

SAMPLE Question Paper

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Maximum Marks : 200

Time : 45 Min.

General Instructions :

- (i) This paper consists of 50 MCQs, attempt any 40 out of 50
- (ii) Correct answer or the most appropriate answer: Five marks (+5)
- (iii) Any incorrect option marked will be given minus one mark (-1)
- (iv) Unanswered/Marked for Review will be given no mark (0)
- (v) If more than one option is found to be correct then Five marks (+5) will be awarded to only those who have marked any of the correct options
- (vi) If all options are found to be correct then Five marks (+5) will be awarded to all those who have attempted the question
- (vii) Calculator / any electronic gadgets are not permitted
- (viii) If none of the options is found correct or a Question is found to be wrong or a Question is dropped then all candidates who have appeared will be given five marks (+5).

1. The bones of which of these animals have been found at Harappan sites?

- (1) Lion (2) Pig
(3) Deer (4) Both (2) and (3)

2. Which of the following Harappan civilisation sites are presently outside India?

- (A) Kalibangan (B) Shortugai
(C) Chanhudaro (D) Lothal
(1) A and B (2) B and C
(3) C and D (4) A and D

3. The Prayaga Prashasti (also known as the Allahabad Pillar Inscription) was composed in Sanskrit by Harishena. Harishena was the court poet of which of the following kings?

- (1) King Samudragupta
(2) King Ashoka
(3) King Chandra Gupta Maurya
(4) King Kanishka

4. Periplus in Greek means:

- (1) Act of bread making
(2) Sailing around
(3) Bead Making
(4) Ships

5. Ekalavya belonged to the category of:

- (1) Vanik (2) Mlechchha
(3) Brahmana (4) Nishada

6. Assertion (A): People of some jatis did not easily fit in the varna system.

Reason (R): People of some jatis organised into groups called shrenis.

- (1) Both A and R are correct and R is the correct explanation of A.

- (2) Both A and R are correct but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(3) A is incorrect but R is correct.
(4) R is incorrect but A is correct.

Read the following excerpt carefully and answer the following questions:

A prayer to Agni

Here are two verses from the Rigveda invoking Agni, the God of Fire:

"Bring, O strong one, this sacrifice of ours to the Gods, O wise one, as a liberal giver. Bestow on us, O priest, abundant food. Agni, obtain, by sacrificing, mighty wealth for us." Procure, O Agni, for ever to him who pays to you (the gift of) nourishment the wonderful cow. May a son be ours, offspring that continues our line... "Verses such as these were composed in a special kind of Sanskrit, known as Vedic Sanskrit. They were taught orally to men belonging to priestly families.

7. Vedic Sanskrit is considered to be important because:

- (1) It was the language of common people
(2) The Vedic verses were written in Sanskrit
(3) Sanskrit was not spoken by Brahmins
(4) Sanskrit was the major language of South India.

8. Why were sacrifices performed during the Vedic Period?

- (1) For the birth of daughters
(2) For the birth of sons
(3) For spiritual satisfaction
(4) For seeking the blessings of Buddha

9. Choose the correct option.

Assertion (A): Agni was the God of Fire in the Vedic tradition.

Reason (R): Therefore, offerings were made to Agni so that in form of smoke they would reach the Gods living in the sky and invoke their blessings

