

IASbaba's Daily Prelims Test [Day 44]

TOPIC: Ancient History & Culture, Eco-Survey and Current Affairs

1. Consider the following statements regarding Neolithic culture of Kashmir valley.

1. Pit dwelling with well made floors smeared with red ochre as well as dwelling in open.
2. Burial of dog along with some of the human burials.
3. Pit dwelling and dog burials displays affinity with north Chinese Neolithic culture.

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 2 and 3 only
3. 1 and 3 only
4. All the above

Ans: (4)

Explanation:

Pit dwelling with well made floors smeared with red ochre as well as dwelling in open and burial of dog along with some of the human burials are the characteristic feature of Neolithic culture of Kashmir valley.

Neolithic culture of Kashmir valley displays affinity with surrounding Neolithic cultures. It is believed that pit dwelling and dog burials were influenced by north Chinese Neolithic culture.

2. Among the remains discovered in Harappan settlements, pottery forms an important category. Which of the following is/are correct regarding Harappan pottery?

1. Harappan pottery represents blending of ceramic tradition of Baluchistan and the cultures of east of Indus system.
2. Painted decoration on pottery consists of horizontal lines of varied thickness, palm, birds, animals, papal tree etc.

Select the correct code from below.

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

Ans: (3)

Explanation:

Statements are self-explanatory.

3. Consider the following statements regarding later Vedic economy.

1. Pastoralism was the main subsistence activity.
2. People of later Vedic period grew both barley and rice.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Ans: (4)

Explanation:

Mixed farming which included cultivation and herding was the occupational norm of later Vedic period. Pastoralism was no longer the main subsistence activity.

Vedic text mentions Vrihi, Tandula and Sali all indicating rice.

4. Which of the following is/are correct regarding the teachings of Buddhism?

1. According to Buddhism present is determined by past action.
2. Buddha rejected the existence of god.

Select the correct code from below.

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. None of the above

Ans: (1)

Explanation:

Buddhism laid great emphasis on law of karma. According to this law present is determined by past action.

Buddha neither accepted nor rejected the existence of god.

5. Which of the following was not a cause for the decline of Mauryas?

1. Deforestation in Ganges valley led to incidence of flood.
2. Ban on animal sacrifices led to popular uprising.
3. Certain powerful officials' could not be controlled by the later Mauryas.
4. Increased expenditure of various sorts was a strain on the imperial treasury.

Ans: (2)

Explanation:

Probably Asoka sought to prevent only ritual sacrifice of animals and did not contemplate a general prohibition of animal slaughter. Two peacocks and a deer were killed daily in the royal kitchen.

6. Consider the following statements regarding Kushanas.

1. Kushanas were nomadic people originally from the steppes of north central Asia.
2. Kushana rulers were the first to issue gold coins on a significant scale.
3. They also introduced new elements in cavalry and techniques of war.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

1. 2 only
2. 1 and 3 only
3. 3 only
4. All the above

Ans: (4)

Explanation:

Kushanas also introduced new elements in cavalry like use of reins and saddles which are of great use during the times of war.

7. The Sangam literature portrays the social and economic conditions of its time with remarkable vividness. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding Sangam literature?

1. The Sangam literature belongs to a uniform period.
2. Sangam literature consists of poems based on themes Akam and Puram.
3. Tolkappiyam is a treatise on Tamil grammar.

Select the correct code from below.

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 2 and 3 only
3. 1 and 3 only
4. All the above

Ans: (2)

Explanation:

The Sangam literature does not belong to a uniform period, it is spanned over centuries.

Sangam literature consists of poems based on themes Akam (subjective experience like love) and Puram (objectification like raid and plunder).

8. Consider the following statements regarding ancient Indian philosophies.

1. According to Sankhya philosophy the presence of divine agency is not essential to the creation of world.
2. According to Nyaya school of philosophy salvation can be attained through the acquisition of knowledge.

Which of the above statement is/are not correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. None of the above

Ans: (4)

Explanation:

Both statements are correct.

9. Consider the following statements regarding the general characteristics of idol of Buddha under Mathura school of Art.

1. They were made of white spotted red stones.
2. Curly hairs.
3. No marks on forehead.
4. Dress is always tight on the body.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

Ans: (1)

Explanation:

In Mathura school the head and face are shaven. Other three statements are correct.

10. Consider the following statements regarding religious beliefs of Harappan civilization.

1. Harappan looked upon earth as a fertility goddess.
2. Harappans had some kind of belief in life after death.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. None of the above

Ans: (3)

Explanation:

In one of the terracotta figurine a plant is shown growing out of embryo of women. Image probably represented the goddess of earth and was intimately connected with the origin and growth of plants. Therefore Harappans looked upon the earth as fertility goddess.

Careful placement of the bodies provided with ornaments and toiletries is indicative of some belief in life after death.

