

**ART AND CULTURE**

**UPSC PREVIOUS YEARS PRELIMS QUESTIONS (2011-2018)**

**2013**

1. **Consider the following historical places:**
2. Ajanta caves
3. Lepakshi Temple
4. Sanchi Stupa

**Which of the above places is/are also known for mural paintings?**

1. 1 only
2. **1 and 2 only**
3. 1, 2 and 3
4. None
5. **In the context of cultural history of India, a pose in dance and dramatics called ‘Tribhanga’ has been a favourite of Indian artists from ancient times till today. Which one of the following statements best describes this pole?**
6. **One leg is bent and the body is slightly but oppositely curved at waist and neck.**
7. Facial expressions, hand gestures and make-up are combined to symbolize certain epic or historic characters.
8. Movements of body, face and hands are used to express oneself or to tell a story
9. A little smile, slightly curved waist and certain hand gestures are emphasized to express the feelings of love or erotism.

**2014**

1. **With reference to the famous Sattriya dance, consider the following statements:**
2. Sattriya, is a combination of music, dance and drama
3. It is a centuries old living tradition of Vaishnavites of Assam.
4. It is based on classical Ragas and Talas of devotional songs composed by Tulsidas, Kabir and Mirabai.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

1. 1 only
2. **1 and 2 only**
3. 2 and 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3
5. **Consider the following pairs:**
6. Garba : Gujarat
7. Mohiniattam : Odisha
8. Yakshagana : Karnataka

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

1. 1 only
2. 2 and 3 only
3. **1 and 3 only**
4. 1, 2 and 3
5. **With reference to Buddhist history, tradition and culture in India, consider the following pairs:**

Famous shrine Location

1. Tabo monastery and temple complex : Spiti Valley
2. Lhotsava Lhakhang temple, Nako : Zanskar Valley
3. Alchi temple complex : Ladakh

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

1. 1 only
2. 2 and 3 only
3. **1 and 3 only**
4. 1, 2 and 3
5. **A community of people called Manganiyars is well-known for their**
6. Martial arts in North-east India
7. **Musical tradition in North-west India**
8. Classical vocal music in South India
9. Pietra dura tradition in Central India

**2015**

1. **Which one of the following was given classical language status recently?**
2. **Odia**
3. Konkani
4. Bhojpuri
5. Assamese
6. **Kalamkari painting refers to**
7. **A hand-painted cotton textile in South India**
8. A handmade drawing on bamboo handicrafts in North-East India
9. A block-painted woolen cloth in Western Himalayan region of India
10. A hand-painted decorative silk cloth in North-Western India

**2016**

1. **What is/are common to the two historical places known as Ajanta and Mahabalipuiram?**
2. Both being built in the same period.
3. Both belong to the same religious denomination.
4. Both have rock-cut monuments.

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

1. 1 and 2 only
2. **3 only**
3. 1 and 3 only
4. None of the statements given above is correct.

**2017**

1. **With reference to Manipuri Sankirtana, consider the following statements:**
2. It is a song and dance performance.
3. Cymbals are the only musical instruments used in the performance.
4. It is performed to narrate the life and deeds of Lord Krishna.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

1. 1, 2 and 3
2. **1 and 3 only**
3. 2 and 3 only
4. 1 only
5. **Which of the following is/are famous for Sun temples?**
6. Arasavalli
7. Amarakantak
8. Omkareshwar

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

1. **1 only**
2. 2 and 3 only
3. 1 and 3 only
4. 1, 2 and 3

**2018**

1. **Consider the following pairs:**

Tradition State

1. Chapchar Kut Festival : Mizoram
2. Khongjom Parba Festival : Manipur
3. Thang-Ta dance : Sikkim

**Which of the pairs given above is/are correct?**

1. 1 only
2. **1 and 2**
3. 3 only
4. 2 and 3
5. **The well-known painting “Bani Thani” belongs to the**
6. Bundi school
7. Jaipur school
8. Kangra school
9. **Kishangarh school**