- (1) Both A and R are correct and R is the correct explanation of A.
 (2) Both A and R are correct but R is not the correct explanation of A.
 (3) A is incorrect but R is correct.
 (4) R is incorrect but A is correct.
- 10. Consider the following statements:**
 (A) Rig Veda consists of hymns in praise of Agni, Indra, Soma etc.
 (B) Many of these hymns were chanted when sacrifices were performed.
- Choose the correct option:**
 (1) Only (A) is correct.
 (2) Only (B) is correct.
 (3) Both (A) and (B) are correct.
 (4) Neither (A) nor (B) is correct
- 11.** Where did the early Bhakti movements originate from?
 (1) South India
 (2) North India
 (3) The West
 (4) Both (1) and (3)
- 12.** Vitthala was the principal deity in Vitthala temple. Vitthala was known as the incarnation of Lord
 (1) Brahma (2) Vishnu
 (3) Shiva (4) Ganesha
- 13.** Till when did Sangama dynasty rule over Vijayanagara?
 (1) 1455 CE (2) 1485 CE
 (3) 1495 CE (4) 1512 CE
- 14. Assertion (1):** As warfare during these times depended upon effective cavalry, the import of horses from Arabia and Central Asia was very important for rival kingdoms.
Reason (R): The Portuguese possessed superior military technology that enabled them to become important players during this period.
- 15.** When did Akbar build a new capital at Fatehpur Sikri?
 (1) 1500s (2) 1520s
 (3) 1570s (4) 1750s
- 16.** A physician who came to India and served in the Bengal Medical Service was-
 (1) Edward Balfour (2) Francis Buchanan
 (3) Mehtab Chand (4) William Griffith
- 17.** Who introduced Zamindari System?
 (1) Lord Clive
 (2) Lord Wellesley
 (3) Lord Cornwallis
 (4) Lord William Bentinck
- 18.** In which year was the system of Sati abolished?
 (1) 1829 (2) 1857
 (3) 1856 (4) 1833
- 19.** With which fruit did Lord Dalhousie compare the kingdom of Awadh with?
 (1) Apple (2) Pineapple
 (3) Cherry (4) Strawberry
- 20.** When did the Jallianwala Bagh incident occur?
 (1) April 1909 (2) April 1929
 (3) April 1939 (4) April 1919
- 21. Assertion (A):** Gandhiji hoped that by coupling non-cooperation with Khilafat, India's two major religious communities, Hindus and Muslims could collectively bring an end to the colonial rule.
Reason (R): As a consequence of the Non-Cooperation Movement the British Raj was shaken to its foundations for the first time since the Revolt of 1857.
- 22.** The idea of a Constituent Assembly was put forward for the first time by:
 (1) M.N. Roy
 (2) Dr. B. R. Ambedkar
 (3) Dr. Rajendra Prasad
 (4) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
- 23.** The number of members of the constituent assembly of Independence India was:
 (1) 200 (2) 300
 (3) 350 (4) 270
- 24.** Which social evil was largely opposed during free India?
 (1) Caste System (2) Sati
 (3) Child marriage (4) Illiteracy
- 25.** The famous painting 'Relief of Lucknow' commemorating the British heroes who repressed the Rebels was painted by
 (1) Henry Lawrence
 (2) Thomas Jones Barker
 (3) Joseph Patron
 (4) Francie Grant
- 26.** Ibadat Khana at Fatehpur Sikri was?
 (1) The mosque for the use of Royal Family
 (2) Akbar's private prayer chamber
 (3) The hall in which Akbar held discussions with scholars of various religions
 (4) The room in which the nobles belonging to different religions gathered to discuss religious affairs
- 27.** The halls in the temple were used for:
 (1) As venue for a marriage
 (2) Political Meetings
 (3) Celebrate the marriages of deities
 (4) None of these
- 28.** Krishnadeva Raya belonged to the dynasty.
 (1) Saluva (2) Tuluva
 (3) Chola (4) Sangama
- 29.** Which of the following is the basis of Sufi movement?
 A. A group of religious-minded people turned to asceticism and mysticism in protest against the