11. Consider the following statements regarding Seismic gaps

1. A seismic gap is a section of a fault that has produced earthquakes in the past but is now quiet.
2. An earthquake of high magnitude occurs around the region of seismic gap
3. They are sections of plate boundaries that have ruptured in recent past

Select the Wrong statement/s

1. 1 and 2
2. 2 and 3
3. Only 3
4. None

Solution- 2

12. Which of the following statement(s) with regard to the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 is/are correct?

1. The Act is applicable to the States of Manipur, Tripura and Nagaland and J&K
2. Any person arrested and taken into custody under this Act shall be made over to the officer in charge of the nearest police station with the least possible delay, together with a report of the circumstances occasioning the arrest.
3. No prosecution, suit or other legal proceeding shall be instituted, except with the previous sanction of the State Government.

Select the correct answer by using the code given below

1. 1 and 2
2. 2 and 3
3. Only 2
4. Only 3

Solution- 3

J&K's is AFSPA, 1990. In Tripura it is revoked. Last statement- It is Central Government

13. Which of the following are taken into account for 'Real Economic Growth Rate'?

1. Rate of change of GDP from one year to another.
2. It is not distorted by the effects of extreme inflation or deflation.
3. The real economic growth rate adjusts for how much borrowing power has been affected and therefore provides a more accurate view.
4. It can include GDP as well as GNP
5. It is inflation adjusted

Select the correct code

1. 1, 2, 3 and 5
2. 1, 2, 4 and 5
3. 1, 3, 4 and 5
4. All

Solution- 2

A measure of economic growth from one period to another expressed as a percentage and adjusted for inflation (i.e. expressed in real as opposed to nominal terms). The real economic growth rate is a measure of the rate of change that a nation's gross domestic product (GDP) experiences from one year to another. Gross national product (GNP) can also be used if a nation's economy is heavily dependent on foreign earnings.

The real economic growth rate builds onto the economic growth rate by taking into account the effect that inflation has on the economy. The real economic growth rate is a "constant dollar" and is therefore a more accurate look at the rate of economic growth because it is not distorted by the effects of extreme inflation or deflation. Real Economic Growth Rate takes into account the effects of inflation. Since inflation plays a key role in the GDP of an economy, it is very important to ascertain the effects of inflation on GDP. As a result, the Real Economic Growth

Rate takes into account the buying power and is inflation-adjusted. This is the reason it is considered to be a better measure of growth rate than the nominal growth rate.

14. Consider the following regarding 'Tax Buoyancy'.

1. Taxes are said to be buoyant if the tax revenues increase more than proportionately in response to a rise in GDP
2. It finds relevance with Laffer Curve

Select the correct code/s

1. Only 1
2. Only 2
3. Both
4. None

Solution- 2

Taxes are said to be buoyant if the tax revenues increase more than proportionately in response to a rise in National Income or Output

15. Identify the place based on given statements

1. It is on the bank of river Thames
2. It is notable for its association with the recent sealing of Magna Carta by King John

Select the correct option

1. Longmede
2. Abingdon
3. Windsor
4. Runnymede

Solution- 4

<http://www.theguardian.com/law/2015/jun/15/david-cameron-british-bill-of-rights-safeguard-legacy-magna-carta>

16. Consider the statements

1. Its people include Nagas, Kuki and Meeties
2. It is bounded by Myanmar to its East
3. Its Kingdom was one of the Princely States of British India
4. Famous for Swamp Deer

Select the correct option

1. Nagaland
2. Mizorum
3. Manipur
4. Meghalaya

Solution- 3

17. Consider the following

1. Nathu La
2. Bum La
3. Sipki La
4. Pensi La
5. Chunsul La
6. Lipulekh Pass

Which of the above are Border Personnel Meeting Points of India-China?

1. 1, 2, 3, 4
2. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6
3. 1, 2, 5 and 6
4. 1, 3, 4 and 5

Solution- 3

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/india-china-to-open-border-personnel-meeting-point-along-line-of-actual-control/articleshow/48268389.cms>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nathu_La

18. Identify the place based on given information

1. It is an Oasis
2. The architecture is a mix of Roman-Graeco Techniques with influence of Persian
3. It is UNESCO designated World Heritage Site
4. Recently destroyed by ISIS

Select the correct option

1. Damascus
2. Syria
3. Palmyra
4. Samarra

Solution- 3

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/jun/23/isis-destroys-palmyra-shrines-in-syria>

19. Consider the following statements

1. It is famous for Terracotta Warriors
2. It is located at northern foot of Lishan Mountain
3. It is a World Heritage Site

Select the correct option

1. Xian
2. Xianyang
3. Shaanxi Province
4. Both 1 and 3

Solution- 4

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/441>

20. Consider the following statements

1. It has Turkey in its East
2. Mediterranean Sea is at the South
3. Bulgaria is the North

Select the correct option

1. Italy
2. Serbia
3. Greece
4. Montenegro

Solution- 3

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