic God namely Indra, Varuna, Mitra, and Nasatyas, is a 14th century B.C. inscription.

47. Who among the following wrote on the original homeland of the Aryans?

- (a) Sankaracharya (b) Annie Besant
(c) Vivekanand (d) Bal Gangadhar Tilak

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 1996

Ans. (d)

Bal Gangadhar Tilak in his book 'The Arctic Home in the Vedas' propounded the theory that North Pole (Arctic region) was the original home of Aryans. But this theory of Tilak is not acceptable to historians.

48. The name of scripture in which 'Purusha Medha' was mentioned is:

- (a) Krishna Yajurveda (b) Shukla Yajurveda
(c) Shatpath Brahmana (d) Panchvish Brahmana

U.P. P.C.S. (Spl) (Pre) 2008

Ans. (*)

'Purusha Medha' has been mentioned in Shatpath Brahmana of Shukla Yajurveda and Taittiriya Brahmana of Krishna Yajurveda. No answer can be given all three are present in the given options. However many historians discuss Purushmedh Yojan while discussing Sathpath Brahmana only.

49. The priest associated with King Videgha Madhava referred in Shatapatha Brahmana was -

- (a) Rishi Bharadwaj
(b) Rishi Vashishta

- (c) Rishi Vishwamitra
(d) Rishi Gautama Rahugana

U.P. Lower Sub. (Pre) 2015

Ans. (d)

It is believed that Saraswati was the scene of the activities of the famous Vedic tribes - the Bharatas, the Purus, and the Kurus. The Shatapatha Brahmana narrates the story of King Videgha Madhava (a king of Videha) accompanied by his priest Rishi Gautama Rahugana, carrying the sacred fire to east preserving thereby the tradition that the Kosalas and the Videhas received from their culture.

50. In the post-Vedic period which was considered as the axis of Aryan Culture

- (a) Anga, Magadha (b) Kosal, Videha
(c) Kuru, Panchala (d) Matsya, Shurasena

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2007

Ans. (c)

In the post-Vedic period, this region of Kuru, Panchala was considered as the axis of Aryan culture because here great achievements happened in science, mathematics, astronomy, religion and philosophy.

51. The word Gotra occurs for the first time in

- (a) Atharvaveda (b) Rig Veda
(c) Samaveda (d) Yajurveda

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2005

Ans. (b)

As a Rigvedic term, gotra simply means "cow shelter" or "herd of cows". The specific meaning "family, lineage kin" (as it were "herd within an enclosure") is relatively more recent, first recorded around post-Vedic period.

52. The religion of early Vedic Aryans was primarily of

- (a) Bhakti
(b) Image worship and yajnas
(c) Worship of nature and yajnas
(d) Worship of nature and bhakti

I.A.S. (Pre) 2012

Ans. (c)

The religion of early Vedic Aryans was mainly related to worship of the nature and performing of Yajnas. The Aryans in the early Vedic period described life as manifestation of nature. Worship of different forces of nature formed a part of their religious belief. They believed that some divine power works behind the objects of nature such as fire, water, wind, etc.

53. In the Rigvedic period, people believed mainly in –

- (a) Idol worship (b) One God belief
(c) Goddess worship (d) Sacrifice and rituals

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 1993

Ans. (d)

Sacrifice or Yajna was the central feature of Rigvedic religion. Domestic sacrifice was the general rule. Community sacrifice offered by kings were grand festivals. It was believed that Gods were pleased by Yajna or sacrifice.

54. Famous Battle of 'Ten Kings' was fought on the bank of the river –

- (a) The Ganges (b) Brahmaputra
(c) Kaveri (d) Parushni

42nd B.P.S.C. (Pre) 1997

Ans. (d)

There is an ancient story mentioned in the Rig Veda called the Dasharajnya or 'Battle of 10 Kings' on the bank of Parushni River. There lived a descendant of India's eponymous king Bharata, named Sudas. The greatest achievement of Sudas was his thumping victory over a confederacy of ten kings.

55. The famous battle of 'Ten Kings' as described in the Rig Veda was fought on the bank of

- (a) Parushni (b) Saraswati
(c) Vipasa (d) Asikni

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2008

Ans. (a)

See the explanation of above question.

56. Which of the following river among the following referred as 'Matetama', 'Devitama' and 'Naditama' in the Rig Veda.

- (a) Sindhu (b) Saraswati
(c) Vitasta (d) Yamuna

U.P.P.C.S. (Spl) (Mains) 2008

Ans. (b)

Saraswati River was considered as the most pious and respected river during the Rigvedic period. In the Rig Veda, Saraswati is referred as 'Matetama', 'Devitama' and 'Naditama' means best of all mothers, best of all Goddesses and the best of all rivers respectively.

57. Give the name of the tribe which is not related to the 'Panchjana' of the Rig Veda Aryans:

- (a) Yadu (b) Puru
(c) Turvasa (d) Kikati

Ans. (d)

Pancha-Jana suggested five specific tribes whose eponymous ancestors were the founders of the clans, namely Yadu, Turvasa, Druhya, Anu and Puru. Kikat was not among them.

58. In the ancient period chief-livelihood source of the Aryans was –

- (a) Agriculture (b) Hunting
(c) Artcraft (d) Business

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 1993

Ans. (a)

In ancient time, the Aryans were dependent on Agriculture and hunting for their livelihood.