- growing materialism of the Caliphate as a religious and political institution.
- B. The sufis sought on interpretation of the Quran through personal experiences.
- C. Some mystic men started movements on the basis of Sufi ideas and these mystics scorned.
- D. They were known by different names like Qalandars, Malangs, Madaris, Haidaris, etc.
- Identify the correct options.**
- (1) A, B, D
(2) C, D, A
(3) All of the above.
(4) None of the above.
30. Who among these wrote the biography of Shaikh Muinuddin Chishti, titled as *Munis al Arwah*?
- (1) Shahjahan (2) Akbar
(3) Mumtaz (4) Jahanara
31. Which was the most frequently depicted animal at Harappan civilisation ?
- (1) Elephant (2) Unicorn
(3) Rhino (4) Tiger.
32. Which of these is the characteristic feature of the Citadel at Lothal?
- (1) Low walls (2) High walls
(3) Built at a height (4) Away from the river
33. Identify the best reason for considering King Asoka as 'Devanampiya' or 'Piyadassi' by his subjects.
- (1) Asoka commissioned the edicts himself.
(2) He adopted the title of 'Devaputra'.
(3) Epigraphists have concluded him as Devanampiya.
(4) He worked for the well being of society through Dhamma.
34. Which of these archaeological sources occupy a significant place in the reconstruction of the ancient Indian history?
- (1) Vedas (2) Coins
(3) Inscriptions (4) Both (2) and (3)
35. What does *puta* mean in Sanskrit?
- (1) Father (2) Son
(3) Grandson (4) Cousin
36. Which of these Buddhist texts dealt with philosophical matters?
- (1) Vinaya Pitaka
(2) Sutta Pitaka
(3) Abhidhamma Pitaka
(4) Tipitaka
37. The Rigvedas were compiled between:
- (1) c 1500 to 1000 BCE
(2) c 1200 to 1100 BCE
(3) c 1400 to 1200 BCE
(4) c 900 to 1100 BCE
38. How has Buddha been depicted by many early sculptors?
- (1) Human form (2) Through Symbols
(3) Almighty (4) Both (2) and (3)
39. What aspect about India did Al-Biruni want to understand?
- (1) Religion
(2) Caste system
(3) Language diversity
(4) Vedas
40. How many chapters is "Kitab-ul-Hind" divided into?
- (1) Eighty (2) Eight
(3) Ten (4) Twenty-four
41. Which two Indian cities was Ibn Battuta impressed with?
- (1) Indore and Agra
(2) Daulatabad and Surat
(3) Lucknow and Kolkata
(4) Delhi and Daulatabad
42. Identify the Bhakti tradition which favoured widow remarriage.
- (1) Alvars (2) Nayanars
(3) Lingayats (4) Siddhas
43. Arrange the following dynasties of Vijayanagara Empire in Chronological order:
- (A) Sangama (B) Aravidu
(C) Tuluva (D) Saluva
- Choose the correct option:**
- (1) (A), (C), (D) and (B) (2) (B), (A), (C) and (D)
(3) (A), (D), (C) and (B) (4) (D), (A), (B) and (C)
44. Who among the following was sent by the ruler of Persia to Calicut?
- (1) Colin Mackenzie
(2) Alexander Greenlaw
(3) John Marshall
(4) Abdur Razzaq
45. Consider the following statements regarding the census conducted by British in the 19th century in India.
- (A) The growth of the cities were monitored through census.
(B) Municipal Corporation was to administer it.
(C) Census operations were appropriate as social data was easily converted to economic data.
- Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?**
- (1) (A) and (B) only
(2) (B) and (C) only
(3) (A) and (C) only
(4) only (C)
46. Indicate which of the following options is NOT correct. People gave evasive answers to the census officials as:
- (1) They were suspicious of census operations.
(2) They thought that enquiries were being conducted to impose new taxes.

- (3) They were not willing to give any information regarding the women of their household.
- (4) They were claiming identities associated with lower status. **(CBSE SQP, 2019-20)**
- 47.** Who gave the order to fire in Jallianwala Bagh on innocent people protesting calmly?
- (1) General Dyer
(2) Dr. Satyapal
(3) Dr. Saifuddin Kichlew
(4) None of these
- 48.** Which organisation was founded in 1915?
- (1) Muslim League (2) Hindu Mahasabha
(3) Unionist Party (4) Both (2) and (3)
- 49.** What is the name given to this famous speech by Jawahar Lal Nehru?
- (1) My Experiments with Truth
(2) Tryst with Destiny
(3) Discovery of India
(4) Letters from Father to Daughter
- 50.** In 1947, the name given to the region partitioned from Bengal was
- (1) East Pakistan (3) West Pakistan
(2) Bangladesh (4) None of these

SOLUTIONS OF Question Paper

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1. Option (4) is correct.

Explanation: Animal bones found at Harappan sites include those of cattle, sheep, goat, buffalo and pig.

2. Option (2) is correct.

3. Option (1) is correct.

Explanation: The Prayaga Prashasti (also known as the Allahabad Pillar Inscription) composed in Sanskrit by Harishena, the court poet of Samudragupta.

4. Option (2) is correct.

Explanation: A voyage or a trip around something (as an island or a coast).

5. Option (4) is correct.

6. Option (2) is correct.

Explanation: In Brahmanical theory, jati, like varna, was based on birth. However, while the number of varnas was fixed at four, there was no restriction on the number of jatis. In fact, whenever Brahmanical authorities encountered new groups – for instance, people living in forests such as the nishadas – or wanted to assign a name to occupational categories such as the goldsmith or suvarnakara, which did not easily fit into the fourfold varna system, they classified them as a jati. Jatis which shared a common occupation or profession were sometimes organised into shrenis or guilds.

7. Option (2) is correct.

Explanation: Sanskrit is an ancient and classical language of India in which ever first book of the world Rigveda was compiled. Its composition is usually dated to roughly between c. 1500–1000 BCE. Sanskrit language must have evolved to its expressive capability prior to that.

8. Option (2) is correct.

Explanation: The ancient Vedic worshippers offered sacrifices to those gods in the hope that they in return would grant abundant numbers of cattle, good fortune, good health, long life, and male child, among other material benefits.

9. Option (1) is correct.

Explanation: Agni was considered to be the messenger God, hence offerings were made to Agni.

