**UPPSC GS Paper-1**

**SET-6**

**Question Number: 1**

**Question Type: MCQ**

**Question Difficulty Level: Medium**

**Marking: (+1, -0.5)**

**Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**

**Topic: history**

**Sub- Concept: Ancient history**

**Concept Field:**

**Q: 1**

Who among the following first used the term ‘Indus Valley Civilization’?

1. John Marshall
2. Martimer Wheeler
3. RS Bist
4. Mackay

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

The Indus Valley Civilization continued from 2500 BC to 1750 BC and John Marshall was the first person to use the term ‘Indus Valley Civilization’ for this. It was spread over Sindh, Baluchistan, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Western Uttar Pradesh and northern Maharashtra.

In Pakistan, Kot Diji is located in Pakistan which was located in the central Indus Valley and excavated by F.A. Khan, and great attention was paid to the Hakra and pre-Hakra cultures by M.R. Mughal. The Gandhara graves located in the North-West Frontier Province of Pakistan was excavated by A.H. Dani. The Indus valley or the Harappan culture is older than the Chalcolithic cultures that have been examined earlier, but as a bronze-using culture it is far more developed than the latter. It developed in the north-western part of the Indian subcontinent. It is known as Harappan civilization because it was first discovered in 1921 at the modern site of Harappa situated in the province of Punjab in Pakistan. There was many sites in the Sindh region which formed the central zone of pre-Harappan culture. This culture developed and matured gradually which transformed it into an urban civilization that developed in Sindh and Punjab. The central zone of this mature Harappan culture lay in Sindh and Punjab, principally belongs to the Indus Valley civilization.

**Question Number: 2**

**Question Type: MCQ**

**Question Difficulty Level: Medium**

**Marking: (+1, -0.5)**

**Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**

**Topic: history**

**Sub- Concept: Ancient history**

**Concept Field:**

**Q: 2**

Which among the following is NOT correctly matched?

1. Harappa – MS Vatsa
2. Mohenjodaro – Mackay
3. Banawali – RS Bist
4. Dholavira – Amalanand Ghosh

**Answer: Option d**

**Solution:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Sites | River | Excavators |
| Harappa | Ravi | Daya Ram Sahni, Madho Swaroop Vatsa, Wheeler |
| Mohenjo-Daro | Indus | Rakhal Das Banerji, Mackay, Wheeler |
| Banwali | Ghaggar | RS Bist |
| Dholavira | Luni | JP Joshi |

The Harappans practised agriculture and animals were raised on a large scale. Oxen, buffaloes, goats, sheep, and pigs were domesticated. Humped bulls were the major evidence of the Harappans. There is evidence of dogs and cats from the outset, and asses and camels were bred and were mainly used as beasts of burden, and after time to time have been used for ploughing. The evidence of the horse came from Mohenjodaro and from a terracotta seal excavated from Lothal.

In the Harappan culture, the citadel may recognized as the seat of sovereign power, the middle town area was used for the bureaucrats who lived there or the seat of government, and the great granary was excavated at Mohenjodaro which is known to be the treasury. It appears as the sign that taxes or revenue were collected as a part of grain. Also, the whole Harappan area was a well-populated territory. Fortification was a feature of several cities.

Dholavira, is particularly had forts within forts but we have no exact evidence of an organized force or standing army, only a heap of sling stones and the soldier which were depicted on a potsherd at Surkotada may evidenced a standing army. In any case, the state was well established in the mature Harappan phase.

**Question Number: 3**

**Question Type: MCQ**

**Question Difficulty Level: Medium**

**Marking: (+1, -0.5)**

**Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**

**Topic: history**

**Sub- Concept: Ancient history**

**Concept Field:**

**Q: 3**

In ancient traditions as well as modern times, snakes are given artistic and respectful representations in many artworks. Snakes have been traditionally considered as symbols of:

1. Source of life
2. Immortality and elixir of life
3. Healing powers and opportunities
4. All of the above

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:**

Learning: In the Hindu regions of Asia the serpent or naga isconsidered a nature spirit. It is the protector of springs, wells and rivers. Serpents bring rain and thus fertility. But, they can also bring floods and drought. In many cultures, it is respected as a powerful totem representing the source of life. The snake animal meaning is the powerfully connected to life force and primal energy. The Hindus believe that how the naga treats humanity is representative how we treat the snake and its environment. Serpents are mythically also believed to carry the elixir of life and immortality.

**Question Number: 4**

**Question Type: MCQ**

**Question Difficulty Level: Medium**

**Marking: (+1, -0.5)**

**Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**

**Topic: history**

**Sub- Concept: Ancient history**

**Concept Field:**

**Q: 4**

At which among the following places, the Dharma-Chakra Jina Vihara was constructed by Gahadavala Queen Kumaradevi?

1. Sarnath
2. Kushinagar
3. Rahgirh
4. Bodh Gaya

**Answer: A**

**Solution:**

The Dharma - Chakra Jina Vihara was constructed in the 12th century in Sarnath, Varanasi. Dharma chakra Jina Vihara was the gift of Kumaradevi, the Buddhist queen of the great Gahadavala king, Govindrachandra of Kannauj (CE 1114-1154).

During the Gupta period the beautiful images of the lord Buddha were established and fashioned at Sarnath and also in Mathura, but the finest example of Buddhist architect of Gupta times are the Ajanta paintings. Gautama Buddha delivered his first sermon at Sarnath in Banaras. He go through long journeys and carried his message far and wide. He had a very strong physique, and this enabled him to walk 20 to 30 km a day. He kept wandering, preaching, and meditating continually for forty years, resting only during the annual rainy season.

**Question Number: 5**

**Question Type: MCQ**

**Question Difficulty Level: Medium**

**Marking: (+1, -0.5)**

**Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**

**Topic: history**

**Sub- Concept: Ancient history**

**Concept Field:**

**Q: 5**

Consider the following points about Kushanas in the ancient Indian history:

1. They took over the control on ancient Silk Route.

2. The coins which were circulated in the regime of Kushanas had deities depicted on their reverse side.

3. Ashvaghosha was the poet who lived during their reign.

Which of the statements given above is correct?

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 3 only
3. 2 and 3 only
4. 1 only

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:**

The techniques of producing and making silk was first discovered in China around 7000 years ago. But the methods remained a closely guarded secret for thousands of years, some people from China who went to distant lands on foot, horseback, and on camels, carried silk with them. The paths that they followed was later known to be as the Silk Route. After this route discovered some kings tried to take control on large portions of this route. It was because they could get benefit from by imposing taxes on traders, tributes, and gifts that were brought by traders traveling along the route and in return, they serve as to protect the traders who passed through their kingdoms from attacks by robbers and dacoits. The ruler who took major control on the several part of this route was the Kushanas, who ruled over central Asia and north-west India around 2000 years ago. Their two major centers of power were Peshawar and Mathura. Taxila was also included in their kingdom. During the rule of Kushanas, a branch of the Silk Route was extended from Central Asia down to the seaports at the mouth of the river Indus, from where the silk was shipped westwards to the Roman Empire.

**Question Number: 6**

**Question Type: MCQ**

**Question Difficulty Level: Medium**

**Marking: (+1, -0.5)**

**Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**

**Topic: history**

**Sub- Concept: Ancient history**

**Concept Field:**

**Q: 6**

Arrange the following dynasties of the ancient India in the sequencial order (First to Last):

1. Pushyabhuti dynasty

2. Sunga dynasty

3. Gupta dynasty

Select the correct answer using the option given below.

1. 1-2-3
2. 2-1-3
3. 2-3-1
4. 3-2-1

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

The Sunga dynasty was an ancient Indian dynasty belong to Magadha which took control over the areas of the central and eastern Indian subcontinent from around 187 to 78 BCE. The dynasty was established by Pushyamitra Sunga, after the fall of the Maurya Empire. Pataliputra was the capital during this time.

The Gupta Empire was an ancient Indian empire existing from the 3rd century CE to 543 CE. It was at its apex, from approximately 319 to 467 CE, it covered much of the Indian subcontinent. The most notable rulers of the dynasty were Chandragupta I, Samudragupta, and Chandragupta II (Vikramaditya).

The Pushyabhuti dynasty, also known as the Pushpabhuti dynasty or Vardhana dynasty, ruled in the parts of northern India during 6th and 7th centuries. The dynasty reached its peak under its last ruler Harshavardhan whose empire took control over the much of north and north-western part of India, and extended till Kamarupa in the east and Narmada River in the south.