59. The word 'Yava' mentioned in Rig Veda is used for which agricultural product ?

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

U.P.P.C.S. (Spl) (Mains) 2008

Ans. (a)

The word 'Yava' mentioned in Rig Veda is used for the food grain barley. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

60. Match list-I with list-II and choose the correct answer from the code given below –

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| List-I | List-II |
| A. Vrihi | (i) Sugarcane |
| B. Mudga | (ii) Rice |
| C. Yava | (iii) Mung bean |
| D. Ikshu | (iv) Millet |

- Code –**
(a) A-(i), B-(ii), C-(iii), D-(iv)
(b) A-(iv), B-(iii), C-(ii), D-(i)
(c) A-(iii), B-(iv), C-(i), D-(ii)
(d) A-(ii), B-(iii), C-(iv), D-(i)

R.A.S./R.T.S. (Pre.) 2021

Ans (d)

The correctly matched list is as follows –
Vrihi – Rice
Mudga – Mung bean
Yava – Millet
Ikshu – Sugarcane

61. The Rigvedic "Pani" belong to which class of citizens?

- (a) Priests (b) Ironsmiths
(c) Goldsmiths (d) Traders

M.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2019

Ans. (d)

"Pani" during the Rigvedic period were a class of traders.

62. The System of Governance prevalent in the Vedic era was–

- (a) Autocratic (b) Democratic
(c) Republic (d) Descended monarchy

R.A.S./R.T.S. (Pre) 1993

Ans. (d)

Most popular and prevalent system of governance during the Vedic era was descended monarchy. Although some examples of election by the people were also found but the general interest of the public was towards monarchy.

63. 'Sabha' of Vedic-era –

- (a) Was an institution of mercantile people of the villages
(b) Was a royal court
(c) Was council of ministers
(d) National Assembly of all the people of the state

R.A.S./R.T.S. (Pre) 1994

Ans. (c)

During the Vedic era, the two institutions namely 'Sabha' and the 'Samiti' have been mentioned as the controlling powers upon the autocracy of the king. The 'Sabha' was the assembly of the learned and elite ones, while the 'Samiti' was the assembly of the common people in the state.

64. In which of the Vedas, Sabha and Samiti are called as two daughters of Prajapati ?

- (a) Rig Veda (b) Samveda
(c) Yajurveda (d) Atharvaveda

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2009

Ans. (d)

The clear distinction between Sabha and Samiti cannot be made but it is clear that 'Sabha' and 'Samiti' were clearly mentioned in the Atharva Veda as the two daughters of Prajapati.

65. The Rigvedic tribal assembly associated with judicial function was

- (a) Sabha (b) Samiti
(c) Vidhata (d) All of these

Jharkhand P.C.S. (Pre) 2016

Ans. (a)

Several tribal or the clan-based assemblies such as the Sabha, Samiti, Vidhata are mentioned in the Rigveda. Among them Sabha was associated with the judicial function. Sabha is mentioned eight times in Rigveda. Sabha and Samiti are mentioned as two daughters of Prajapati in Atharvaveda.

66. Which officer was known as 'Bhagadugha' during Vedic administration?

- (a) Chief Officer of the Gambling Department
(b) Revenue Collector
(c) Messenger

(d) Chief Officer of Forests

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2023

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2011

Ans. (b)

Bhagadugha was associated with revenue administration in Vedic administration.

67. 'Ayurveda' that is 'Science of Life' appeared first in :

- (a) Aranyaka (b) Samveda
(c) Yajurveda (d) Atharvaveda

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 1994

Ans. (d)

'Ayurveda' that is 'Science of Life' appeared first in Atharvaveda. Ayurveda is an Upaveda of Atharva Veda. It describes the thoughts and superstitions of common people. It comprises of various contents such as disease prevention, coordination, loyalty, marriage and love poetry.

68. Rig-vedic religion was—

- (a) Polytheistic (b) Monotheistic
(c) Monistic (d) Libertarian

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2014

Ans. (a)

The most interesting aspect of Rig Vedic religion was its polytheistic character in which a number of Gods were worshipped. The Rig Vedic Aryans worshipped nature with intense feeling and endowed it with animated soul. Vedic Gods were mainly classified into three groups- (1) God of sky-Varuna, Mitra, Surya, Vishnu, etc. (2) God of space- Indra, Rudra, etc. (3) God of the earth- Agni, Brihaspati, Soma, etc. Whenever these Vedic saints worship any God, they consider him to be the Supreme God, this is known as Ekaikyavaad. Other than this in Rigveda Ekeshwarvaad is supported by saying Ekm Satt Vipra bahudha badanti". Ekeshwarvaad of Rigveda included vision of Advaityavaad, Sarvadevtavaad and Bahudevataavaad. But the concept of one supreme God of Vedas is different form the modern Ishwarvaad.

69. The largest number of Rigvedic hymns are devoted to

- (a) Agni (b) Indra
(c) Rudra (d) Vishnu

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2002

Ans. (b)

'Indra' has been described as the most powerful deity in the Rig Veda. 'Indra' is the most important divinity in the Rig-Veda. A very large number of Rig Veda hymns (as maximum as 250 hymns) are devoted to him followed by 'Agni' (200 hymns).