10. Option (3) is correct.

Explanation: The major gods praised in the hymns of the Rigveda were: Indra, Agni, Soma. Indra is the most invoked god in the Rig veda. Indra was the god of wind and thunder. Soma was a drink that the Gods consumed and soma was the moon god. Agni was the god of fire.

11. Option (1) is correct.

12. Option (2) is correct.

13. Option (2) is correct.

14. Option (1) is correct.

15. Option (3) is correct.

Explanation: Fatehpur Sikri is a town in the Agra District of Uttar Pradesh, India. The city itself was founded as the capital of Mughal Empire in 1571 by Emperor Akbar, serving this role from 1571 to 1585, when Akbar abandoned it due to a campaign in Punjab and was later completely abandoned in 1610.

16. Option (2) is correct.

Explanation: Francis Buchanan was a physician who came to India and served in the Bengal Medical Service (from 1794 to 1815). For a few years, he was surgeon to the Governor-General of India, Lord Wellesley.

17. Option (3) is correct.

Explanation: The Zamindari system was introduced in India in 1793 through Permanent Settlement. by Lord Cornwallis.

18. Option (1) is correct.

Explanation: The Bengal Sati Regulation, which banned the Sati practice in all jurisdictions of British, India was passed on December 4, 1829, by the then Governor-General Lord William Bentinck. The regulation described the practice of Sati as revolting against the feelings of human nature.

19. Option (3) is correct.

Explanation: In 1851 Governor-General Lord Dalhousie described the kingdom of Awadh as a cherry that will drop into their mouth one day. Five years later, in 1856, the kingdom was formally annexed by the British Empire.

20. Option (4) is correct.

Explanation: The Jallianwala Bagh massacre, also known as the Amritsar massacre, took place on 13 April 1919.

21. Option (2) is correct.

Explanation: Indians who wished colonialism to end were asked to stop attending schools, colleges and law courts, and not pay taxes. As per Gandhiji if non-cooperation was effectively carried out by Gandhiji, India would win swaraj within a year. To further broaden the struggle he had joined hands with the Khilafat Movement.

22. Option (1) is correct.

Explanation: M.N. Roy, a pioneer of the communist movement in India and an advocate of radical democracy, was the person who, for the first time in 1934, put forth the idea of an Indian Constituent Assembly for framing of Constitution of India for and according to Indians.

23. Option (2) is correct.

24. Option (3) is correct.

25. Option (2) is correct.

Explanation: The original painting is by English artist Thomas Jones Barker in 1859. The painting 'The Relief of Lucknow', is based on sketches made by a Swedish Military Artist stationed in India in 1857. It depicts the 2nd Relief of Lucknow, where the town was besieged by Indian rebels against the British Army.

26. Option (3) is correct.

Explanation: The Ibadat Khana was a meeting house built in 1575 CE by the Mughal Emperor Akbar at Fatehpur Sikri to gather spiritual leaders of different religious grounds so as to conduct a discussion on the teachings of the respective religious leaders.

27. Option (3) is correct.

Explanation: The halls of the temple were used for a variety of purposes like the program of music, dance, drama, and marriages of deities. Special images of deities different from central shrines were used on these occasions. In this way, the rulers introduced new traditions in the Virupaksha temple.

28. Option (2) is correct.

Explanation: Krishnadeva Raya was an emperor of the Vijayanagara Empire who reigned from 1509–1529. He was the third ruler of the Tuluva Dynasty and is considered to be its greatest ruler.

29. Option (3) is correct.

Explanation: Sufi practice focuses on the renunciation of worldly things, purification of the soul and the mystical contemplation of God's nature. Followers try to get closer to God by seeking spiritual learning known as *tariqa*.

30. Option (4) is correct.

Explanation: Princess Jahanara wrote the biography *Munis al Arwah* (The Master of Pure Souls). It is one of the classic works on the exploration of Sufis of Chisti School in India. It has biographical, autobiographical, and historical facts.

31. Option (2) is correct.

32. Option (3) is correct.

33. Option (4) is correct.

34. Option (4) is correct.

35. Option (2) is correct.

36. Option (3) is correct.

37. Option (1) is correct.

38. Option (2) is correct.

39. Option (2) is correct.

40. Option (1) is correct.

41. Option (4) is correct.

42. Option (3) is correct.

43. Option (3) is correct.

44. Option (4) is correct.

45. Option (1) is correct.

46. Option (4) is correct.

47. Option (1) is correct.

48. Option (2) is correct.

49. Option (2) is correct.

50. Option (1) is correct.