

ANSWER KEY

ICSE Grade 9 – History & Civics (Test Paper)

Q1.1 (c) Dr. Rajendra Prasad

Q1.2 a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.

Q1.3 D

Q1.4 The correct answer is (c) A place for ritual or ceremonial bathing linked to religious practices. The elaborate and careful construction, including watertight bricks and bitumen, flights of steps leading into the tank, and surrounding corridors and rooms, suggests a special function beyond simple utility. Most scholars agree it was used for important religious ceremonies.

Q1.5 (a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.

Q1.6 c) Overseas trade

Q1.7 The correct answer is (c). The text states that 'the Indus cities followed a grid pattern. This is indicated by the regularity of the divisions, the alignment of streets... The streets crossed the main road at right angles, dividing the city into square or rectangular blocks.'

Q1.8 a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.

Q1.9 d) A is false but R is true.

Q1.10 B

Q1.11 (a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.

Q1.12 (d) 26th November 1949

Q1.13 Option (a) is correct. Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A. The assertion correctly states the significance of the discovery in pushing back India's history. The reason explains a key technological aspect—its Bronze Age status—which is precisely why it could be compared to other advanced civilisations of that era like Mesopotamia and Egypt, thus validating its parallel status.

Q1.14 C

Q1.15 (c) Chanhudaro

Q1.16 B

Q2.1 The discovery of the Harappan Civilisation is a significant event in Indian history because it pushed back the history of India by at least a thousand years. Prior to its discovery, it was believed that Indian history began with the advent of the Aryans. This discovery placed the Harappan Civilisation at par with other great Bronze Age civilisations like Mesopotamia and Egypt.

It is also known as the Indus Valley Civilisation for the following two reasons:

1. Some of its important sites, which were excavated first, are located in the valley of the river Indus.
2. The two most important cities, Harappa and Mohenjo-daro, are linked by the river Indus.

Q2.2 The Constituent Assembly was formed based on the proposals of the Cabinet Mission which arrived in India in 1946. Its members were elected indirectly by the Provincial Legislative Assemblies and nominated by the rulers of the Princely States.

Its composition was altered significantly due to the Muslim League's boycott of the Assembly to demand a separate state of Pakistan. Consequently, after the partition of the country, members representing the territories that became Pakistan withdrew. This reduced the Assembly's membership from the original 389 to 299.

Its legal status was transformed by the Indian Independence Act, 1947. This Act gave legal recognition to the Constituent Assembly and established it as a sovereign body, empowering it to function independently and draft the Constitution for a free India without external authority.

Q2.3 Dr. B.R. Ambedkar translated the broad ideals of the 'Objectives Resolution' into concrete constitutional provisions.

1. To fulfil the ideal of safeguarding the rights of minorities and backward classes, he incorporated a system of reservation of jobs in government services for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and provided other special safeguards.

2. To guarantee the ideal of Fundamental Rights for all citizens, he included a range of civil liberties

and, most importantly, the 'Right to Constitutional Remedies' to ensure these rights could be legally enforced against the state.

3. To achieve the ideal of social and economic democracy, he incorporated the Directive Principles of State Policy, guiding the state to work for the welfare of the people.

4. To ensure the new 'republic' would be strong and integrated, he proposed a strong Centre, along with principles like single citizenship and a single judiciary, to maintain national unity and administrative discipline.

Q2.4 The 'Indigenous Origin' theory posits that the Harappan Civilisation was not an import but an outgrowth of extensive local village cultures within the Indian subcontinent. Recent research indicates that its roots lie deep in Indian soil. Historians have found marked similarities between pre-Harappan and proto-Harappan cultures at sites like Kot Diji, Amri, and Kalibangan and the mature Harappan Civilisation, particularly in features like granaries, defensive walls, and long-distance trade. This suggests an evolution from these local agricultural communities.

The 'Foreign Origin' theory is largely rejected for the following reasons:

1. Excavations at various Harappan sites have revealed striking differences between the Harappan and Mesopotamian Civilisations, which contradicts the idea that the former was simply an offshoot of the latter.

2. The view that trade with Mesopotamia was the primary stimulus for its development has been rejected because there is no evidence of trade with Mesopotamia during the early Harappan period.

Q2.5 Four inferences that can be drawn from the Great Bath regarding the life and culture of the Harappan people are:

1. **Advanced Art of Building:** The construction, using burnt bricks, mortar, bitumen, and gypsum for a watertight structure, shows that their art of building had reached a high degree of perfection.

2. **Existence of a Ruling Class:** The massive structure suggests the presence of a ruling class that could mobilise labour, collect taxes, and build such a large public project.

3. **Efficient Urban Planning:** The design, with its dedicated water supply from a well and provisions for drainage, showcases efficient planning in structural features and water management.

4. **Religious Significance:** Scholars believe it was used for religious purposes, likely for ceremonial bathing, which indicates the importance attached to ritual purity and bathing in their culture.