70. Who among the following is regarded as War-God in the Rig Veda ?

- (a) Agni (b) Indra
(c) Surya (d) Varuna

Ans. (b)

In the Rig Veda, a maximum number of hymns are devoted to the God 'Indra'. He was the Storm-God and referred to as the Sky-God and the God of War. The Vedas describe Indra as the God who wields the thunderbolt.

71. The largest hymns of Rigveda is dedicated to which Vedic god?

- (a) Agni (b) Indra
(c) Varuna (d) Aditya

Uttarakhand P.C.S. (Pre) 2021

Ans. (b)

See the explanation of above question.

72. The largest number of the Hymns in Rig Veda belongs to—

- (a) Agni (b) Varuna
(c) Vishnu (d) Yama

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2010

Ans. (a)

The largest number of hymns in Rigveda belongs to god Indra. But in the present question, in the absence of Indra we choose Agni (Second largest).

73. Study the following statements about the Vedic God Indra and select the correct answer from the codes given below:

1. Was the God of thunder.
2. Punished the sinners.
3. Was the guardian of the moral order.
4. Was the God of rain.

Codes :

- (a) 1 and 2 are correct. (b) 1 and 3 are correct.
(c) 2 and 4 are correct. (d) 1 and 4 are correct.

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2017

Ans. (d)

In Vedas, Indra is the King and the Dev of Svarga (Heaven). He is the God of heaven, lightning, thunder and rains. Guardian of the Moral order (Rit) was lord Varuna. Some hymns, are prayers to God Indra for punishing the sinners, but in the absence of option 1, 2 and 4 we choose 1 and 4.

74. Who among the following was the most popular God of the early Vedic Aryans ?

- (a) Varuna (b) Vishnu
(c) Rudra (d) Indra

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2008

Ans. (d)

See the explanation of above question.

75. Who of the following Gods was considered as War-God in the Vedic literature?

- (a) Varuna (b) Indra
(c) Agini (d) Mitra

Ans. (b)

See the explanation of above question.

76. 800 B.C. to 600 B.C. is related to which era?

- (a) Brahmin era (b) Sutra era
(c) Ramayana era (d) Mahabharata era

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2002

Ans. (a)

800 B.C. to 600 B.C. is related to Brahmana era. Often period during seventh century B.C. or sixth century B.C. to third century B.C. is called as Sutra Period.

77. Gayatri Mantra is found in which book?

- (a) Upanishad (b) Bhagwatgita
(c) Rig Veda (d) Yajurveda

39th B.P.S.C. (Pre) 1994

Ans. (c)

The Gayatri Mantra was first written in Sanskrit in the Rig Veda by the Brahmarshi Vishwamitra. Its meaning is "May the Almighty God illuminate our intellect to lead us along the righteous path."

78. The 'Mantra' famous with the name of 'Gayatri Mantra' found in which of the following scriptures –

- (a) Bhagwat Gita (b) Atharvaveda
(c) Rig Veda (d) Manusmriti

U.P. P.C.S. (Pre) 2013

Ans. (c)

See the explanation of above question.

79. Who composed the Gayatri Mantra ?

- (a) Vasishtha (b) Vishwamitra
(c) Indra (d) Parikshit

Uttarakhand P.C.S. (Pre) 2006

Ans. (b)

See the explanation of above question.

80. Sarga, Pratisarga, Vansa, Manvantara and Vanshanucharita are the indicators of

- (a) Vedas (b) Puranas
(c) Upanishads (d) Sutras

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) (Re. Exam) 2015

Ans. (b)

Puranas have five characteristics like Sarga, Pratisarga, Vansa, Manvantara and Vanshanucharita. Among these, Sarga and Pratisarga are the natural creation and renovation (cosmogony). Vansa means the history of Sage and God. Manvantara is meant for the period of different Manus and Vanshanucharit means Genealogy of kings.

81. The number of Puranas is–

- (a) 16 (b) 18
(c) 19 (d) 21

Ans. (b)

Puranas are the sacred literature of Hinduism. There are 18 Puranas namely, (1) Matsya Purana (2) Markandeya Purana (3) Bhagavat Puranam (4) Bhavishya Purana (5) Brahmanda Purana (6) Brahma Vaivrata Purana (7) Brahma Purana (8) Vamana Purana (9) Varaha Purana (10) Vishnu Purana (11) Vayu Purana (12) Agni Purana (13) Narada Purana (14) Padma Purana (15) Linga Purana (16) Garuda Purana (17) Skanda Purana (18) Kurma Purana. Out of these 18 Puranas, Srimad Bhagvatam is considered as the 'Crown Jewel' of all the Vedic literature.

82. With reference to the Puranas, which one of the following statements is correct?

(1) Information about the Mauryan dynasty is found in the Vishnu Puran.

(2) Vayu Puran throws light on the Gupta's governance system.

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

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2023

Ans. (d)

The Vishnu Purana gives an account of Mauryan Dynasty. Vayu Purana is related to Gupta Dynasty and Matsya Purana is related to Andhra Satavahana Dynasty.