**Question Number: 7**

**Question Type: MCQ**

**Question Difficulty Level: Medium**

**Marking: (+1, -0.5)**

**Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**

**Topic: history**

**Sub- Concept: Ancient history**

**Concept Field:**

**Q: 7**

Consider the following statements about the Harappan settlements:

1. The entire settlements were fortified along Dholavira and Lothal.

2. There were many features like Large airy houses with windows in every room.

Which of the statements given above is correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both
4. None of these

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

Most of the Harappan site settlement have a small high western part and a larger lower eastern part, sites such as Dholavira and Lothal in Gujarat, the whole settlement was fortified, and walls also separated sections within the town. **Thus, Statement 1 is correct.**

The Lower Town at Mohenjodaro provides the finest example of residential buildings. Many houses were centred on a courtyard, with rooms on all sides. There was also a concern for privacy: There are no windows in the walls along the ground level. Besides, the main entrance does not give a direct view of the interior or the courtyard. **Thus, Statement 2 is not correct.** **Therefore, the correct answer is A.**

All building activity within the city was based on a fixed area on the platforms. So the settlement was first planned and then implemented accordingly. Other signs of planning include bricks, which, whether sundried or baked, were of a standardised ratio. Such bricks were used at all Harappan settlements.

**Question Number: 8**

**Question Type: MCQ**

**Question Difficulty Level: Medium**

**Marking: (+1, -0.5)**

**Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**

**Topic: history**

**Sub- Concept: Ancient history**

**Concept Field:**

**Q: 8**

Four Buddhist Councils were held in ancient time. Choose the correct option from the rulers given below under whom these Councils were organized?

1. Bimbisara, Ashoka, Dasratha and Kanishka
2. Prasanajit, Ashoka, Bimbisara, Ajathasatru
3. Bindusara, Ashoka, Kanishka and Harsha
4. Ajathasatru, Kalasoka, Ashoka and Kanishka

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:**

The first Buddhist Council was organised at Rajagriha under the chairmanship of Mahakasyap immediately after the death of lord Buddha during the Ajatsatru reign. The council was organised to maintain the purity of the teachings of the Buddha.

The second Buddhist Council was organised at Vaishali around 383 B.C. under the reign of Kalshoka.

The third Buddhist Council was held at Pataliputra under the patronage of Asoka. Moggaliputta Tissa was the chairman who presided over it. During this council the final version of Tripitakas was completed in this Council.

The fourth Buddhist Council was organised in Kashmir by Kanishka under the chairmanship of Vasumitra. Therefore, option D is correct.

**Question Number: 9**

**Question Type: MCQ**

**Question Difficulty Level: Medium**

**Marking: (+1, -0.5)**

**Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**

**Topic: history**

**Sub- Concept: Ancient history**

**Concept Field:**

**Q: 9**

Consider the following statements about administration of Mauryan empire:

1. Mauryan administration was highly centralised and uniform across the Empire.

2. Megasthenes in his book state that there was a committee for military which comprises of six sub-committees for coordinating military activity.

Which of the given option above is correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. All of these
4. None

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:**

Asoka was the first ruler of India who inscribed his messages to his subjects and officials on stone surfaces – natural rocks as well as polished pillars. He used the inscriptions to cite that what he recognised to be dhamma. There were five major political centres in the empire – the capital Pataliputra and the provincial centres of Taxila, Ujjayini, Tosali and Suvarnagiri, all mentioned in Asoka inscriptions. Historians have increasingly come to realise regions included within the empire were just too diverse to have uniform administration. Administrative control likely was most potent in areas around the capital and the provincial centres. Thus, statement 1 is not correct.

Megasthenes mention a committee with six subcommittees for coordinating military activity in which one looked after the navy, the second managed transport and provisions, the third was responsible for foot-soldiers, the fourth for horses, the fifth for chariots and the sixth for elephants. The activities of the second subcommittee were rather varied: arranging for bullock carts to carry equipment, procuring food for soldiers and fodder for animals, and recruiting servants and artisans to look after the soldiers. Thus, statement 2 is correct.

Therefore, the correct answer is (b).

**Question Number: 10**

**Question Type: MCQ**

**Question Difficulty Level: Medium**

**Marking: (+1, -0.5)**

**Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**

**Topic: history**

**Sub- Concept: Ancient history**

**Concept Field:**

**Q: 10**

According to ancient India, the word ‘pativedakas’ denote?

1. Money lenders
2. Reporters
3. traveller
4. Temple-gate builders

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:**

One of the edicts of Asoka mention that “In the past, there were no arrangements for disposing of affairs, nor for receiving regular reports. But I have made the following (arrangement). Pativedakas should report to me about the affairs of the people at all times, anywhere, whether I am eating, in the inner apartment, in the bedroom, in the cow pen, being carried (possibly in a palanquin), or in the garden. And I will dispose of the affairs of the people everywhere.” Epigraphists have translated this term pativedaka as a reporter. Hence option B is correct.

**Question Number: 11**

**Question Type: MCQ**

**Question Difficulty Level: Medium**

**Marking: (+1, -0.5)**

**Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**

**Topic: history**

**Sub- Concept: Ancient history**

**Concept Field:**

**Q: 11**

Read the statements about Sri Brahadeswarar Temple:

1. The Kumbhabishegam ceremony at the temple was held in 2020 after 23 years.

2. It is the most famous of the many temples in Thanjavur and is one of the world’s largest and grandest temples.

3. It was built by the great Chola emperor Rajendra I.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

According to Brahmanical tradition, every temple must be consecrated every 12 years, including repairs and renovation. But, this enormously significant event of consecration was held in Brahadeeswarar temple after 23 years only after the Madras High Court settled an old argument over the ritual purification process. The court, in a dispute over which language should be used in the slokas at the kumbhabishegam, agreed with the State Government’s affidavit that the ceremony should be in both Sanskrit and Tamil. So, Statement (1) is correct.

The Sri Brahadeeswarar Temple (also spelt Brihadisvara, and called Peruvudaiyar Koyil, which translates simply to ‘Big Temple’) is the most famous of the many temples in Thanjavur. So, Statement (2) is correct.

The temple, one of the world’s largest and grandest, was built between 1003 AD and 1010 AD by the great Chola emperor Raja Raja I (c. 985-1014 AD). So, Statement (3) is not correct. Therefore, the correct answer is (a).

**Question Number: 12**

**Question Type: MCQ**

**Question Difficulty Level: Medium**

**Marking: (+1, -0.5)**

**Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**

**Topic: history**

**Sub- Concept: Ancient history**

**Concept Field:**

**Q: 12**

Consider the following statements about the administration of the Vijayanagara Empire:

1. The administration of Vijayanagar kingdom was based on Amara-nayaka system.

2. The independent territories were governed by the military commanders who are Amara-nayakas.

3. The Amara-nayakas could be transferred by the king from one place to another.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

The Amara-nayaka system was a political innovation of the Vijayanagara Empire. Some features of this system were likely derived from the Iqta system of the Delhi Sultanate.

The Amara-nayakas were military commanders who were given territories to govern by the raya. They collected taxes and other dues from peasants, craftspersons and traders in the area. They retained part of the revenue for personal use and for maintaining a stipulated contingent of horses and elephants. Some of the revenue was also used for the maintenance of temples and irrigation works. The Amaranayakas sent tribute to the king annually and personally appeared in the royal court with gifts to express their loyalty. Kings occasionally asserted their control over them by transferring them from one place to another. However, during the course of the seventeenth century, many of these Nayakas established independent kingdoms. This hastened the collapse of the central imperial structure. Thus, all three statements are correct. **Therefore, the correct answer is (c).**

**Question Number: 13**

**Question Type: MCQ**

**Question Difficulty Level: Medium**

**Marking: (+1, -0.5)**

**Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**

**Topic: history**

**Sub- Concept: Ancient history**

**Concept Field:**

**Q: 13**

The biography of Lord Buddha, “Buddhacharita”, was composed by which poet?

1. Ashvaghosa
2. Soundaranatha
3. Vatsyayana
4. Bharavi

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

Buddhacharita was composed by Ashvaghosa. So option (a) is correct.

There was political instability between the era of 500 years after the fall of the Mauryan Empire and before the rise of the Gupta Empire. This period is marked as the development of Dravidian languages and literature in the South India. The Sanskrit language and various forms of Prakrit language developed and some distinctive literature was written in these languages. The two great Epics, the Ramayana and the Mahabharata, were compiled. Besides, some of the Dharmasastra were also composed in this period.

