



**HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION (2022)**

**Subject: HISTORY**

**Max. Marks:80**

**Grade: 12**

**Time:3 Hrs**

**Name:**

**Section:**

**Roll No:**

**General Instructions:**

1. The paper has been divided into four sections – A, B, C, D, E and F.
2. Answer all the questions. Some questions have an internal choice. Marks are indicated against each question. This question paper comprises of six sections.
3. Section A: Question numbers 1 to 17 are either Multiple Choice Questions or objective type questions carrying 1 mark and should be answered in one word or one sentence each (Attempt any 16)
4. Section B: Question numbers 18 to 20 are Case Based/ Source Based having Multiple Choice questions. Each question has 3 sub-parts.
5. Section C: Answer to questions carrying 3 marks (Question 21 to 24) should not exceed 100 words each.
6. Section D: Answer to questions carrying 8 marks (Question 25 to 27) should not exceed 350 words each.
7. Section E: Question number 28 to 30 are Source-based questions carrying 4 marks each.
8. Section F: Question number 31 is a Map question that includes the identification and location of significant test items. Attach the map with the answer book. All questions carry equal marks.
9. There will be no negative marking.

**I. SECTION-A 16M**

1. Which one of the following statements is incorrect regarding the weights used during the Harappan period?
  - A. In Harappan period, exchanges were regulated by a precise system of weights, usually made of a stone called chert.
  - B. They were generally cubical and without markings.
  - C. The higher dominations of weights were binary in multiple of two.
  - D. The smaller weights were probably used for weighing jewelry and beads.
2. Read the following information and identify the practitioners of a sub-discipline of archaeology. They are the specialists in ancient plant remains. They tried to study and understand the Harappans subsistence strategies by reconstructing dietary practices from finds of charred grains and seeds.
  - A. Archaeo- Zoologist
  - B. Geo-Archaeologists
  - C. Anthropologists
  - D. Archaeo- Botanist
3. Read the following information and mention the context in which the statement is connected-  
“A wide range of artefacts have been recovered from excavations in several parts of the subcontinent from c. sixth century BCE. These include fine pottery bowls and dishes, with a glossy finish.”
4. Whom did Ashoka appoint to spread the message of dhamma?
5. The emphasis placed on \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, especially for those who were younger and weaker than oneself, were ideas that drew men and women to Buddhist teachings

6. When were the Buddhist religious texts Tipitaka compiled?
- A. Before the birth of Mahatma Buddha      B. After Mahatma Buddha attained Nirvana
- C. During the life of Mahatma Buddha      D. When Mahatma Buddha gave his first sermon.
7. Who deciphered the Brahmi and Kharosthi scripts?
8. Identify the group of Harappan settlements from where specialised drills have been found?
- A. Nageshwar, Balakot and Lothal      B. Chanhudaro, Nageshwar and Harappa
- C. Mohenjodaro, Harappa and Dholavira      D. Chanhudaro, Lothal and Dholavira
9. According to the shastras who could only become kings?
- A. Brahmins      B. Kshatriyas
- C. Vaishyas      D. All of the above
10. Which of the following is not correctly matched in respect to Buddha's life?
- (A) Where he was born – Lumbini
- (B) Where he attained enlightenment – Surasena
- (C) Where he gave his first sermon – Sarnath
- (D) Where he attained nibbana - Kusinagar
11. Branches of Congress organizations established in the princely states to promote nationalist creed: \_\_\_\_\_.
12. Who was Gandhiji's political mentor?
13. Correct the following statement:  
Didactic refers to something that is meant for the purposes of storytelling.
14. Identify the character from Mahabharata with the help of the following information.
- One of the Pandavas
  - Married in the Rakshasa clan
  - Father of Ghatotkacha
- A. Vyasa      B. Yudhisthira
- C. Bhima      D. Arjuna
15. Consider the following events:
1. Second Round Table Conference
  2. Rowlat Act
  3. Khilafat Movement
  4. Pakistan Resolution
- The correct chronological order of these events is:
- A. 4, 3, 2, 1      B. 2, 3, 1, 4
- C. 3, 4, 1, 2      D. 3, 4, 2, 1
16. Consider the following statements regarding the Quit India Movement, launched by Gandhiji
- 1) It began in August 1942
  - 2) Strikes and acts of sabotage were organised all over the country
  - 3) The British responded with much force
  - 4) It could not energise the young.
- Which of the following statement/s is/are correct?
- A. Only (iv)      B. (iii) and (iv)
- C. (i) and (iii)      D. (i), (ii) and (iii)

17. Mahatma Gandhi was not present at the festivities in the capital on 15 August 1947. Identify the correct option for not participating in the Independence Day celebration.
- (A) The freedom he had struggled so long for had come at an unacceptable price, with a nation divided and Hindus and Muslims at each other's throats.
- (B) He went around hospitals and refugee camps, giving consolation to distressed people.
- (C) He had never accepted the "two-nation theory": forced against its will to accept Partition.
- (D) All of the above.