83. In which language was the 'Shrimad Bhagavad Gita' originally written ?

- (a) Sanskrit (b) Urdu
(c) Pali (d) Hindi

Uttarakhand U.D.A./L.D.A. (Pre) 2007

Ans. (a)

Shrimad Bhagavad Gita was originally written in Sanskrit language often referred in short as Gita. There are 700 verses in this Hindu scripture and this is the part of the epic Mahabharata.

84. Originally the Mahabharata was known as –

- (a) Brihatkatha (b) Brahmins
(c) Brihatsamhita (d) Jayasamhita

U.P.R.O/A.R.O. (Pre) 2014

Ans. (d)

Mahabharata originally had only 8,800 shlokas and its original name was 'Jaya' or Jayasamhita. Mahabharata today has 100,000 Shlokas and is believed to be written by Sage Veda Vyasa.

85. The Shatasahasri-Samhita is the nickname of which of the following texts?

- (a) Rigveda (b) Atharvaveda
(c) Ramayana (d) Mahabharata

Ans. (d)

See the above explanation

86. According to Hindu mythology, which serpent offered himself as a rope for churning the ocean ?

- (a) Kalia (b) Vasuki
(c) Pushkar (d) Sheshnag

Uttarakhand U.D.A./L.D.A. (Pre) 2007

Ans. (b)

The churning of the ocean of milk (Ksira Sagar) was an elaborate process. Mount Mandara or Mandar Parvat was used as the churning rod and Vasuki, the king of serpents who abides on Shiva's neck, became the churning rope. Lord Vishnu, in the form of Kurma Avtar, came to their rescue and supported the mountain on his back.

87. In which phase, the concept of untouchability was put clearly?

- (a) Rigvedic phase (b) Later Vedic phase
(c) Later Gupta phase (d) Dharmashastra phase

39th B.P.S.C. (Pre) 1994

Ans. (d)

The concept of untouchability assumed definite shape in the early Christian era which was the period known as the era of Dharmashastra in ancient Indian history. During this period, the Brahmanical religion was on ascendences. Various scriptures were being written and the social customs of different types were practised strictly and untouchability was one of them.

88. From which Upanishad, the words "Satyameva Jayate" have been taken ?

- (a) Mundakopanishad (b) Kathopnishad
(c) Chhandogyopanishad (d) None of these

U.P.P.C.S. (Spl) (Pre) 2004

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2004

Ans. (a)

The words "Satyameva Jayate" is a Sanskrit word taken from the 'Mundakopanishad'. The meaning of the word is "truth alone triumphs." It was adopted as the national motto of India. It is inscribed in the script at the base of the national emblem. On January 26, 1950, it was adopted by the Government of India.

89. From where the word 'Satyameva Jayate' taken ?

- (a) Manusmriti (b) Bhagawadgita
(c) Rig Veda (d) Mundakopanishad

I.A.S. (Pre) 2004

M.P. P.C.S. (Pre) 1992, 1994

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 1991

Ans. (d)

See the explanation of above question.

90. 'Satyameva Jayate' which is engraved on the Indian Emblem has been taken from –

- (a) Rig Veda (b) Bhagavad Gita
(c) Mundakopanishad (d) Matsya Purana

U.P.P.S.C. (R.I.) 2014

Ans. (c)

See the explanation of above question.

91. The Statement "Tamsoma Jyotirgamaya" was originally mentioned in

- (a) Upanishadas (b) Mahakavyas
(c) Puranas (d) Shaddarshanas
(e) None of these

Chhattisgarh P.C.S. (Pre) 2016

Ans. (a)

The statement "Tamsoma Jyotirgamaya" is originally mentioned in Brihadaranyaka Upanishada. This statement means - "lead us from darkness to light or lead us from ignorance to truth"

92. The literal meaning of which Upanishada is white horse?

- (a) Kathopanishad (b) Chhandogy Upanishad
(c) Taittiriya Upanishad (d) Eshopanishad
(e) None of these

Chhattisgarh P.C.S. (Pre) 2016

Ans. (e)

None of the Upanishads in the given options literally means 'white horse'. Shvetashvatara Upanishad is an ancient Sanskrit text embedded in the Yajurveda. Shavetashvatara literally means 'carried on a white horse'.

93. The legend of Satyakam Jabal, which challenges the stigma of being an unmarried mother, is mentioned in

- (a) Jabal Upanishad (b) Prashnophishad
(c) Chhandogy Upanishad (d) Kathopanishad

R.A.S./R.T.S. (Pre) 2016

Ans. (c)

Satyakama Jabala as a boy, and later a Vedic sage, who first appears in chapter IV of ancient Hindu text, the Chhandogy Upanishad challenged the stigma of an unmarried mother.

94. Fundamental or basic script of the 'Rig Veda' was –

- (a) Devnagri (b) Kharoshthi
(c) Pali (d) Brahmi

U.P.P.C.S. (Spl) (Pre) 2004

Ans. (d)

The basic script of the Rig Veda was Brahmi. The work on a script or 'Bhasa' is said to have been started by Brahma. For thousands of years, the script was known after him as the Brahmi script. The Rig Veda is divided into 10 Mandals, which consists of 1028 Sukta and 10552 Mantra. According to Patanjali, there are 21 branches of Rig Veda. The priests of Rig Veda were called 'Hota'.

95. In the Vedic rituals HOTA is associated with the—

- (a) Rig Veda (b) Yajurveda
(c) Samaveda (d) Atharvaveda

U.P.R.O./A.R.O. (Mains) 2013

Ans. (a)

See the explanation of above question.

96. There is a similarity in Avesta and the Rig Veda, from which region the Avesta is related to –

- (a) India (b) Iran
(c) Israel (d) Egypt

U.P. Lower Sub. (Spl) (Pre) 2004

Ans. (b)

According to a definition given about the Aryans: The Indo-Iranian group whose members composed the Zoroastrian scriptures, the Avesta and the Hindu scriptures such as the Vedas, called themselves Aryans. So it is clear that in the Vedic period it was the region of present-day Iran, where Zoroastrianism prevailed, and the 'Avesta' was written by Zoroastrian.

97. Which of the following animals was considered as "Aghanya" during the Vedic period:-

- (a) Bull (b) Sheep
(c) Cow (d) Elephant

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2008

Ans. (c)

It was the cow which was considered as "Aghanya" during Vedic period. "Aghanya" means not worthy of being killed. This status of the cow shows how pious it was considered during the Vedic period.

98. Aghanya in Rig Veda is mentioned for –

- (a) Goat (b) Cow
(c) Elephant (d) Horse

U.P. U.D.A./L.D.A. (Spl) (Pre) 2010

Ans. (b)

See the explanation of above question.

99. The name 'Aghanya' mentioned in many passages of the Rig Veda refers to :

- (a) Priest (b) Women
(c) Cows (d) Brahmanas

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2017

Ans. (c)

See the explanation of above question.

100. With reference to the difference between the culture of Rigvedic Aryans and Indus Valley people, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Rigvedic Aryans used the coat of mail and helmet in warfare whereas the people of Indus Valley Civilization did not leave any evidence of using them.

2. Rigvedic Aryans knew gold, silver and copper whereas Indus Valley people knew only copper and iron.

3. Rigvedic Aryans had domesticated the horse whereas there is no evidence of Indus Valley people having been aware of this animal.

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

I.A.S. (Pre) 2017

Ans. (a)

Coat of mail and helmet made of gold and iron is mentioned in Rigveda. Possibly they were used in warfare. Indus Valley people were lacking in weapons and were possibly ruled by a class of merchants. Indus valley civilization did not leave any evidence of using weapons. Therefore, statement 1 is correct. Rigvedic Aryans knew gold, silver and copper. Indus Valley people knew only copper and bronze. The use of iron spread in North India between 1000 BC - 600 BC. Therefore, statement 2 is wrong. Rigvedic Aryans owed their success in India to their use of horses and chariots and recently a site called Bhagwanpura has been excavated in Haryana (of Rigvedic period) where horse bones have also been found. Evidence of the horse comes from a superficial level of Mohanjo-daro and from a doubtful terracotta figurine from Lothal. Therefore, statement 3 is also wrong. So, the correct option is (a).

101. In the early Rigvedic period, what was considered to be the most valuable property?

- (a) Land (b) Cow
(c) Women (d) Water

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) (Re. Exam) 2015

Ans. (b)

Cattle breeding was the most important economic activity of the Rigvedic people. Prayers were offered to increase the number of cattle. It was a medium of exchange. A cow is considered as a deity in some Suktas of Rig Veda.

102. Match List-I with List-II and select the correct answer using the codes given below the lists :

List - I	List - II
A. Indus Valley Civilization	1. Pastoral
B. Later Vedic Society	2. Land Lordism
C. Rigvedic Society	3. Agrarian
D. Medieval Period	4. Urban

Codes :

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

Ans. (d)

The correctly matched list is as follows :

List - I	List - II
Indus Valley Civilization	– Urban
Later Vedic Society	– Agrarian
Rigvedic Society	– Pastoral
Medieval Period	– Land Lordism

103. In the context of ancient Indian society which one of the following terms does not belong to the category of the other three?

- (a) Kula (b) Vansha
(c) Kosa (d) Gotra

I.A.S. (Pre) 1996

Ans. (c)

In the context of ancient Indian society, Vansha, Gotra and Kula are the words associated with the family system, but the word Kosa is related to the treasury.

104. What is the total number of Sanskaras?

- (a) 10 (b) 12 (c) 15 (d) 16

M.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2015

Ans. (d)

There are total of sixteen Sanskars that have been described. Three are performed before birth, twelve during life and one after death. It seems that Upnayan Sanskar is the most important and commonly performed, besides, of course, the wedding ceremony and ritual after death.

105. The teacher who taught 'Ved-Vedanga' for livelihood, was called –

- (a) Acharya (b) Adhvaryu
(c) Upadhyaya (d) Purohita

Uttarakhand U.D.A./LDA (Mains) 2007

Ans. (c)

Upadhyaya was the one who adopted teaching as a profession to earn his livelihood and taught only a portion of Veda or Vedangas.

Buddhism

*Gautama Buddha was born in Lumbini near Kapilavastu in 563 BC. His father's name was Shuddhodana who was the chief of the Shakya clan. His mother was Mayadevi or Mahamaya who was from Koliyan clan. The childhood name of Gautam Buddha was Siddhartha. A few days after his birth, his mother died. Therefore, he was raised by his aunt Prajapati Gautami. He was married at the age of 16 to Yashodhara, daughter of Shakya Clan.