**Smritis**

The Smritis have continued to play a very important role in Hindu life as it were playing since the last two thousand years. The Smritis explained the religious duties, usage, laws, and social customs. The Smritis are the expanded version of the Dharmasutras, which covered the period from (about) sixth century to third century B.C. The Smritis compiled almost in the period of eight hundred years or even more. Manusmriti is the oldest among all. It was composed in about the 1st century B.C. Other important Smritis are −

Naradasmriti, Vishnusmriti, Yajnavalkyasmriti, Brihaspatismriti, and Katyayanasmriti.

These Smritis (discussed above) are very important sources of law and social customs of the contemporary society and hence, declared to be of divine origin. Mahabhasya written by Patanjali was the most outstanding work in the field of grammar during the period of 2nd century B.C.

**Question Number: 14**

**Question Type: MCQ**

**Question Difficulty Level: Medium**

**Marking: (+1, -0.5)**

**Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**

**Topic: history**

**Sub- Concept: Ancient history**

**Concept Field:**

**Q: 14**

With reference to the philosophy of Jainism and Buddhism, consider the following statements:

1. Jainism follow the rule of strict celibacy but Buddhism does not.

2. Both Buddhism and Jainism were against caste oppression.

3. Both Mahavira and Buddha felt that those person who left their homes could only gain true knowledge.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

|  |
| --- |
| **Answer: D**  **Explanation:**  Only Jainism followed strict celibacy and not buddism. So statement 1 is correct. |
| Both Buddism and Jainism were against caste oppression. One of their main aim was fighting against caste oppression. So statement 2 is correct. |
| Both the Mahavira and the Buddha felt that only those who left their homes could gain true knowledge. So statement 3 is correct. |

**Teachings of Jainism**

Mahavira rejected Vedic principles. He did not believe in God’s existence. According to him, the universe is a product of the natural phenomenon of cause and effect. He believed in Karma and transmigration of the soul. The body dies but the soul does not. One will be punished or rewarded as per one’s karma. Advocated a life of austerity and non-violence.

Stressed on equality but did not reject the caste system, unlike Buddhism. But he also said that man may be ‘good’ or ‘bad’ as per his actions and not birth. Asceticism was taken to a great length. Starvation, nudity, and self-mortification were expounded.

Two elements of the world: Jiva (conscious) and Atma (unconscious

* Right faith,
* Right knowledge
* Right conduct (observance of five vows)
* Ahimsa (non-violence)
* Satya (truth)
* Asteya (no stealing)
* Parigraha (no acquiring property)
* Brahmacharya (abstinence)

Teachings of the Buddha

The teaching are mentioned below:

It teaches the Middle Path renouncing extreme steps like indulgence and strict abstinence.

|  |
| --- |
| The four noble truths (Arya Satya) in Buddhism are:  1. The world is full of sorrow  2. Desire is the root cause of all sorrow |
| 3. Sorrow can be conquered by conquering desire |
| 4. Desire can be conquered by following the eight-fold paths (Ashtangirka Marga) |
| The eight-fold path in Buddhism is: Right understanding |
| * Right resolve |
| * Right speech |
| * Right action |
| * Right living |
| * Right efforts |
| * Right thought |
| * Right self-concentration. |

The Tri Ratnas of Buddhism are: Buddha, Dhamma and Sangha. Details are mentioned below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Buddha: | the highest spiritual potential in everyone. |
| Dhamma: | the teachings of Buddha (Pali for Sanskrit Dharma or righteousness) |
| Sangha: | order of monks who follow Buddhism. |

Buddha did not believe in God or the soul. Stressed on karma and ahimsa. He was against the varna system. Buddha taught in Pali. Buddhism spread to several countries outside India. China adopted Buddhism in the 1st century AD.

**Question Number: 15**

**Question Type: MCQ**

**Question Difficulty Level: Medium**

**Marking: (+1, -0.5)**

**Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**

**Topic: history**

**Sub- Concept: Ancient history**

**Concept Field:**

**Q: 15**

Which one of the following Ashoka inscription speaks about the success of Ashoka’s policy with hunters and fisherman who gave up killing animals?