### SECTION B

Case Based:

3x3=9 M

18. **Proper Social Roles**

*Here is a story from the Adi Parvan on the Mahabharata*

Once Drona a Brahmana who taught archery to the Kuru princes, was approached by Ekalavya a forest dwelling nishada (a hunting community) When Drona, who knew dharma, refused to have him as his pupil, returned to the forest, prepared an image of Drona out of clay, and treating as his teacher, began to practice on his own. In due course, he acquired great skill in archery. One day, the Kuru princes went hunting and their dog, wandering in the woods, came upon Ekalavya. When the dog smelt the dark nishada wrapped in black deer skin, his body caked with dirt, it began to bark. Annoyed, Ekalavya shot seven arrows into its mouth. When the dog returned to the Pandavas, they were amazed at this superb display of archery. They tracked down Ekalavya, who introduced himself as a pupil of Drona.

Drona had once told his favourite student Arjuna, that he would be unrivalled amongst his pupils. Arjuna now reminded Drona about this. Drona approached Ekalavya, who immediately acknowledged and honoured him as his teacher. When Drona demanded his right thumb as his fee, Ekalavya unhesitatingly cut it off and offered it. But thereafter, when he shot with his remaining fingers, he was no longer as fast as he had been before. Thus Drona kept his word: no one was better than Arjuna.

18.1 This extract has been taken from which text?

- (A) Rig Veda
- (B) Dharmasutras
- (C) Manusmriti
- (D) Mahabharata.

18.2 Who taught archery to the Kuru Princes?

- (A) Drona
- (B) Bhima
- (C) Ekalavya
- (D) Vidur

18.3 Why did Dronacharya refuse to teach Ekalavya?

- (A) He was already teaching the Kuru princess and did not want another student
- (B) Ekalavya belonged to the Vaishya caste.
- (C) He did not want to annoy Arjuna.
- (D) It was against Drona's dharma to teach a person from the nishada community.

19. Read the following excerpt from the Prayaga Prashasti carefully and answer the three questions:

This is an excerpt from the Prayaga Prashasti: He was without an antagonist on earth; he, by the overflowing of the multitude of (his) many good qualities adorned by hundreds of good actions, has wiped off the fame of other kings with the soles of (his) feet; (he is) Purusha (the Supreme

Being), being the cause of the prosperity of the good and the destruction of the bad (he is) incomprehensible; (he is) one whose tender heart can be captured only by devotion and humility; (he is) possessed of compassion; (he is) the giver of many hundred-thousands of cows; (his) mind has received 9 ceremonial initiation for the uplift of the miserable, the poor, the forlorn and the suffering; (he is) resplendent and embodied kindness to mankind; (he is) equal to (the gods) Kubera (the god of wealth), Varuna (the god of the ocean), Indra (the god of rains) and Yama (the god of death)...

19.1 This inscription is known as a prashasti because

- (i) it is composed in praise of its patron
- (ii) it is composed by a court poet
- (iii) it is treasured as an important account of its patron
- (iv) it is composed in Sanskrit

19.2 This excerpt mentions (he is) equal to (the Gods)..... This projects which element of kingship?

- (i) means of claiming high status by identifying with a variety of deities
- (ii) means of claiming themselves above humans
- (iii) means of claiming a number of titles
- (iv) All of the above

19.3. Choose the correct option.

1 Assertion (A): He is possessed of compassion.

Reason (R): He is the giver of many hundred- thousand cows; his mind has received ceremonial initiation for the uplift of the miserable, the poor, the forlorn and the suffering...

- (i) Both A and R are correct and R is the correct explanation of A.
- (ii) Both A and R are correct but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- (iii) A is incorrect but R is correct.
- (iv) R is incorrect but A is correct.

20. Read the following excerpt titled “Rules for Monks and Nuns” carefully and answer the following questions:

These are some of the rules laid down in the Vinaya Pitaka: When a new felt (blanket/rug) has been made by a bhikkhu, it is to be kept for (at least) six years. If after less than six years he should have another new felt (blanket/rug) made regardless of whether or not he has disposed of the first, then—unless he has been authorised by the bhikkhus it is to be forfeited and confessed. In case a bhikkhu arriving at a family residence is presented with cakes or cooked grain-meal, he may accept two or three bowlfuls if he desires. If he accepts more than that, it is to be confessed. Having accepted two or three bowlfuls and having them from there, he has to share them among the bhikkhus. This is the proper course here. Should any bhikkhu, having set out bedding in a lodging belonging to the Sangha or having had it set out and then on departing neither put it away nor have it put away or should he go without taking leave, it is to be confessed.

20.1. What did ‘Vinaya Pitaka’ include?

- (A) Rules for samanas
- (B) Rules for monks and nuns
- (C) Rules for righteous actions
- (D) Rules for transient world

20.2. Why were these rules framed?

- (A) To inculcate the habit of leading a simple life
- (B) To inculcate the habit of being selfish
- (C) To inculcate the habit of worshipping one god
- (D) None of these

20.3 What was the Sangha?

- (A) Organisation to keep a check on activities of monks and nuns.
- (B) Organisation to organise religious gatherings of Buddhists.
- (C) Organisation to teach Dhamma
- (D) Organisation of monks who also taught Dhamma.

**SECTION C**

**3X4=12**

- 21. What are the characteristics that prove the decline of the Harappan civilization? (3)
- 22. State any three features of Mahajanapadas? (3)
- 23. Give reasons why Mahabharata is said to be a dynamic text? (3)
- 24. Mention the incident that took place at Chauri-Chaura and what was its impact on the Non Cooperation Movement. (3)

**SECTION D**

**8X3=24**

- 25. List the basic principles of Jainism. Also write about the 5 vows took by Jaina monks and nuns. (3+5=8)

OR

How did Siddhartha come to be known as the Buddha? Explain his philosophy mentioned in the Sutta-Pitaka.

- 26. "The Mahabharata is a good source to study the kinship values of ancient times." Justify this statement with suitable arguments. 8

OR

Examine the social implications of access to resources in the context of gender and Varna in ancient Indian society.

- 27. Examine the different kinds of sources from which the political career of Gandhiji and the history of the National movement could be reconstructed. 8

OR

"Gandhiji transformed Indian nationalism through Non- Cooperation Movement of 1920" Give arguments to support the statement.

**SECTION - E**

**5x3=15M**

- 28. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

**Why kinfolk quarrelled**

This is an excerpt from the Adi Parvan (literally, the first section) of the Sanskrit Mahabharata, describing why conflicts arose amongst the Kauravas and Pandavas: The kauravas were the ... sons of Dhritarashtra, and the Pandavas... were their cousins. Since Dhritarashtra, was blind, his younger brother Pandu ascended the throne of Hastinapura... However, after the premature death of Pandu, Dhritarashtra became king, as the royal princes were still very young. As the princes grew up together the citizens of Hastinapura began to express their preference for the Pandavas, for they were more capable and virtuous than the Kauravas. This made Duryodhana, the eldest of Kauravas, jealous. He approached his father and said, "You yourself did not receive the throne, although it fell to you, because of your defect. If the Pandava receives the patrimony from Pandu, his son will surely inherit it in turn, and so will his son, and his. We ourselves with our sons shall

be excluded from the royal succession and become of slight regard in the eyes of the world, lord of the earth!" Passages such as these may not have been literally true, but they give us an idea about what those who wrote the text thought. Sometimes, as this case, they contain conflicting ideas.

(i) From where this excerpt is taken? (1)

(ii) List any two different criteria suggested in this passage for becoming a king. (3)

Why did the citizens of Hastinapur express their preference for the Pandavas? (1)

29. Read the following excerpt and carefully answer the questions that follow:

#### **Evidence of an "invasion"**

Deadman Lane is a narrow alley, varying from 3 to 6 feet in width....At the point where the lane turns westward, part of a skull and the bones of the thorax and upper arm of an adult were discovered, all in a very friable condition, at a depth of 4 ft 2 in. The body lay on its back diagonally across the lane. Fifteen inches to the west were a few fragments of a tiny skull. It is to these remains that the lane owes its name.

From John Marshall, Mohenjodaro and the Indus Civilisation, 1931

a) State the conclusions that scholars and archaeologists draw from this information? (2)

b) Give reasons to justify that the earlier interpretations can sometimes be reversed? (3)

30. Read the following excerpt and carefully answer the questions that follow:

#### **"Tomorrow we shall break the salt tax law"**

On 5 April 1930, Mahatma Gandhi spoke at Dandi: When I left Sabarmati with my companions for this seaside hamlet of Dandi, I was not certain in my mind that we would be allowed to reach this place. Even while I was at Sabarmati there was a rumour that I might be arrested. I had thought that the Government might perhaps let my party come as far as Dandi, but not me certainly. If someone says that this betrays imperfect faith on my part, I shall not deny the charge. That I have reached here is in no small measure due to the power of peace and non-violence: that power is universally felt. The Government may, if it wishes, congratulate itself on acting as it has done, for it could have arrested every one of us. In saying that it did not have the courage to arrest this army of peace, we praise it. It felt ashamed to arrest such an army. He is a civilised man who feels ashamed to do anything which his neighbours would disapprove. The Government deserves to be congratulated on not arresting us, even if it desisted only from fear of world opinion. Tomorrow we shall break the salt tax law. Whether the Government will tolerate that is a different question. It may not tolerate it, but it deserves congratulations on the patience and forbearance it has displayed in regard to this party. ... What if I and all the eminent leaders in Gujarat and in the rest of the country are arrested? This movement is based on the faith that when a whole nation is roused and on the march no leader is necessary.

Why was Salt March notable? (2)

The power of peace and non-violence are universally felt.' Why did Gandhiji say so? (3)

IV.

#### **SECTION-F**

#### **MAP BASED QUESTION**

**2x2=4**

31.1 On the political map of India a major Ashokan inscription (Rock Edicts) is marked as 'A' and an important Mahajanapada of 6<sup>th</sup> C BCE is marked as 'B'. Identify the places. (2)

31.2 On the same outline map of India mark the following places: (2)

i. Kalibangan (A Mature Harappan Site)

ii. An important Buddhist site in Madhya Pradesh where a famous stupa has been preserved.



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