*In the later Buddhist texts, other names of Yashodhara are Gopa, Bimba, Bhadrakachhana, etc. Their son's name was Rahul. *Four scenes had a great impact on Buddha's life. These were an old man, a sick person, a deceased and the blessed Saints. *Siddhartha decided to abandon his wife and children and left the home while they were sleeping. *At the time of renunciation, Siddhartha was 29 years old. *Abandoning of home in Buddhist texts has been called 'Mahabhinishkramana'. *He met the Acharya of Sankhya philosophy, Alar Kalam, near Vaishali. Siddhartha reached Rajgrih and met another Dharmacharya Rudrak Ramputt. Gautama got enlightened in the night of Vaishakh Purnima after six years of continuous meditation under a Bodhi tree in Bodh Gaya at the age of 35. *After enlightenment, he was called 'Buddha'. *Another name of the Buddha is 'Tathagat', which means - he who have won truth, however exact meaning is uncertain and Buddhist commentaries present more than one meaning. *He was called 'Shakyamuni' due to his birth in Shakya clan. *After enlightenment, Gautama Buddha started preaching his opinion. *From Uruvela (Bodh Gaya) he first reached Rishipattan (present-day Sarnath, Varanasi). There he gave the first sermon to five Brahmin sanyasis. This first sermon was called 'Dharmachakrapravartana'.

Symbols of Buddhism related to the life of Buddha –	
Events	Symbols
Birth	Lotus & Bull
Great Departure (Mahabhinishkramana)	Horse
Enlightenment (Nirvana)	Peepal (Bodhi tree)
First Sermon (Dharmachakrapravartana)	Wheel
Death (Mahaparinirvana)	Stupa

*He spent the second, third, and fourth year of rain at the Rajgrih. Bimbisara, the Ruler of Magadha built a 'Mahavihara' called 'Veluvan' for his residence.

*Travelling from Rajgriha, Buddha reached Vaishali, the capital of Lichchhivi where he spent the fifth year of the rain. *Lichchhivians built the famous 'Kutagrassala' in Mahavan for his residence. *Vaishali's royal courtesan, Amrapali, became his disciple and provided his Amravatika for the residence of the Buddhist monks. *In the eighth year of Enlightenment, Gautama Buddha permitted women to enter as Bhikshuni into Buddhist Sangha at Vaishali on the advice of his beloved disciple Anand. *Buddha's aunt (Mahaprajapati) who raised him as a mother was the first woman to enter the Buddhist Sangh. *Devadatta was the cousin of Buddha. *Devadatta firstly became a follower and then became an enemy of Buddha. *He wanted to remove Buddha from the Buddhist Sangh and become the head of the Sangh himself, but he did not succeed in it. The Buddhism was highly popularised in the Koshal state.

*A wealthy businessman named Anathpindak of the Koshal kingdom became his disciple and donated him 'Jetavana' Vihara for the Buddhist Sangh. *Koshal King **Prasenjit** also adopted Buddhist religion along with his family, and he built 'Pubbarama' (Purva - Ram) vihara for Buddhist Sangh.

*Buddha spent his last rainy season in **Vaishali**. *While preaching Buddhism, he reached Pava, where he stayed in the Amravatika of Chund, a blacksmith. * He gave Buddha 'Sukaramaddva' food to eat, this caused him 'bleeding'. *Then he went to Kushinagar (Kushinara) and here he gave his last sermon to **Subhad**. *He died in Kushinagar (capital of the Republic Mall) in **483 BC** at the age of 80. In Buddhist texts, this event is called '**Mahaparinirvana**'.

*Buddha's first sermon is termed as '**Dharmachakravartana**'. The sermon was related to sufferings, the cause of suffering and its solution. *The concept of eight-fold path forms the theme of 'Dharma Chakra Pravartana Sutta' which means sermon of the turning of the wheel of law. He gave '**Noble Eightfold Path**' and '**Four Noble Truths**' which were accepted as basic tenets by all Buddhist sects.

*The four noble truths are as follows-

- i. There is suffering.
- ii. There is the cause of suffering.
- iii. There is a cessation of suffering.
- iv. There is a path leading to the cessation of suffering.

The main reason for the spread of Buddhism was its simplicity. Its eight-fold path and concept of non-violence were simple and understandable by the common people. Buddha spread his message in the simple language or the language of common people. *Buddhism did not believe in caste-distinctions. The non-Brahmins, particularly Dalits, were attracted by the simplicity of Buddhism. They also followed the missionary concept.

Buddhist Councils				
Number	Year	Place	President	Rulers
First	483BC	Rajgriha	Mahakasappa	Ajatashatru
Second	383BC	Vaishali	Sabakami	Kalasoka
Third	247BC	Pataliputra	Moggaliputta Tissa	Ashok
Fourth	1 st Century AD	Kundalvana (Kashmir)	Vasumitra Ashwaghosh (Vice President)	Kanishk

*In first century those who believed in traditional faith were called '**Sthavir**' or '**Theravadi**'. These were led by Mahakachchayan. *Those who accepted the change were called '**Mahasanghika**'. They were led by Mahakasappa. *In the fourth Buddhist council, there was a dominance of the Mahasanghikas. The **fourth council** held during the reign of **Kanishka** divided Buddhism into two sects, namely **Hinayana** and **Mahayana**. In Mahayana, Gautama Buddha was treated as God and its followers started worshipping Buddha through idols. Gautama Buddha was elevated to the position of God during the period of Kanishka. *The fundamental difference between Hinayana and Mahayana sects of Buddhism is regarding treating Buddha as God. Hinayana believes in Buddha as a great man, whereas Mahayana started worshipping Buddha through idols treating him as God.

***Sarvastivada** literally means "**Doctrine that all exist**". Sarvastivadin described a complex system in which past, present and future phenomena are all held to have some form of their own existence. *Like all Buddhist, the Sarvastivadins consider everything empirical to be transient but they maintain that the dharma factors are eternally existing realities. ***Impermanence**, also called **Anitya**, is one of the essential doctrines and part of three marks of existence in Buddhism. This doctrine was presented by Buddha himself. The doctrine asserts that all of conditioned existence, without exception, is "**transient, evanescent, inconstant**". This impermanence is a source of Dukkha (sufferings).

*Nagarjuna's primary contribution to Buddhist philosophy was the use of the concept of **Sunyata** or doctrine of void. *The famous literary work "**Madhyamika Karika**" provides one of Nagarjuna's most famous quotations on emptiness or co-arising. Nagarjuna was an eminent personality in the court of Kanishka. *Hiuen Tsang called him one of the world's four great guiding powers. *In the book "Madyamik Karika" he has discussed the **theory of relativity**. He is also known as the Indian Einstein. According to Chinese mythology, Nagarjuna travelled to China and preached Buddhism. *"**Maitreya**" has been called 'future Buddha' in Buddhist tradition. *"**Padma-pani** or "**Lotus-Bearer**" is one of the most common epithets of **Avalokiteshvara**, the Bodhisattva of infinite compassion. This superbly modelled sculpture stands in a tribhanga or tri-bent pose. *A **Bodhisattva** is a living being (sattva) who aspires to enlightenment (bodhi) and carries out altruistic practices. The Bodhisattva ideal is central to the Mahayana Buddhist tradition as the individual who seeks enlightenment both for himself or herself and for others.

*In order to preach the doctrine of Buddhism (Mahatma Buddha), the Buddhists compiled a new type of literature (Tripitaka) that can be divided into three categories - (1) Sutta Pitaka, (2) Vinaya Pitaka and (3) Abhidhamma Pitaka. ***Sutta Pitaka** contains the sayings and teachings of the Buddha. ***Vinaya Pitaka** deals with the rules to be observed by members of the Sangha. **Abhidhamma Pitaka** presents the philosophical exposition of the Dhamma. The Abhidhamma Pitaka consists of seven books - Yamaka, Patthana, Kathavatthu, Puggalapannatti, Dhatukatha, Vibhanga and Dhammasangani. *The religious texts of the Buddhists, in which the stories of the previous birth of Gautama Buddha are compiled, are called **Jataka**. It is written in the Pali language.

*In Bhumisparsha Mudra, Buddha is seen seated with his right hand as a pendant over the right knee reaching towards the ground with the palm inward while touching the lotus throne. In the meantime, the left hand can be seen with the palm upright in his lap. This gesture represents the moment of the Buddha's awakening as he claims the earth as the witness of his enlightenment just before he realized enlightenment. It is believed that the demon **Mara** tried to frighten him with the armies of demons which represent the defeat of Mara and his demonic army by Buddha.

*During the Buddhist period, some of the most important centres of learning in India were **Nalanda**, **Vikramshila** and **Vallabhi**. These centres of learning were not only popular among the different Janapadas from where students came for learning but also attracted students from abroad i.e. China, Japan, Tibet and other countries of South-East Asia. *Some of the educational centers like **Taxila** and **Nalanda** enjoyed the status of Universities. ***Nalanda** was the main centre for the education for **Mahayana Buddhism** and Vallabhi for **Hinayana Buddhism**. ***Vikramshila Mahavihara** was established by Pala King **Dharmapala**. *He also constructed temples and monasteries here. *The University of Nalanda came into existence during the Gupta Period.

*Initially Kumaragupta - I gave donations to Nalanda Buddhist Vihara and afterwards Buddhgupta, Tathagatgupta and Baladitya also donated to this Vihara. *"Navnalanda Mahavihara" is a modern centre of Buddhist study. Its foundation stone was laid on 20 November, 1951. ***Odantipur** (also called as Uddantapura) was a prominent education centre of ancient time. It was situated in Magadha, now Bihar, India. It was established by the Pala emperor Gopala first.

*"Chaitya" literally means - related to Chita. ***Samadhis** were built on the ground after the burial of dead bodies, they were initially called **Chaitya** or **Stupa**. * In these samadhis, residues of great men were kept safe therefore, Chaityas became a centre of worship. *The houses built near monasteries or Chaitya Griha were called Vihara. *The word **stupa** has been used for the first time in **Rig Veda**. In Rig Veda texts, stupa means "tree stem." Rigveda refers to a stupa raised by the king Varuna above the forest in a place having no foundation. Anything that is raised on the ground like heap/pile might have been known as Stupa. The Stupa at Bodhgaya is related to the enlightenment of Buddha. Sanchi Stupa is not related to any episode of Buddha's life. *In these stupas the remains of Buddha or his chief disciples were kept, so they became the main centres of devotion and worship of the Buddhists. * Stupa has 4 types - 1. Sharirik (Body) Stupa, 2. Paribhaugik Stupa, 3. Uddheshika (Objective) Stupas and 4. Vratanussthit (Worshipping) Stupa.

***Gautama Buddha** is known as '**Light of Asia**'. The book 'The Light of Asia' on the life of Gautama Buddha was written by Edwin Arnold. **Mahaparinirvana temple** is located in Kushinagar district of Uttar Pradesh. Statue of Lord Buddha in the temple was obtained by excavation in 1876-77 AD. The statue of Lord Buddha is 6.10 meters high in this temple and is placed in a lying pose. *This idol reflects the period when Lord Buddha at the age of 80 left his earthly body and became free from the bondage of death i.e Parinirvana. The difference between Hinayana and Mahayana-

Mahayana	Hinayana
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mahayana literally means - 'Great Vehicle. • Buddha is considered a god. • It believes in soul and rebirth. • It believed in idol worship. • Their principles are simple and accessible. In this, the importance is given to the common devotees along with the monk. • Its ideal is 'Bodhisattva'. • Its major sect are - 'Shunyawad (Madhyamik) and 'Vigy-anwad' (yogachar). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hinayana literally means- the lesser vehicle. • Mahatma Buddha is considered a great man. • This is individualistic religion - According to this every person should get salvation through his own efforts. • It did not believe in idol worship. • Its way of worship is very strict and it follows the monk life. • Its aim is to attain 'Arhat'. • Its major sects are Vaibhashika and Sautrantika.

Buddhist texts and their authors	
Text	Author
Milindpanho	Nagasen
Buddhcharita, Saudaranand, Sariputra Prakaran	Ashwaghosh
Madhyami Kakarika	Nagarjuna
Vishuddhimagga	Buddhaghosh
Abhidhmma Kosh	Vasubandhu

1. When was Gautam Buddha born?

- (a) 563 B.C.
- (b) 561 B.C.
- (c) 558 B.C.
- (d) 544 B.C.

M.P.P.C.S. (Spl) (Pre) 2004

Ans. (a)

Gautam Buddha, also known as Siddhartha (childhood name), was born in 563 B.C. in Shakya Kshatriya family in Lumbini near Kapilvastu (Nepal). His father's name was Shuddhodana who was the chief of the Shakya clan. His mother was Mayadevi who was from the 'Koliyan clan.' At the age of 29, he left his home on his horse "Kantaka" accompanied by Channa and this was called as "Mahabhinishkramana". He died at the age of 80 years in 483 B.C. at Kushinagar (the first capital city of Malla Kingdom) which is known as "Mahaparinirvana".

2. Which of the events of Buddha's life is known as 'Mahabhinishkramana'?

- (a) His death
- (b) His birth
- (c) His departure from home
- (d) His attainment of enlightenment

U.P.P.C.S. (Mains) 2014

Ans. (c)

See the explanation of above question.

3. Gautam Buddha's Mother was from which clan ?

- (a) Shakya clan
- (b) Maya clan
- (c) Licchavis clan
- (d) Koliyan clan

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2008

Ans. (d)

See the explanation of above question.

4. Gautam Buddha was born at –

- (a) Vaishali
- (b) Lumbini
- (c) Kapilvastu
- (d) Patliputra

U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 2002

M.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 1992

Ans. (b)

See the explanation of above question.

5. Which of these is another name of Buddha?

- (a) Parth
- (b) Prachhanna
- (c) Mihir
- (d) Gudakesh
- (e) None the these

Chhattisgarh P.C.S. (Pre) 2014

Ans. (e)

Parth and Gudakesh were the names of Arjuna of Mahabharat. Mihir and Prachhanna were not the names of the Buddha. Hence intended answer is (e) but Chhattisgarh Public Service Commission has declared option (b) as the correct answer in initial answer key as well as in revised answer key.

6. From which inscriptions of the following dynasty Lumbini was known as Buddha's birthplace ?

- (a) Mauryan
- (b) Shung
- (c) Satavahana
- (d) Kushan

U.P. U.D.A./L.D.A. (Pre) 2006

Ans. (a)

From the Mauryan dynasty emperor Ashoka's Rummindei Pillar inscription, it is known that Lumbini is the birthplace of Gautam Buddha. According to this inscription King Ashoka came here (Lumbini) in the 20th year of his coronation and worshipped the place where Shakya Muni was born. In addition to that, he also exempted Lumbini from Bali tax and was asked to pay only an eighth share of the produce as it was the birthplace of Gautam Buddha.

7. Which one of the following inscriptions of Ashoka confirms the tradition that Gautama Buddha was born in Lumbini ?

- (a) Basarh Pillar Inscription
- (b) Nigali Sagar Pillar Inscription
- (c) Rampurwa Pillar Inscription
- (d) Rummindei Pillar Inscription

U.P. U.D.A./L.D.A. (Mains) 2010

Ans. (d)

See the explanation of above question.