

Q.1) Consider the following statements, regarding the significance of Mesolithic period:

- 1) Climate became warmer and more humid.
- 2) Domestication of animals and plants were seen for the first time.
- 3) They are small stone tools that were probably stuck to stones to be used as saws and sickles.

Which of the above given statement are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All of the above

Q.1) Solution (d)

- Major climate change happened.
- Climate became warmer and more humid.
- Rainfall increased and so more availability of flora and fauna.
- Domestication of animals and plants were seen for the first time.
- Started 12000 years ago.
- First animal to be domesticated was the wild ancestor of the dog.
- Sheep and goats were the most common domesticated animals.
- Hunting and food gathering continued.
- First human colonization of the Ganga plains.
- Microliths have been excavated.
- They are small stone tools that were probably stuck to stones to be used as saws and sickles.

Q.2) What were the limitation of chalcolithic phase related to the Ancient History?

- 1) They lived in black cotton soil area which required iron tools for cultivation and there are no traces of plough or hoe.
- 2) There are traces of a large number of children buried which indicate lack of nutrition and outbreak of epidemics.
- 3) They had the knowledge of mixing two metals so they could not use the stronger metal bronze nicely.

Select the correct answer using the given code below?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only

d) All of the above

Q.2) Solution (a)

The limitations of Chalcolithic phase were:

- Chalcolithic people could not make full use of domestic animals as they used them only for food and not for milk (they thought that milk is for animals' young ones).
- They did not do much of cultivation. They lived in black cotton soil area which required iron tools for cultivation and there are no traces of plough or hoe.
- Chalcolithic phase did not show longevity. There are traces of a large number of children buried which indicate lack of nutrition and outbreak of epidemics.
- People had no knowledge of mixing two metals so they could not use the stronger metal bronze nicely. Copper had its own limitations and its supply was also less.
- People were not aware of the art of writing and they could not gain any benefit from the technical knowledge of the Indus people.

Q.3) Consider the following statements, regarding the significance of economic life of Indus valley civilization:

- 1) There is clear evidence of the existence of a highly developed system of craft production and distribution.
- 2) The principal food grains were wheat, barley, peas, and sesamum. Cotton was not grown.
- 3) The use of different kinds of ornaments made of gold and silver speaks high of the economic standard of the Indus valley people.

Which of the above given statement are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All of the above

Q.3) Solution (c)

- The basic economy of the people was necessarily agricultural. Cultivation was on an extensive scale facilitated by the presence of rivers.

- The principal food grains were wheat, barley, peas, and sesamum. Cotton was also grown. The general diet consisted of fruits, vegetables, animal food including beef, mutton, pork and poultry.
- There is clear evidence of the existence of a highly developed system of craft production and distribution. There were specialized groups of potters, copper and bronze workers. The merchants of the Indus Valley carried their trade far beyond their frontiers of the empire and established contacts with other peoples of other civilizations.
- The construction of different categories of buildings and the architectural planning of the town, the use of different kinds of ornaments made of gold and silver speaks high of the economic standard of the Indus valley people.

Q.4) Consider the following statements, regarding the drainage system of Indus valley town:

- 1) The drainage system of the Indus Valley Civilization indicates that people had a no civic sense of sanitation and care for health and hygiene.
- 2) Small drains made of burnt bricks were connected with bathing platforms and latrines of private houses joined the medium sized drains in the side streets.
- 3) The smaller drains ran into larger sewers in the main streets which were covered with bricks or dressed stone blocks.

Which of the above given statement are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All of the above

Q.4) Solution (b)

- Even smaller towns and villages had impressive drainage systems. This indicates that people had a great civic sense of sanitation and care for health and hygiene.
- Small drains made of burnt bricks were connected with bathing platforms and latrines of private houses joined the medium sized drains in the side streets.
- These drains ran into larger sewers in the main streets which were covered with bricks or dressed stone blocks. Corbelled-arch drains have also been found. One of them is almost 6 ft. deep which functioned as main drain taking all the waste water out of the town.

