



**DELHI PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWTOWN  
SESSION 2024-2025  
HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION**

## **CLASS: IX**

## **SUBJECT: HISTORY & CIVICS [SET A]**

**FULL MARKS: 80  
TIME: 2 HOURS**

## General Instructions:

*Answers to this paper must be written on the paper provided separately.*

***You will not be allowed to write during the first 15 minutes.***

***This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.***

*The time given at the head of this paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.*

**Attempt all questions from Part I (COMPULSORY). A total of five questions are to be attempted from Part II, two out of three questions from Section A and three out of five questions from Section B. The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets. [ ] This Question paper consists of eight printed pages.**

## **PART- I (30 MARKS)**

***(Attempt all questions)***

## Question 1

[16]

**Choose the correct answers to the question from the given options**

**(Do not copy the question, write the correct answers only)**

- (i) John, an Indian citizen suddenly disappears after being taken into custody by a government agency known for its secrecy and arbitrary detention practices. His family and friends are unable to locate him or get any information about his whereabouts despite making inquiries with the concerned authorities. Finally, they seek help from the judiciary.

**Identify the writ which will be enforced under the following circumstance by the court.**



- (ii) Which of the following is not a function of the Indian Constitution?

- (a) It marks different spheres of power to different branches of the government
  - (b) It grants rights and duties to the citizens
  - (c) It ensures that good people come to power
  - (d) It defines the basic political principles that govern the country

(iii) From the picture given below identify the freedom that is being violated.



*Source: Poster by Pei-Ling-Ou*

- (a) Freedom of speech and expression
- (b) Freedom to assemble
- (c) Freedom to reside and settle
- (d) Freedom to form associations or unions

(iv) In the landmark judgement given in the **Maneka Gandhi vs Union of India** case, the Supreme Court of India significantly expanded the interpretation of Article 21 of the constitution of India and overruled **A.K Gopalan vs State of Madras** case, which had implied the exclusiveness of Fundamental Rights in the constitution.

*Case study, Supreme Court*

Identify the Fundamental Right that is highlighted in the case above?

- (a) Equality before law and equal protection of law
- (b) Protection of life and personal liberty
- (c) Protection against arrest and detention
- (d) Abolition of the custom of conferring titles and honours

(v) Which executive position is filled in by an indirect election in India?

- (a) Prime Minister of India
- (b) President of India
- (c) Chief Minister of West Bengal
- (d) Members of Parliament

(vi) Which of the following is not under the power and functions of the Election Commission of India?

- (a) Superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of electoral rolls
- (b) Conduct of elections to the Parliament and State legislature
- (c) Appointment of regional commissioners to assist the Election Commission
- (d) Ensuring smooth and successful functioning of democracy

(vii) **Read the statement given below and select the option that shows the correct relation between A and R.**

**Assertion (A) :** The grid layout of Harappan cities demonstrates urban planning traits.  
**Reason (R) :** The grid layout allowed systematic organization of streets intersecting at right angles indicating a planned approach to city design.

- (a) (R) contradicts (A)
- (b) (R) is the reason for (A)
- (c) (A) is true but (R) is false
- (d) (A) and (R) are independent of each other

(viii) **Identify the ODD ONE out of the following sources of the Gupta empire:**

- (a) Allahabad Pillar Inscription
- (b) The Travels of Fa-Hien
- (c) Prayag Prasasti
- (d) Tolkappiyam

(ix) **Which of the following is common between the Sangam Age and Early Vedic Age ?**

- (a) The Sangam Age was organized by occupational guilds and the Vedic Age was organized based on castes.
- (b) Women in both the ages were allowed intellectual pursuits.
- (c) Sati was prevalent in both the ages.
- (d) Their primary deity was Murugan.

(x) **Imagine yourself to be a part of the extensive network of informants during the Mauryan Age. What will you be referred to by Kautilya?**

- (a) Mahamatyapasarpa
- (b) Gurudhapurushas
- (c) Nagaradhyaksha
- (d) Aryaputra

(xi) **Given below are the different types of landforms that existed during the Sangam Age. Identify the correct ones :**

- P: Kurinji – Forest
- Q: Neythal – Seashore
- R: Palai – Parched Wasteland
- S: Mullai – Mountainous Region

- (a) P and Q
- (b) Q and R
- (c) R and S
- (d) P and S

- (xii) During the Sangam Age the Brahmins were referred to as Dvijas because —
- (a) They were known for their military prowess
  - (b) Had the knowledge of the Vedas and were initiated through a sacred ceremony
  - (c) Served as advisors to the kings
  - (d) Controlled trade and commerce in urban centres

- (xiii) Which teaching of Gautama Buddha is being shown in this cartoon?



Source: *The Millennium post*

- (a) Triratnas
  - (b) Ahimsa
  - (c) Eight-fold path
  - (d) Four Noble Truths
- (xiv) Which significant challenge do historians face while deciphering the Harappan script?
- (a) Lack of archaeological artifacts
  - (b) Absence of bilingual inscriptions
  - (c) Complexity of hieroglyphs
  - (d) Limited geographical distribution

- (xv) Identify the organization which has designated the following structure as a World Heritage site :



*Source : Tale of 2 backpackers*

- (a) UNICEF  
(c) WHO

- (b) UNESCO  
(d) ILO

- (xvi) Your Buddhist friend joins you and your family at home to celebrate Paryushana, the Jain festival. During your conversation you both explore the similarities between the two religions.

**Identify the correct similarity that you'll identify from the following statements**

- (a) Both emphasized on patriarchy  
(b) Both were extreme in their outlook  
(c) Both rejected the concept of God  
(d) Both aimed at moksha

**Question 2**

**[7x2=14]**

**Read the extract given below and answer the question which follows:**

**The Right to Information Act came into force on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2005. This Act has been included in Article 19(1) of the constitution. This Act marks a new chapter in the Indian democracy and upholds the power of the people, a necessity in a democracy.**

*Source: The Telegraph*

- (i) State the objectives of the RTI Act.  
(ii) Which Fundamental duty was added after the inclusion of the Right to Education?  
(iii) Imagine you are a subject under Ashoka's empire. In which Edict will you find :  
    (a) Description of the Kalinga War.  
    (b) The prohibition of animal sacrifice and royal hunting.  
(iv) Who were known as adimai during the Sangam Age?  
(v) What was the role played by the paramadaivata during the Gupta era?  
(vi) Mention any two works of Aryabhatta.  
(vii) Mention the main features of provincial administration under the Chola kings.

**PART II**  
**SECTION A**  
***[Answer any two questions from this section]***

**Question 3**

Read the story and answer the questions that follows.

***ECHOES OF OUR VOICES***

In the small town of Daveri, banners adorned the streets, each bearing a candidate's name in bold letters. Civic duty resonated in every handshake and spirited conversation. Candidates, from the young idealist to the seasoned public servant, canvassed with passion and promise. At the polling station, lines stretched around the block, a testament to the fervor of democracy. Inside, ballots whispered secrets of hopes and fears, deposited with solemnity. As the sun dipped below the horizon, the town square filled once more. Cheers erupted, marking the end of a long day. Democracy had spoken — the people's voice echoing in the peaceful night.

- (i) Which feature of a democratic state is being highlighted through the picture?  
State the main principles associated with it. [3]
- (ii) Differentiate between Mid-term and By-elections? [3]
- (iii) Examine the difference between Direct and Indirect elections with suitable illustration. [4]

**Question 4**

**The Citizenship Act 1955 deals with matters relating to acquisition, determination and termination of Indian citizenship after the commencement of the Constitution**

*Source: India Book 2020*

With reference to the above answer the following:

- (i) Which principles pertaining to citizenship is unlikely of a country with a federal structure? Explain. [2]
- (ii) State the significance of 26<sup>th</sup> January in Indian history. [4]
- (iii) What is Universal Adult Franchise? State its significance. [4]

**Question 5**

**The Anarchical and Revolutionary Crimes Act of 1919, popularly known as the Rowlatt Act was a law applied during the British India period. It indefinitely extended the emergency measures of preventive detention, imprisonment without trial and was enacted in the light of a threat from revolutionaries.**

*Source: Wikipedia.org*

- (i) How does the Indian Constitution ensure protection against arbitrary arrest against acts like the Rowlatt Act? [3]
- (ii) Which equalities are granted to an Indian citizen under Right to Equality? [4]
- (iii) Explain the moral obligations of an Indian citizen towards their country. [3]

## SECTION B

*[Answer any three questions from this section]*

### Question 6

**Vedas are primarily sacred texts of Hinduism, encompassing hymns, rituals and philosophical teachings. They laid the foundation of classical Hindu civilization and significantly influenced later developments in Indian history, religion and culture.**

With reference to this, answer the following questions.

- (i) Discuss the Vedas as a source which help us to reconstruct the Later Vedic Period. [4]
- (ii) Compare the social and economic structure of the Early Vedic Age to that of the Later Vedic Age. [3]
- (iii) How did the position of women change in the later Vedic Age? [3]

### Question 7

**The Kalinga War brought about a great change in the personal and political life of Ashoka. With reference to this answer the following:**

- (i) State the doctrines of the religion embraced by Ashoka after the Kalinga War. [4]
- (ii) State the features of central government during the Mauryan Era. [3]
- (iii) Explain the main features of Ashoka's Dhamma. [3]

### Question 8

**The Prasasti gives account of twelve rulers who were defeated, captured, liberated and reinstated. The unorthodox nature of Harisena's enumeration has given rise to endless speculations among historians regarding the significance of the list. In fact many historians do not consider the Prasasti as an authentic document to reconstruct the history of this era.**

*Source: Pramana Research Journal by Anoop V.S.*

- (i) Which inscription is being referred to in the extract? Why is it of great historical value? [3]
- (ii) Which literary sources help us to reconstruct this period? [3]
- (iii) Elaborate upon the military expeditions of Samudragupta. [4]

## Question9

Look at the picture given and answer the following questions:



Source: thelandofwanderlust.com

- (i) Identify the structure and explain its main features. [4]
- (ii) Why were pillars erected by Ashoka throughout his empire? [3]
- (iii) Give an example of Ashokan Pillar and state where it can be found.  
What is its significance in India at present? [2+1]

## Question 10

Read the excerpt and answer the questions that follows.

Scholars are still piecing together information about this mysterious civilization, but they have learned a great deal about it since its rediscovery. Its origins seem to lie in a settlement named Mehrgarh in the foothills of a mountain pass in modern-day Balochistan in western Pakistan. There is evidence of settlement in this area as early as 7000 BCE. The Indus Valley Civilization is often separated into three phases: the Early Harappan Phase from 3300 to 2600 BCE, the Mature Harappan Phase from 2600 to 1900 BCE, and the Late Harappan Phase from 1900 to 1300 BCE.

Source: Khan Academy

- (i) Explain the main features of the religious bathing house excavated from the ruins of the Indus Valley civilization. [4]
- (ii) Elucidate on the trade practices followed by the Harappan gentry. [3]
- (iii) Which famous artefact excavated from the Harappan site showcases the cire perdue method? Explain the cire perdue method. [1+2]