1. Kandahar inscription
2. Mansehra inscription
3. Lampaka inscription
4. Shahbazgarhi inscription

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Answer: A**  **Explanation:**  Kandhar inscription of Ashoka is a famous bilingual edicts in Greek and Aramaic, proclaimed and craved in stone by the Indian Mauryan Empire ruler Ashoka. It was discovered in 1958. It is an inscription of Ashoka that tells the success of his policy with the hunters and fishermen, who gave up killing animals and took to settled agricultural  life.So, option (a) is correct.  **Mansehra inscription**  Mansehra Rock Edicts are fourteen edicts of the Mauryan emperor Ashoka, inscribed on rocks in Mansehra in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan. The edicts are cut into three boulders and date back to 3rd century BC and they are written in the ancient Indic script of Gandhara culture, Kharosthi. The edicts mention aspects of Ashoka’s dharma. The site was submitted for inclusion in the World Heritage Sites and is currently in the tentative list.  **Lampaka inscription**  The Pul-i-Darunteh Aramaic inscription, also called Aramaic inscription of Lampaka, is an inscription on a rock in the valley of Laghman ("Lampaka" being the transcription in Sanskrit of "Laghman"), Afghanistan, written in Aramaic by the Indian emperor Ashoka around 260 BCE. It was discovered in 1932 at a place called Pul-i-Darunteh. Since Aramaic was the official language of the Achaemenid Empire, which disappeared in 320 BCE with the conquests of Alexander the Great, it seems that this inscription was addressed directly to the populations of this ancient empire still present in northwestern India, or to border populations for whom Aramaic remained the language of use.  **Shahbazgarhi inscription**  The Shahbazgarhi rock edicts are cut into the surface of two large boulders on the side of a small rocky outcrop in the Vale of Peshawar. The record fourteen edicts of the Mauryan emperor, Asoka (r. c. 272-235 BC) and represent the earliest irrefutable evidence of writing in South Asia. Dating to middle of the third century BC, they are written from right to left in the Kharosthi script. The presence of Kharosti suggests that the influence of Achaemenid rule in this region, the province of Gandhara, outlived the short Alexandrian interlude of the fourth century BC. The fourteen major edicts recorded at the site present aspects of Asoka’s dharma or righteous law. The edicts are located beside one of the ancient trade routes connecting the Vale of Peshawar with the valley of Swat, Dir and Chitral to the North and the great city of Taxila to the South East.  **Question Number: 16**  **Question Type: MCQ**  **Question Difficulty Level: Medium**  **Marking: (+1, -0.5)**  **Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**  **Topic: history**  **Sub- Concept: Ancient history**  **Concept Field:**  **Q: 16**  Consider the following statements:  1. During Rig Vedic age, river Ganga was revered as Mother Goddess.  2. The river Saraswati is coterminous with Ghaggar-Hakra river.  3. Chirand, a important city during ancient and medieval India, located at the junction of Ganges and Ghagra.  Which of the statements given above are correct?   1. 2 and 3 only 2. 1 only 3. 1 and 2 only 4. 1 and 3 only  |  | | --- | | **Answer: A**  **Explanation:**  In rig vedic times, river Saraswatiismentioned in all but the fourth book of the Rigveda.The goddess Sarasvati was originally a personification of this river, but later developed an independent identity. But river Ganga is not revered as mother goddess. So, statement 1 is not correct. | | The Ghaggar-Hakra River is an intermittent river in India and Pakistan that flows only during the monsoon season. The river is known as Ghaggar before the Ottu barrage and as the Hakra downstream of the barrage.Nineteenth and early 20th century scholars, but also some more recent authors, have suggested that the Ghaggar-Hakra might be the defunct remains of the mythological Sarasvati River of the Rig Veda, fed by Himalayan-fed rivers which changed their course due to tectonics. So, statement 2 is correct. | | Chirand became important city because it was located in the junction of ganges and ghagra. It has a large pre-historic mound which is known for its continuous archaeological record from the Neolithic age (about 2500–1345 BC) to the reign of the Pala dynasty who ruled during the pre-medieval period. The excavations in Chirand have revealed stratified Neolithic, Chalcolithic, and Iron Age settlements, and transitions in human habitation patterns dating from 2500 BC to 30 AD. So, statement 3 is correct. |   **Question Number: 17**  **Question Type: MCQ**  **Question Difficulty Level: Medium**  **Marking: (+1, -0.5)**  **Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**  **Topic: history**  **Sub- Concept: Ancient history**  **Concept Field:**  **Q: 17**  Consider the following statements about the economy of Mauryan empire:  1. There was no evidence of sea-borne foreign trade during that period.  2. Every trader had to get a license for sale. A trader from outside had to obtain a passport in addition.  3. It had to post an army of spies or market inspectors on the trade-routes to detect false declarations as to goods and apprize merchants of same.  Which of the statements given above is correct?   1. 1 only 2. 2 and 3 only 3. 1 and 2 only 4. 1, 2 and 3  |  | | --- | | **Answer: B**  **Explanation:**  There is some evidence as to the sea-borne foreign trade of those days, though it is scanty. We read of Prince Mahajanaka sailing from Champa for Suvannabhumi of Mahinda from Pataliputra to Tamalitti and thence to Ceylon. A whole-village of defaulting wood-rights is described as escaping at night down the Ganges in a “mighty ship” from Benares out to the sea. We read of traders coasting round India from Bharukachchha to Suvannabhumi, touching at a port of Ceylon on the way. **So, statement 1 is not correct.** | | Every trader had to get a license for sale. A trader from outside had to obtain a passport in addition. The trade was regulated by the state. The Superintendent of Commerce (Panyadhyaksha) fixed the whole-sale prices of goods as they were entered in the Customs House. He allowed a margin of profit fix the retail prices. Smuggling and adulteration of goods were severely punished. Speculation and cornering to influence prices were not allowed. Strikes of workmen to raise wages were declared illegal. **So, statement 2 is correct.** | | The State had to undertake a heavy and irksome responsibility in protecting the public, customers and consumers, against unauthorised prices and fraudulent transactions. It had to post an army of spies or market inspectors on the trade-routes to detect false declarations as to goods and apprize merchants of same. Apart from the State control of prices was the State control of weights and Measures.Tax evasion was considered a very serious crime and offenders were severely punished. **So, statement 3 is correct.** |   **Question Number: 18**  **Question Type: MCQ**  **Question Difficulty Level: Medium**  **Marking: (+1, -0.5)**  **Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**  **Topic: history**  **Sub- Concept: Ancient history**  **Concept Field:**  **Q: 18**  Consider the following statement about religious town in ancient India:   1. Dwarka was situated on the western shore of the Okhamandal peninshula 2. Tirupati is regarded as the capital city of Andhra Pradesh 3. The Kamakhya temple is located in the Nilachal hill of western part of Assam   Which of the statement given above is correct?     1. 1 and 2 only 2. 2 and 3 only 3. 1 and 3 only 4. 1, 2, 3 only  |  | | --- | | Answer: C  Explanation:  Dwarka was a district located in Dwarka district in the state of Gujarat in northwestern India. It is an ancient city and a municipality of Devbhoomi. It is located on the western shore of the Okhamandal Peninsula on the right bank of the river Gomti. Dwarka is considered as one of the Chardhams yatra place, four sacred Hindu pilgrimage sites, and is one of the SaptaPuri, the seven most ancient religious cities in the country. Dwarka is located at the mouth of the Gulf of Kutch, on the western shore of the Okhamandal Peninsula. So, statement 1 is correct. | | Tirupati city is located in Chittoor district of the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh. The city is home to most famous and important Vaishnavite shrine of Tirumala Venkateswara Temple and other historic temples and is referred to as the "Spiritual Capital of Andhra Pradesh". It is one of the seven Swayam vyakthakshetras dedicated to Vishnu. It lies at the foot of Seshachalam Hills of Eastern Ghats. So, statement 2 is incorrect. | | |  | | --- | | The Kamakhya Temple also known as Kamrup-Kamakhya temple, KamakhyaDevalaya, is a Hindu temple dedicated to the mother goddess Kamakhya. It is one of the oldest of the 51 Shakti Pithas.Situated on the Nilachal Hill in western part of Guwahati city in Assam, India, it is the main temple in a complex of individual temples dedicated to the ten Mahavidyas of Saktism : Kali, Tara, Sodashi, Bhuvaneshwari, Bhairavi, Chhinnamasta, Dhumavati, Bagalamukhi, Matangi and Kamalatmika. Among these, Tripurasundari, Matangi and Kamala reside inside the main temple whereas the other seven reside in individual temples. It is an important pilgrimage destination for Hindus and especially for Tantric worshipers. **So, statement 3 is correct.** |   Question Number: 19  Question Type: MCQ  Question Difficulty Level: Medium  Marking: (+1, -0.5)  Expected time to solve: 60 seconds  Topic: history  Sub- Concept: Ancient history  Concept Field:  Q: 19  Read the statement about the Vedic Literatures:  1. Varna system was metioned in the “Purusha Sukta” in the Rig Veda.  2. Concept of rebirth and the rituals related to ploughing was mentioned in Shukla Yajur Veda.  3. Rajasuya yagya was explained in Chandogya Upanishad.  Which of the following option given below is correct?   1. 1 only 2. 2 and 3 only 3. 1 and 3 only 4. 1, 2 and 3  |  | | --- | | **Answer: A**  **Explanation:**  The first mention of Varna is found in the Purusha Sukta verse of Rig Veda. Purusha is the primordial being which constituted by the combination of the four Varnas. Brahmins constitute its mouth, Kshatriyas its arms, Vaishyas its thighs, and Shudras its feet. **So, statement 1 is correct.** | | The Yajurveda is the Veda primarily contain prose mantras for worship rituals. The Yajurveda is mainly divided into two groups   1. Shukla Yajurveda 2) Krishna Yajurveda.   The Krishna Yajurveda contain mixture of mantra and Brahmana whereas the Shukla Yajurveda contain the clear separation of the two veda. Shukla Yajurveda does not mention about ploughing rituals and the concept of rebirth. **So, statement 2 is incorrect.** | | The Chaandogya Upanishad is a Sanskrit text embedded in the Chandogya Brahmana of the Sama Veda. It is recognised as one of the oldest Upanishads. It is one of the most cited texts in later Bhasyas (reviews and commentaries) by scholars from the diverse schools of Hinduism. It has gained importance as one Upanishad for which Adi Shankara has cited Chandogya Upanishad 810 times in his Vedanta Sutra Bhasya, more than any other ancient text. Its importance is due to the fact that it directly deals with the true nature of Brahman, the Supreme Self, or Advaita without a second, and its identity with the Individual Self. This Upanishad though mainly deals with the Science of Non-Duality, yet in it are described the forms of Upasana (meditation and worship) as the means of the attainment of good results; for, these bring about results which are as good as Liberation itself. (Upanishads won’t mention about yagyas). So, statement 3 is not correct.  **Question Number: 20**  **Question Type: MCQ**  **Question Difficulty Level: Medium**  **Marking: (+1, -0.5)**  **Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**  **Topic: history**  **Sub- Concept: Ancient history**  **Concept Field:**  **Q: 20**  Which of the following foreign travellers described about the feudal “Nayankara system” of Vijayanagara kingdom and also mention about the military organization and the royal festival of Durga in Vijayanagara?   1. Marco Polo 2. Ibn Battuta 3. Domingo Paes 4. Nicolao Manucci  |  | | --- | | **Answer: C**  **Explanation:**  Marco Polo belong to 1292-1294 AD. He was a Venetian traveller who visited South India in 1294 A.D. The economic history of India was mentioned in ‘The Book of Sir Marco Polo’. | | Ibn Batuta belong to period of 1333-1347 AD. He was a Morrish traveller, his book ‘Rehla’ (the Travelogue) throws a lot of light on the reign of Muhammad-bin-Tughlaq and the geographical, economic and social conditions of that time. | | **Domingo Paes** belong to 1520-1522 AD who visited Vijayanagar during krishnadevarai reign who describes in detail the feudal nayankara system of Vijayanagara's military organisation and the annual royal Durga festival. **So, option (c) is correct.** |   Nicolao Manucci (1653-1708 AD) was an Italian traveller, got service at the court of Dara Shikoh.  **Question Number: 21**  **Question Type: MCQ**  **Question Difficulty Level: Medium**  **Marking: (+1, -0.5)**  **Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**  **Topic: history**  **Sub- Concept: Ancient history**  **Concept Field:**  **Q: 21**  With reference to the pre-historic period of India, “Paiyampalli”, “Sanganakallu” and “Golbai Sasan” sites are associated with   1. Chalcolithic age 2. Neolithic age 3. Mesolithic age 4. Paleolithic age   **Answer: B**  **Explanation:**  Some of the important Neolithic sites or those which related to Neolithic layers which have been excavated include Maski, Brahmagiri, Hallur, Kodekal, Sanganakallu,  Piklihal, and Takkalakota in Karnataka, and Paiyampalli in Tamil Nadu. An important Neolithic site in Andhra Pradesh was Utnur. The Neolithic phase was covered the period from about 2400 to about 1000 BC in south India.  The Neolithic people who settle their in Piklihal were cattle-herders. They mainly domesticated cattle, sheep, goats, etc, and set up seasonal camps surrounded by cowpens made with posts and stakes in which they accumulated dung. When it was time to move, the entire camping ground was set afire and cleared for the next session  of camping. Both ash mounds and habitation sites have been found in Piklihal.  **Question Number: 22**  **Question Type: MCQ**  **Question Difficulty Level: Medium**  **Marking: (+1, -0.5)**  **Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**  **Topic: history**  **Sub- Concept: Ancient history**  **Concept Field:**  **Q: 22**  According to the ancient sculptures, consider the following statement:  “A statue of Buddha is found in which he is in sitting posture with Abhaya posture in his right hand. Buddha’s image is grand and solid; the masculine beauty was discernible and the body was firm. The eroticism is discernible in the image which was given beautiful expression through physical features. The image also shows a religious influence. Spirituality is expressed in the image.”  The above mentioned statement belong to which of the following school of art of Buddha’s statue?   1. Gandhara Art 2. Mathura Art 3. Amaravati Art 4. Kaushambi Art   **Answer: D**  **Explanation:**  Both sitting and standing posture of Buddha are carved out in Mathura art (But in Gandhara style, Buddha mostly will in standing posture). In Mathura style, both physique and spititualism is given importance. So, Option (d) is correct.  **Kaushambi arts:**  Buddha surrounded by two monks: Padmapani (holding Lotus) and Vajrapani(Holding Vajra). Halo around the head of Buddha decorated with geometrical motifs. the Standing Buddhas of the Sravasti, Sarnath, and Kausambhi Sarvatobhadrika image of 4 Jain Jinas.  Its features are   * Delighted Buddha * Less spiritual * Shaven head and face * Muscularity * Energetic * Graceful posture of Buddha * Seated in Padmasana  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GANDHARA AND MATHURA SCHOOL OF ARTS Areas of differences** | **Gandhara School of art** | **Mathura School of Art** | | Reign | Kushana Dynasty | Kushana Dynasty | | Area | Northwest Frontier | Mathura | | Outside influences | Greek influence | • Purely indigenous  • No foreign influence | | Religious influence | Buddhism  Hellenistic realism | • Hinduism  • Buddhism | | |   **Question Number: 23**  **Question Type: MCQ**  **Question Difficulty Level: Medium**  **Marking: (+1, -0.5)**  **Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**  **Topic: history**  **Sub- Concept: Ancient history**  **Concept Field:**  **Q: 23**  Which of the following option according to the Vedic age, define the term “Sangrahitri”?   1. Treasurer 2. Settlement of disputes 3. Revenue collector 4. Messenger   **Answer: A**  **Explanation:**  Sangrahitri is related to treasurer, So, Option (a) is correct.  Samiti was the larger General Assembly of the people and it was different from Sabha in terms of function and composition. The Sabha was a smaller selected body, which functioned as the lower court. Due to increase in complexity of the society and political structure, some new officials were appointed by the state namely −  Suta was the charioteer,  Sangrahitri related to treasurer  Bhagadugha is the collector of taxes.  Gramini is the head of a village  Sthapati is known as chief judge  Takshan was the carpenter  Kshatri is the chamberlain etc.   * The administrative officials was highly organized and became an efficient instrument for ruling and control over a large kingdom. * Legal institutions became more focused. * The king administered justice and give hard punishment. * Petty offences were left to "village judges.” * The punishments for the crime were rather severe. * For evidence, the eye-witness was more important than informer. * The law was also very clear on the question of inheritance of property, ownership of land, etc. * The father's property was inherited by sons alone. * The daughters could inherit it only if she was the only child or there were no male issues   **Question Number: 24**  **Question Type: MCQ**  **Question Difficulty Level: Medium**  **Marking: (+1, -0.5)**  **Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**  **Topic: history**  **Sub- Concept: Ancient history**  **Concept Field:**  **Q: 24**  Which of the following paintings is similar to the pre-historic cave paintings in its execution and painted on an austere mud base also below to an Adivasi tribe?   1. Pichwai painting 2. Pahari painting 3. Warli painting 4. Madhubani painting   **Answer: C**  **Explanation:**  **Pichwai or ‘pichvai’** is one of the most spectacular and ancient forms of art with its origin being the land of culture India. Pichwai paintings have their roots in Nathdwara Rajasthan. The stunning art form is a 400-year-old art one which was created depicting the beautiful life of Lord Krishna. The art on the wall is created by depicting the story of Shrinathji, another form of Lord Krishna holding the hill Govardhan. The story contains a beautiful history which represents the power of one of the most significant incarnations of Lord Vishnu. When Lord Indra, showcased his control over the inhabitants of Vrindavan, with steady rains and thunderstorms; Lord Krishna lifted the hill named Govardhan on his little finger and the people of Vrindavan took refuge under the mountain. With this Indira realized failure to disturb the people and his ego was broken. Since then people are worshipping Govardhan hill.  **Pahari painting** is an umbrella term used for a form of Indian painting, done mostly in miniature forms, originating from Himalayan hill kingdoms of North India. It is quite similar to Rajput paintings in terms of style and colours. These paintings established and developed during the period of 17th to 19th century, have been done mostly in miniature painting forms.  **Warli folk** art has its origins in Maharashtra. It is widely practised in the Northern Sahyadri region by the Adivasis (tribes). Warli tribe is one of the largest tribes of India which has rejected contemporary culture. Elements of nature are the focal points of Warli folk paintings. A mixture of rice paste, gum and water is used as paint by the warlis. A bamboo stick is used as the brush. **So, Option (c) is correct.**  **Mithila painting** is practised in the Northern and Eastern Bihar region in India and in Nepal. Twigs, nibs, matchsticks and fingers are used for painting. Natural dyes and pigments are used as paints. It is characterized by geometrical patterns such as line drawing filled with bright colours. The painting is done on freshly plastered or mud walls. Godna, Kohbar, Tantrik, Bharani and Katchni are the distinctive styles of Madhubani painting.  **Question Number: 25**  **Question Type: MCQ**  **Question Difficulty Level: Medium**  **Marking: (+1, -0.5)**  **Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**  **Topic: history**  **Sub- Concept: Ancient history**  **Concept Field:**  **Q: 25**  A person who wielding a flaming sword in his right hand was depicted on which one of the following Bodhisattva?   1. Samantabhadra 2. Vajrapani 3. Ksitigarbha 4. Manjusri   **Answer: D**  **Explanation:**  Manjusri is mentioned as a male Bodhisattva who wield a flaming sword in his right hand. He is called as Wenshu in China and also known as Jampelyang in Tibet. **So, Option (a) is correct.**  In Buddhism, a bodhisattva denote as an enlightened being which means Bodhi. The Sattva part of the word means the quality (Tva) of truth or goodness (Sat) implying balancing. Traditionally, a bodhisattva is anyone who, motivated by great compassion, has generated Bodhicitta, which is a spontaneous wish to attain Buddhahood for the benefit of all sentient beings.  Bodhisattva is defined as someone who has essence of enlightenment. Bodhisattva refers to all who are destined to become Buddhas in this life or another life.  **Question Number: 26**  **Question Type: MCQ**  **Question Difficulty Level: Medium**  **Marking: (+1, -0.5)**  **Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**  **Topic: history**  **Sub- Concept: Ancient history**  **Concept Field:**  **Q: 26**  During the third century which of the following language served as a lingua franca of most of the major parts of ancient India. After that, Sanskrit acquired the same position.  The above statement give infer about which of the following language?     1. Pali 2. Sanskrit 3. Magadhi 4. Prakrit   **Answer: D**  **Explanation:**  The Prakrits belongs to a group of vernacular Middle Indo-Aryan languages which is used in India from around the 3rd century BCE to the 8th century CE. The term Prakrit is usually applied to the middle period of Middle Indo-Aryan languages, excluding earlier inscriptions and the later Pali. The Prakrits were used contemporaneously with the prestigious Classical Sanskrit of higher social classes.  Prakrit language was in the dominance as a lingua franca of major parts of India during third century BC. Ashoka inscriptions were inscribed in Prakrit language mainly in Brahmi script. **So, Option (d) is correct.**  **Question Number: 27**  **Question Type: MCQ**  **Question Difficulty Level: Medium**  **Marking: (+1, -0.5)**  **Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**  **Topic: history**  **Sub- Concept: Ancient history**  **Concept Field:**  **Q: 27**  The practice of sati was first time found in which of the earliest evidence of the following inscriptions?   1. Barbara cave Inscription 2. Eran Inscription 3. Maski Inscription 4. Rummindei Pillar Inscription   **Answer: B**  **Explanation:**  The first inscription which evidence the system of satipratha has been found from Eran inscription. Some reliable records indicate that the practice was continued before the time of the Gupta empire, approximately 400 CE. After this time, instances of Sati began to be marked by inscribed memorial stones. In India, the earliest of these memorial stones are found in Sagar, Madhya Pradesh, though the largest collections date from several centuries later, and are found in Rajasthan. In western part of India, the people consumed more animal food, but fish and rice formed important elements in the diet of eastern India. More remains of structures have been found in western Maharashtra, western MP, and south-eastern Rajasthan. The settlements at Kayatha and Eran in MP, and at Inamgaon in western Maharashtra, were fortified. In other parts, especially in western Maharashtra and Rajasthan, the Chalcolithic people seem to have been colonizers. Their earliest settlements were in Malwa and central India, such as those in Kayatha and Eran; those in  western Maharashtra were established later; and those in Bihar and West Bengal  much later. Several other Chalcolithic cultures, though younger in age than the mature  Harappan culture, are not connected with the Indus civilization. The Malwa culture (1700–1200 BC) found in Navdatoli, Eran, and Nagda is considered to be non-Harappan. That is also the case with the Jorwe culture (1400–700 BC) which encompasses the whole of Maharashtra except parts of Vidarbha and Konkan. Axel Michaels state that the first clear proofs of the practice is from Nepal in 464 CE, and in India from 510 CE.  **Question Number: 28**  **Question Type: MCQ**  **Question Difficulty Level: Medium**  **Marking: (+1, -0.5)**  **Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**  **Topic: history**  **Sub- Concept: Ancient history**  **Concept Field:**  **Q: 28**  The term “Nandavarta” is associated with which Dharm in religious history of India,   1. Buddhism 2. Jainism 3. Shaivism 4. Vaishnavism   **Answer: B**  **Explanation:**  Svetambara tradition is associated with Jainism which include the eight symbols which are:  1. Swastika  2. Srivatsa  3. Nandavarta  4. Vardhmanaka which is called food vessel  5. Bhadrasana is called as seat  6. Kalasha also known as pot  7. Darpan is a type of mirror  8. Pair of fish  **So, Option (b) is correct.**  **Jainism:** It is a very ancient religion. As per some traditions, it is as old as the Vedic religion.The tradition of Jain has a succession of great teachers or Tirthankaras.This religion have 24 Tirthankaras in which the last Tirthankara was Vardhaman Mahavira.The first Tirthankara is believed to be Rishabhanath or Rishabhadev.The 23rd Tirthankara was Parshvanatha who was born in Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh. He may have lived in the 8th or 7th century BC.All the Tirthankaras were Kshatriyas by birth.  **Question Number: 29**  **Question Type: MCQ**  **Question Difficulty Level: Medium**  **Marking: (+1, -0.5)**  **Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**  **Topic: history**  **Sub- Concept: Ancient history**  **Concept Field:**  **Q: 29**  Consider the following pairs:  Harappan Site Associated river  1. Kalibangan - Ghaggar  2. Lothal - Bhogawa  3. Banawali - Saraswati  Choose the correct option from the combination given above which is correctly matched?   1. 2only 2. 2 and 3 only 3. 1 and 3 only 4. 1, 2 and 3   **Answer: D**  **Explanation:**  Black Bangles found in Kalibangan. Rajasthan is situated on the bank of Ghaggar river. It has evidence of ploughed field, wooden furrow, seven fire-altars, bones of camel and two types of burials (Circular and rectangular grave) have been found. **So, combination 1 is correct.**  Lothal is a famous Harappan site located in Gujarat and is situated on the bank of river Bhogava. The city was divided into Citadel and the lower town and dockyard. The evidence of rice has been found on this site. It is also famous for its port. **So, combination 2 is correct.**  Banawali site is located in Haryana on the bank of Saraswati river. It has evidence of both pre-Harappan and Harappan culture and good quality of barley has been found here. **So, combination 3 is correct.**  Harappa is situated on the bank of river Ravi in Montgomery district of Punjab located in Pakistan.   * Mohenjo-Daro known for Mound of Dead is located on the Bank of Indus river in Larkana district of Punjab now in Pakistan. * Chanhudaro is situated on the Bank of river Indus in Sindh, Pakistan. * Lothal in Gujarat is situated on the bank of river Bhogava. * Kalibangan known for Black Bangles is located in Rajasthan and is situated on the bank of river Ghaggar * Dholavira is situated on the bank of Luni river in Kachchh district in Gujarat. * Surkotada located in Gujarat is situated between the rivers Sabarmati and the Bhogavo. * Banawali is located in Haryana is situated on the bank of river Saraswati.   **Question Number: 30**  **Question Type: MCQ**  **Question Difficulty Level: Medium**  **Marking: (+1, -0.5)**  **Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**  **Topic: history**  **Sub- Concept: Ancient history**  **Concept Field:**  **Q: 30**  Consider the following pairs about important of prehistoric site:  (sites) (Important findings)  1. Inamgaon - Statue of mother Goddess  2. Adamgarh - Domestication of animals  3. Chirand - Serpent cult  Choose the correct option from the combination given above which is correctly matched?   1. 1 only 2. 2 and 3 only 3. 1 and 2 only 4. 1, 2 and 3  |  | | --- | | **Answer: D**  **Explanation:**  Inamgaon is located in Maharashtra in western part of India. It is a post-Harappan agrarian village and an archaeological site. It is situated along the right bank of the Ghod River. It is known as the 'regional centre' of the Bhima Valley. It is an chalcolithic site which is one of the most intensively and extensively excavated and well reconstructed of the Deccan region as well as of India so far. During the excavation the statue of mother goddess is found here. **So pair 1 is correctly matched.** | | Adamgarh Hills is located in the Hoshangabad town of the Hoshangabad district in the Indian state of Madhya Pradesh. The rock shelters of this site are located on the south of Narmada river which contain paintings of Prehistoric period, painted in red and white colours. During the excavation the evidence for domestication of animals is found here. **So pair 2 is correctly matched.** | | Chirand is an archaeological site located in the Saran district of Bihar, India. It is situated on the northern bank of the Ganga River. This site has a large pre-historic mound which is recognised for its continuous archaeological record from the Neolithic age (about 2500–1345 BC) to the reign of the Pal dynasty who ruled during the pre-medieval period. During the excavations in this site it has revealed stratified Neolithic, Chalcolithic, and Iron Age settlements, and transitions in human habitation patterns dating from 2500 BC to 30 AD. This site include important finding of serpent cult. **So pair 3 is correctly matched.** |   **Question Number: 31**  **Question Type: MCQ**  **Question Difficulty Level: Medium**  **Marking: (+1, -0.5)**  **Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**  **Topic: history**  **Sub- Concept: Ancient history**  **Concept Field: Important Facts**  **Q: 31**  Read the statement about following pair:  **Cultural Heritage-site Location**  1. Rakhigarhi - Haryana  2. Hastinapur - Uttar Pradesh  3. Shivsagar - Andhra Pradesh  Choose the correct option from the pair given above which are paired correctly?   1. 1 and 2 only 2. 2 and 3 only 3. 1 and 3 only 4. 1, 2 and 3   **Answer: A**  **Explanation:**   |  | | --- | | **Rakhigarhi** is located in Hissar district of Haryana which is approx 150 kilometres north-west of Delhi. It is one of the most prominent and largest sites of the Harappan civilisation. The site was existed between 2,600-1,800 BC. It was one among the five known townships of the Harappan civilisation in the Indian subcontinent. **So, 1 is correct.** | | **Dr B.B lal excavated the Hastinapur site in Meerut district of Uttar Pradesh.** He was the Superintendent of the Excavations Branch at that time of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI). This site was considered as the capital of the Kuru Kingdom and it was also believed to be the capital of kingdom of **Pandavas** and **Kauravas.** **So, 2 is correct.** | | **Sivasagar** site is named after a lake in the city of Sivasagar in Assam. It was the centre of the Ahom kingdom that existed in the Brahmaputra Valley between the 13th and 19th century CE. **So, pair 3 is not correct.** |   **Rakhigarhi**  It is a site, which comprises seven mounds and was discovered in 1963 by the Archeological Survey of India. Excavations in Rakhigarhi have traced this civilisation to as early as 5,500 BC. The site gained prominence last year when a study of DNA samples of the skeletons found there showed that there are no traces of the R1a1 gene or Central Asian ‘steppe’ genes, loosely termed as the ‘Aryan gene’. IT was declared as one of the 10 most endangered heritage sites in Asia in 2012, by the Global Heritage Fund.  **Hastinapur**  This site is located in Meerut and is considered to be the capital of the ‘Kuru Kingdom’. The site is part of the ASI’s list of ‘Mahabharata sites,’ which are places that are believed to have been featured in the epic. This site has also found its evidence mention in ancient Jain texts.  **Sivasagar**  Sivasagar is named after a lake in the city of Sivasagar in Assam, which was the epicentre of the Ahom kingdom that existed in the Brahmaputra Valley between the 13th and 19th century CE. The site hosts burial mounds of the kings who ruled the Ahom kingdom for 600 years, and they were made a part of the world heritage sites in 2014. There are several prominent tourism sites — the Rang Ghar, TalatalGhar, Namdang Stone Bridge — built by Ahom rulers. Rang Ghar used to be a site for buffalo fights and other sports for the Ahom rulers. The TalatalGhar was initially an army base camp for the Ahom kings, used during wars, while the Namdang Stone Bridge was a connecting bridge between Assam and the rest of India.  **Question Number: 32**  **Question Type: MCQ**  **Question Difficulty Level: Medium**  **Marking: (+1, -0.5)**  **Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**  **Topic: history**  **Sub- Concept: Ancient history**  **Concept Field: Important Facts**  **Q: 32**  Read the statement about following site:   1. The Harappan site Dholavira was excavated and discovered in 1967. 2. The Dholavira site artefacts give evidence of its trade link with Mesopotamia. 3. Adichanallur was first discovered in 1876 and it dating back to 696 to 800 BC.   Choose the correct option from the pair given above which are paired correctly?   1. 1 and 2 only 2. 2 and 3 only 3. 1 and 3 only 4. 1, 2 and 3   **Answer: A**  **Explanation:**  **Dholavira,** which is located in the Kutch district of Gujarat, is also a site of Harappan civilisation. It was discovered by the ASI in 1967. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**  Artefacts found in Dholavira included terracotta pottery, beads, gold and copper ornaments, tools, urns and some imported vessels that indicate trade links with lands as far away as Mesopotamia. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**  This is a site located in Thoothukudi district, Tamil Nadu, and is believed to be dating backing to 696-905 BC, making it the oldest site in the state so far.Adichanallur is an urn-burial site, first discovered in 1876. **Hence statement 3 is incorrect.**  **Adichanallur**  In 2005, around 169 clay urns containing human skeletons, nearly 3,800 years old, were unearthed.Apart from the skeletons, several gold diadems with a hole on each end for tying them around the forehead were also found, along with a number of bronze figurines  of buffalos, goats tigers, and elephants. |