- At regular intervals along the main sewage drains were rectangular sump pits for collecting waste and these were regularly cleaned.

Q.5) Consider the following statements, regarding the material life of Aryans:

- 1) They traded copper from Khetri region in Rajasthan.
- 2) The most important possession for the Aryans was the land
- 3) Few people worked as goldsmith, potters, spinners and carpenters.

Which of the above given statement are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All of the above

Q.5) Solution (c)

- The Rig Vedic Aryans owe their success to the knowledge of horses, chariots and bronze arms.
- They traded copper from Khetri region in Rajasthan.
- For sowing, harvesting and threshing, the Aryans used a wooden ploughshare.
- The most important possession for the Aryans was the cow.
- As the Aryans were pastoralists, most wars were fought for the control of cow pens. These wars were called Gavisthi or search for cows in the rig Veda.
- Land was not seen as a part of private property.
- Metals used were copper, iron and bronze.
- Few people worked as goldsmith, potters, spinners and carpenters.

Q.6) Consider the following statements, regarding the Position of Women's in the early Vedic age:

- 1) The practice of 'Swayamvara' was not prevalent in the society.
- 2) Prada system was not prevalent in the society
- 3) The education of girls was not neglected.

Which of the above given statement are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All of the above

Q.6) Solution (b)

- In the early Vedic age women enjoyed an honored place in the society. The wife was the mistress of the household and authority over the slaves.
- In all religious ceremonies she participated with her husband. Prada system was not prevalent in the society. Sati system was also not prevalent in the Vedic society.
- The education of girls was not neglected. The Rig-Veda mentions the names of some learned ladies like Viswavara, Apala and Ghosa who composed mantras and attained the rank of Rishis. The girls were married after attaining puberty.
- The practice of 'Swayamvara' was also prevalent in the society. Monogamy was the general Practice.
- Polygamy was, of course, practiced and it was confined only to Kings and chiefs. Remarriage of widows was permitted. The women were not independent persons in the eye of the law. They had to remain under the protecting care of their male relations.

Q.7) Consider the following statements, regarding the decline of Indus Valley Civilization:

- 1) Aryan invasion led to the decline of the Indus Valley.
- 2) That tectonic movements and floods caused the decline.
- 3) People moved eastwards and cities were abandoned. Writing and trade declined.

Which of the above given statement are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All of the above

Q.7) Solution (d)

- **Causes of the decline** of this civilization have not been firmly established. Archaeologists now believe that the civilization did not come to an abrupt end but gradually declined. People moved eastwards and cities were abandoned. Writing and trade declined.
- Mortimer Wheeler suggested that Aryan invasion led to the decline of the Indus Valley. This theory has now been debunked.
- Robert Raikes suggests that tectonic movements and floods caused the decline.
- Lambrick suggests a change in the course of the river Indus caused its decline.

- Other causes cited include a drying up of the rivers, deforestation and a destruction of the green cover. It is possible that some cities were destroyed by floods but not all. It is now accepted that several factors could have led to the decline of the Indus Valley civilization.
- New cities emerged only about 1400 years later.

Q.8) Consider the following statements, with reference to the Mauryan Administration:

- 1) King assisted by Mantriparishad (council of ministers).
- 2) Mahamatyapasarpa controlled Gudhapurushas (secret agents)
- 3) The jail was known as Bandhangara and it was different from lock-up called Charaka.

Which of the above given statement are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All of the above

Q.8) Solution (d)

- King assisted by Mantriparishad (council of ministers) whose members included Mantriparishad Adhyaksha and below him was as following:
- **Yuvaraj:** The crown prince, **Purohita:** The chief priest, **The Senapati:** The commander in chief, **Amatya:** Civil servants and few other ministers.
- Scholars suggest that Mauryan Empire was further divided into various departments with important officials:
- **Revenue department:-** Important officials: Sannidhata: Chief treasury, Samaharta: collector general of revenue.
- **Military department:** Megasthenese mentions a committee with six subcommittees for coordinating military activity of these, one looked after the navy, the second managed transport and provisions, and the third was responsible for foot-soldiers, the fourth for horses, the fifth for chariots and the sixth for elephants.
- **Espionage Department:** Mahamatyapasarpa controlled Gudhapurushas (secret agents)
- **Police department:** The jail was known as Bandhangara and it was different from lock-up called Charaka. There were police head quarters in all principal centres.

Q.9) What are the significances of Ashoka and Buddhism under the Mauryan Empire?

- 1) Ashoka embraced Buddhism under the influence of Buddhist monk, Upagupta.
- 2) Ashoka maintained a large and powerful army to do physical conquest.
- 3) Ashoka has stated in his Bhabru Edict that he has full faith in Buddha, Sangha and Dhamma

Select the correct answer using the given code below?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All of the above

Q.9) Solution (c)

- Ashoka embraced Buddhism in the 9th year of his reign after being inspired by Nigrodha, a boy monk. Ashoka embraced Buddhism under the influence of Buddhist monk, Upagupta. Ashoka has stated in his Bhabru Edict that he has full faith in Buddha, Sangha and Dhamma.
- He also engraved Rock Edicts and Pillar Edicts to spread the message of Buddhism among masses.
- Ashoka maintained a large and powerful army to maintain peace and authority. Ashoka expanded friendly relations with states across Asia and Europe, and sponsored Buddhist missions. (But he didn't maintain it for physical conquests)
- Missionaries to the kingdoms of Cholas and Pandyas and five states ruled by Greek kings were sent by Ashoka. He also sent missionaries to Ceylon and Suvarnabhumi (Burma) and also parts of South East Asia.

Q.10) Consider the following statements, regarding the significance of Mauryan Empire?

- 1) It was very first time in history that whole India was politically united.
- 2) Indigenous and foreign literary sources were available in ample form.
- 3) From this period history writing became clear because of accuracy in chronology and sources.

Which of the above given statement are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All of the above

Q.10) Solution (d)

- A new era was opened in Indian History after the establishment of Mauryan Empire. It was very first time in history that whole India was politically united.
- In addition, from this period history writing became clear because of accuracy in chronology and sources.
- Along with this indigenous and foreign literary sources were available in ample form. This empire left records in a large number to write the history of this period.
- Also, some important archaeological findings associated with Mauryan Empire were stone sculptures; a tremendous example of typical Mauryan art.
- Some scholars suggest that message on Ashoka inscription was entirely different from most other rulers which is a symbol of powerful and industrious Ashoka and also he was humble more than other (later) rulers who adopted grand titles.
- So it's not surprising that leaders of the nation regarded him as an inspiring figure.

Q.11) Consider the following statements, related to Economic life of Cholas?

- 1) The village assembly took land tax and local levies.
- 2) Trade with foreign countries was an important feature of the Cholas mercantile activities.
- 3) Dinar was the currency prevalent in the Chola kingdom.

Which of the above given statement are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All of the above

Q.11) Solution (a)

- Land tax constituted the single largest source of income of the Chola state. It was generally assessed at one-third of the produce.
- The village assembly took land tax and local levies. Cattle rearing were a subsidiary occupation.

- Trade with foreign countries was an important feature of the Cholas mercantile activities. The rulers built a network of royal roads that were useful for trade as well as for the movement of the army.
- There were gigantic trade guilds that traded with Java and Sumatra.
- South India exported textiles, spices, drugs, jewels, ivory, horn, ebony and camphor to China. Trade brought considerable prestige and affluence to the Cholas.
- Kalanju was the currency prevalent in the Chola kingdom.

Q.12) Consider the following statements, related to the Sangam age?

- 1) There were 3 Sangams conducted in ancient South India called Muchchangam.
- 2) The key source of evidence about these kingdoms is outlined from the literary references of Sangam Period.

Which of the above given statement is/are correct?

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.12) