

DELHI PUBLIC SCHOOL, MIYAPUR

SECTION A

COMPREHENSION

I. Read the following passage carefully and choose the correct option:

ART MOST ANCIENT

1. Kalaripayattu is a traditional art practiced in Kerala. Though claims of its heavenly origins are disputable, foreign travelers have mentioned Kalari is being practiced in Kerala as early as the thirteenth century, which makes it the oldest martial art to be in existence. Kalari is considered to be the most complete and scientific martial art and is the mother of all martial arts. Bodhidharma, a Buddhist monk from India, introduced Kalari into China and Japan.

2. What makes Kalari unique is the fact that it is much more than a martial art. A student of Kalari learns philosophy, medicine, attack and self-defence and above all learns how to avoid confrontations, where he has to attack somebody or defend himself. An advanced student would learn about Marma points or pressure points in the body. A skillful blow at the right place could cripple or kill a person. These points are also used to cure various illnesses. The Chinese art of acupressure is also based on these pressure points. Kalari also includes Tantra and Mantra where the hypnotic look of the practitioner can make a person drop dead.

3. The reason for Kalari being more than a mere martial art can be attributed to the fact that Brahmins practiced it. Their influence has made Kalari impart an all-round training of the mind and body to the students to make them a complete man rather than just savage warriors. Fifteenth century Kerala did not have a strong central rule, which gave rise to many small rulers constantly at war with each other. To avoid unnecessary bloodshed, they began a system where one Kalari warrior from each side would represent his king and fight the other. The winner would win the war for his king. This gives an indication of how respectable and venerated practitioners of Kalari were between the thirteenth and sixteenth centuries.

4. When the British ruled India, they were unable to understand the nuances of this art and, scared by the lethal skill of its practitioners, banned it in India.



1) Kalarippayattu is a combination of which of the following aspects?

- i. Martial arts and philosophy
- ii. Philosophy and medicine
- iii. Attack and self-defence
- iv. Attack and confrontations

- ☒ a) i, ii and iii.
- ☐ b) ii, iii and iv.
- ☐ c) ii and iii.
- ☐ d) All of the above.

Clear selection

2) What can be considered as the different usage of 'Marma' points?

- i. To cripple a person
- ii. For tantra and mantra
- iii. To treat a person
- iv. For advanced learning of martial arts

- ☐ a) i, ii, and iii.
- ☐ b) ii, iii, and iv.
- ☐ c) i, iii, and iv.
- ☒ d) i, and iii.

Clear selection



3) Which one thing is common to the Kalari and Chinese system of acupressure?

- ☐ a) Both are martial arts.
- ☒ b) Both make use of pressure points in the body.
- ☐ c) Both are ancient systems of medicine.
- ☐ d) Both include 'tantra' and 'mantra'.

Clear selection

4) Who is referred as 'he' in the third line of the second paragraph?

- ☐ a) An opponent.
- ☐ b) A teacher of Kalari.
- ☐ c) A student of Kalari.
- ☒ d) A Kalari practitioner.

Clear selection

5) Find out the word which is the synonym of the word 'venerated'.

- ☐ a) Revered
- ☐ b) Despised
- ☒ c) Repugnant
- ☐ d) Repulsive

Clear selection



6) Identify the given statements as 'true' or 'false'.

- i. Rulers in the fifteenth century Kerala often indulged in wars because there was no strong central rule.
- ii. Kalaripayattu aims to turn its practitioners into savage warriors.
- iii. The British banned Kalari because it was a very violent art.
- iv. Kalaripayattu is the oldest known martial art developed in China and Japan.

- ☐ a) True, false, false and true.
- ☒ b) True, false, false and false.
- ☐ c) True, true, false and false.
- ☐ d) True, true, true and false.

Clear selection

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