**Dholavira**

Dholavira was a thriving metropolis during the 3,000 BCE-1,800 BCE period. According to the UNSECO, “Globally, Dholavira can be compared to the cities of Ancient River Valley Civilization, the urban metropolises of Egyptian, Chinese and Mesopotamian.”

**Question Number: 33**

**Question Type: MCQ**

**Question Difficulty Level: Medium**

**Marking: (+1, -0.5)**

**Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**

**Topic: history**

**Sub- Concept: Ancient history**

**Concept Field: Important Facts**

**Q: 33**

Read the statement about Jainism:

1. Mahavira had not follow vedic principle
2. They believed that there are two elements of the world one is Jiva and another one was Atma.
3. Only 1
4. Only 2
5. Both of these
6. None of these

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

Teachings of Jainism:- Mahavira rejected Vedic principles. He did not believe in existence of God. He believed that the universe is a product of the natural phenomenon of cause and effect. He believed in Karma and transmigration of the soul and he believe that the body dies but the soul does not. One will be punished or rewarded as per one’s karma. He advocated a life of austerity and non-violence. Stressed on equality but did not reject the caste system, unlike Buddhism. But he also said that man may be ‘good’ or ‘bad’ as per his actions and not birth. Asceticism was taken to a great length. Starvation, nudity and self-mortification were expounded. There are two elements of the world one is Jiva (conscious) and other is Atma (unconscious).

**Triratnas of Jainism:**

1. Right faith
2. Right knowledge
3. Right conduct (observance of five vows)
4. Ahimsa (non-violence)
5. Satya (truth)
6. Asteya (no stealing)
7. Parigraha (no acquiring property)
8. Brahmacharya (abstinence)

**Question Number: 34**

**Question Type: MCQ**

**Question Difficulty Level: Medium**

**Marking: (+1, -0.5)**

**Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**

**Topic: history**

**Sub- Concept: Ancient history**

**Concept Field:**

**Q: 34**

**Math the pair given below:**

**Bodhisattvas Associated term**

1. Maitreya Ajita
2. Avalokitesvara Guanshiyin Pusa
3. Ksitigarbha Yagya
4. Vajrapani protective dieties

Which of the following pair is incorrectly matched?

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

There are 8 important Bodhisattvas who are as following:

**Avalokitesvara** is described as one who hold a lotus flower. He is called as Guanshiyin Pusa in China.

**Manjusri** is known as a male Bodhisattva who wielding a flaming sword in his right hand. He is known as Wenshu in China and Jampelyang in Tibet.

**Samantabhadra** is known as Universal Worthy who is associated with meditation. He is manifested through action and he is a major figure in Flower Garland Sutra.

**Ksitigarbha** is a term related to a Buddhist monk in the Orient or East Asia which means Earth Womb. He is revered as the guardian of children and patron deity of deceased children. He carries a staff.

**Maitreya** is also known as Ajita Boddhisattva. It is believed that he will arrive when oceans will decrease in size. He keeps a Kumbha or phililal in his hand and is destined to rule Varanasi (Pure Land).

**Vajrapani** is known as one of the 3 protective deities around Buddha, other are Manjusri and Avlokiteshwara. Vajrapani manifests Buddha’s power while Buddha’s wisdom is manifested Buddha’s wisdom and Avlokiteshwara manifests Buddha’s compassion.

**Sadaparibhuta** is a Bodhisattva which manifests never disparaging spirit.

**Akasagarbha** is considered boundless just like as space. He was the twin brother of Ksitigarbha. He manifests wisdom.

**Question Number: 35**

**Question Type: MCQ**

**Question Difficulty Level: Medium**

**Marking: (+1, -0.5)**

**Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**

**Topic: history**

**Sub- Concept: Ancient history**

**Concept Field:**

**Q: 35**

Consider the following statement:

Temple Associated term

1. Kashi Vishwanath - Shiva

Temple

2. Sringeri Sharadamba- Adi Shankara

Temple

3. Srirangam Temple - Ranganatha

Which of the combination given above is correctly matched?

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

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:**

**Kashi Vishwanath Temple** is one of the most famous Hindu temples dedicated to Lord Shiva. It is located in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, India. The Temple located on the western bank of the holy river Ganga, and is one of the twelve Jyotirlingas, the holiest of Shiva Temples. **So, Pair 1 is correctly matched.**

Dakshinamnaya Sringeri Sharada Peetha is one of the four Advaita Vedanta monastery which is established by Adi Shankara in Sringeri, the others being Dwaraka, Govardhana and Jyotirmath. The Sringeri matha is on the banks of the Tunga River in Chikkamagalur district located in the Western Ghats. **So, Pair 2 is correctly matched.**

The Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple or Thiruvarangam is a Hindu temple dedicated to Ranganatha, a reclining form of the Hindu deity Maha Vishnu, located in Srirangam on the banks of river kauvery, Tiruchirapalli, Tamil Nadu. **So, Pair 3 is correctly matched.**

**Question Number: 36**

**Question Type: MCQ**

**Question Difficulty Level: Medium**

**Marking: (+1, -0.5)**

**Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**

**Topic: history**

**Sub- Concept: Ancient history**

**Concept Field:**

**Q: 36**

Consider the following statements about Jainism:

1. Bhagvati Sutra is an ancient book which related to the bureaucrats of the Jain religious order.

2. The Jain texts Mainly comprises and written in Aradhamagadhi language.

Which of the statements given above is correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. 1 and 2 only
4. None

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:**

The earliest versions of Jain Agamas known were written in Ardhamagadhi Prakrit language. So, Statement 3 is correct.

Vyakhyaprajnapti commonly known as the BhagavatiSutra is the fifth Agamas of the 12 Jain Agamas. It is said to be promulgated by Mahavira. The Vyakhyaprajnapti is said to have been composed by Sudharmaswami by the Śvetambara school of Jainism; it is written in Jain Prakrit. It is the largest text of the canon which contain 36,000 questions answered by Mahavira. The subject matter of the answers ranges from doctrine to rules of ascetic behaviour.

Digambar tradition has two main monastic orders Mula Sangh and the Kashtha Sangh, both led by Bhattarakas.

The word ‘Jain’ is derived from jina or jaina which means the‘Conqueror’. They believe that their religion is comprised of people who have managed to control and conquer their desires. Jainismdoes not have a single founder, instead of that the truth comes to the world in difficult and different times by a teacher who shows the way or a Tirthankara. There were 23 Tirthankaras or great-learned men in Jain religion before Mahavira. It is commonly mistaken that Mahavira was the founder of Jainism, instead he was the last and 24th tirthankara. He would achieve the goal of spirituality and teach the others the rightway to get moksha or liberation. He is like an incarnation of god who is in the form of a human body and has to go through penance and meditation to reach the pure stage of the soul.

**Question Number: 37**

**Question Type: MCQ**

**Question Difficulty Level: Medium**

**Marking: (+1, -0.5)**

**Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**

**Topic: history**

**Sub- Concept: Ancient history**

**Concept Field:**

**Q: 37**

Consider the following statements about the Hinayana Buddhism:

1. It was divided into two sects Shunyavaad and Vigyanvaad in the later times.

2. They believed in helping individuals over others to attain individual salvation.

Which of the statements given above is correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:**

Hinayana was later divided into two sects i.e. Vaibhashika and Sautrantika. Mahayanawas later divided into two sects i.e. Shunyavaad and Vigyanvaad.So, Statement 1 is not correct.

They believe in individual salvation and try to attain individual salvation through self discipline and meditation. **So, Statement 2 is correct.**

**Hinayana Buddhism**

• It means the lesser vehicle.

• The school includes the followers of the original preaching of the Buddha. It is more of an orthodox school.

• They did not believe in idol or image worship of Buddha.

• They believe in individual salvation and try to attain individual salvation through self discipline and meditation.

• Ultimate aim of Hinayana is thus nirvana.

• One of the sub-sects of Hinayana is Sthaviravada orTheravada.

• The Hinayana scholars used Pali language to interact withthe masses.

Emperor Ashoka patronised Hinayana sect as Mahayana school came into being much later.

• Hinayana school in its original form is almost non-existent in the present age

**Question Number: 38**

**Question Type: MCQ**

**Question Difficulty Level: Medium**

**Marking: (+1, -0.5)**

**Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**

**Topic: history**

**Sub- Concept: Ancient history**

**Concept Field:**

**Q: 38**

Which one of the following Inscriptions of Ashoka mentions about Ashoka’s first visit to Bodh Gaya and the Bodhi tree?

1. Major Rock Edict II
2. Pillar Edict II
3. Nagarhole Pillar Inscription
4. Major Rock Edict VIII

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:**

**List of Major Rock edicts**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Major Rock Edict I | Prohibits animal slaughter and bans festive gathering. |
| Major Rock Edict II | - Care for man and animals. Mentions the Pandyas, Satyapuras and Keralaputras of South India. |
| Major Rock Edict III | - Generosity to Brahmins. About Yuktas, Pradeshikas and Rajukas who would go every five years to different parts of his empire to spread Dhamma. |
| Major Rock Edict IV | - Dhammaghosha (sound of Dhamma/righteousness) over Bherighosha (sound of war). |
| Major Rock Edict V | - About Dhammamahamatras. Talks about treating slaves right. |
| Major Rock Edict VI | - King’s desire to know about his people’s conditions. About welfare measures. |
| Major Rock Edict VII | - Tolerance for all religions. |
| Major Rock Edict VIII | - Ashoka’s first visit to Bodh Gaya and the Bodhi tree (his first Dhamma Yatra). |
| Major Rock Edict IX | - Condemns popular ceremonies. |
| Major Rock Edict X | - Disapproves of the individual’s desire for fame and glory and stresses on Dhamma. |
| Major Rock Edict XI | - Elaborates on Dhamma. |
| Major Rock Edict XII | - Tolerance for all religions and sects. |
| Major Rock Edict XIII | - Mentions victory over Kalinga. Mentions Ashoka’s Dhamma victory over Greek Kings Antiochus of Syria (Amtiyoko), Ptolemy of Egypt (Turamaye), Magas of Cyrene (Maka), Antigonus of Macedon (Amtikini), Alexander of Epirus (Alikasudaro). Also mentions Pandyas, Cholas, etc. |
| Major Rock Edict XIV | - Engraving of inscriptions installed in various parts of the country. |

**So, Option (d) is correct.**

**Question Number: 39**

**Question Type: MCQ**

**Question Difficulty Level: Medium**

**Marking: (+1, -0.5)**

**Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**

**Topic: history**

**Sub- Concept: Ancient history**

**Concept Field:**

**Q: 39**

Which among the following foreign traveller mentioned about “Motupalli port” related to Kakatiya dynasty?

1. Marco Polo
2. Abdul Razzaq
3. Domingo Paes
4. Badayuni

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

The Italian traveller **Marco Polo** who visited Motupalli in 1293 A.D. sometime during Rudramadevi's tenure as the ruler of the Kakatiya Dynasty and made note of her administrative style; admiring her extensively. **So, Option (a) is correct.**

Abdur Razzaq period was 1443-1444 AD. He was a Persian traveller, came to India and stayed at the court of the Zamorin at Calicut. He has given a vivid account of the Vijaynagar empire.

DominigoPaes period was 1520-1522 AD. He was Portuguese traveller, visited the court of Krishnadeva Raya of the Vijaynagar Empire.

Athanasius Nikitin period was 1470-1474 AD. He was a Russian merchant, describes the condition of the Bahmani kingdom under Muhammad III (1463-82).

**Question Number: 40**

**Question Type: MCQ**

**Question Difficulty Level: Medium**

**Marking: (+1, -0.5)**

**Expected time to solve: 60 seconds**

**Topic: history**

**Sub- Concept: Ancient history**

**Concept Field:**

**Q: 40**

Consider the following statements about the Jainism:

1. Jainism and Buddhism both reject the authority of Veda

2. It define that soul is the fundamental and core focus of Jain which gain knowledge

Which of the following option given above is correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

Jainism, like Buddhism, rejects the authority of Vedas. However, unlike Buddhism, it believes in the existence of soul(atman). Soul is the core and the fundamental focus of the Jain philosophy. It is the soul that experiences existence and gains knowledge, not mind nor body as both are believed to be a heap of matter. **Hence statement 1 and 2 both are correct.**

Major Jain pilgrimages in India include Dilwara temple in MountAbu (Rajasthan), Palitana temples (Gujarat), Girnar (Gujarat),Shikharji (Jharkhand) and Shravanabelagola (Karnataka). They believe that through three-jewel (fold) path of: right belief(samyakdarshana), right knowledge (samyakjnana) and rightconduct (samyakcharita), one can get rid of the bad karma and alsopull themselves out of the cycle of rebirth and achieve salvation.

Jains need to follow these five constraints in life:

* Ahimsa (non-violence);
* Satya (truthfulness);
* Asteya (not stealing);
* Aparigraha (non-acquisition) and
* Brahmacharya (chaste living).

The fifth tenet was propounded by Mahavira. Jainism has two major ancient sub traditions:

* Digambaras which is Sub-sects include Mula Sangh (originalcommunity) and Terapanthi, Taranpathi and Bispanthi(these three are modern communities)
* Svetambaras (Sub-sects include Sthanakavasi andMurtipujaka