Q2.6 The first metal to be discovered by man was copper. The period when man used both stone and copper tools is known as the Chalcolithic Period.

Q2.7 The 'Objectives Resolution' was a resolution that highlighted the objectives of the Constitution and laid down the national goals for independent India. It was proposed by Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru.

Q3. (a) The Drafting Committee, set up on August 29, 1947, was entrusted with the specific task of drafting the Constitution. Its Chairman was Dr. B.R. Ambedkar.

(b) The 'Objectives Resolution', proposed by Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru on December 13, 1946, was significant as it highlighted the objectives of the Constituent Assembly and laid down the 'national goals' that would guide the framing of the Constitution. The four main goals were:

(i) India will be a 'republic'.

(ii) Ideals of social, political and economic democracy would be guaranteed to all.

(iii) The republic would grant Fundamental Rights...

Q4. (a) A 'Constitution' is a comprehensive document containing the set of rules that describe the rights and duties of its citizens and the manner according to which the governance of a country is to be carried out. It regulates the powers of the legislative, executive, and judiciary, and moderates the relationship between the government and the governed.

(b) The Constituent Assembly was set up based on a proposal by the Cabinet Mission in 1946. Its members were to be elected indirectly by the Provincial Legislative Assemblies (Lower House only), with Princely States being represented by nominat...

Q5. (a) The Cabinet Mission arrived in India in 1946 and put forward a proposal to set up a Constituent Assembly. Its key role was to provide the framework for this body, whose members were to be elected indirectly by the Provincial Legislative Assemblies (Lower House only). The initial composition of the Constituent Assembly of undivided India consisted of 389 members. This comprised 292 elected members from the provinces, 93 members nominated by the rulers of the Princely States, three from Chief Commissioner Provinces, and one from the British.

(b) The Muslim League boycotted the Constituent A...

Q6. (a) It is called a 'Bronze Age Civilisation' because bronze, an alloy of copper and tin/zinc, was the primary metal used for making tools, implements, and weapons. The widespread use of this harder and more ductile metal was crucial to the growth of the civilisation.

The 'Chalcolithic Period' was the period when humans used both stone and copper tools. It represents the transition from the Stone Age to the Metal Age, with copper being the first metal discovered.

(b) The urban planning of Indus and Sumerian cities differed significantly:

1. **Pattern:** Indus cities followed a grid pattern, wi...

Q7. (a) The Indus cities followed a grid pattern, while the Sumerian cities developed around a temple and followed a circular pattern.

Two common features between Mohenjo-daro and Harappa were:

1. Both had common ground plans, including the layout of streets and blocks of houses.

2. Both cities had advanced water supply and drainage systems, including indoor plumbing, paved bathrooms, and brick-lined sewage channels.

(b) Each city was divided into two parts: the raised area called the 'Citadel' and the 'lower town'. The Citadel was built on mud brick platforms and contained important buildings I...

Q8. (a) Some scholars believe that floods in Mohenjo-daro led to its abandonment. Evidence for this is the discovery of houses and streets covered with silty clay left by flood waters. Hydrologist R.L. Raikes suggested that earthquakes might have raised the level of the flood plains of the Indus river. This uplift could have blocked the river's passage to the sea, causing the river's water level to rise and inundate the hinterland of Mohenjo-daro.

(b) According to historians D.P. Agarwal and Sood, the civilisation declined due to increasing aridity and the drying up of the river Ghaggar. Tectonic...

Q9. (a) The 'Foreign Origin' theory suggests that the Harappan Civilisation came into existence due to a sudden migration of people from Mesopotamia. This theory has been rejected on two grounds: first, excavations have revealed striking differences between the Harappan and Mesopotamian Civilisations; second, there is no evidence of trade with Mesopotamia during the early Harappan period, which would have been necessary for such influence.

(b) The 'Indigenous Origin' theory states that the roots of the Harappan Civilisation lie deep in Indian soil. It proposes that the urban Harappan culture was ...

Q1.17 **(a)** The sculpture is identified as the 'Bearded Man' or the 'Priest'. It was discovered at Mohenjo-daro.

(b) Two features suggesting it is a yogi or a priest are:

1. The eyes are half-closed, giving the impression of being in a state of meditation.

2. A shawl is worn over the left shoulder and under the right arm, in a style similar to that of a priest or ascetic.

(c) The high artistic value of the 'Bearded Man' and the 'Dancing Girl' reveals the following about Harappan society and culture:

1. **Existence of Skilled Artisans:** The ability to create detailed, three-dimensional figures from materials like stone and bronze indicates the presence of a class of highly skilled craftsmen who had mastered their respective arts.

2. **Social Stratification:** The existence of specialised professions like sculptors and metalsmiths suggests a complex urban society with a division of labour, where not everyone was engaged in subsistence farming. This points towards a well-organized social structure.

3. **Technological Advancement:** The bronze 'Dancing Girl' particularly showcases a mastery of metallurgy and the complex process of bronze casting. This demonstrates a high degree of technological development and artistic expression in the culture.

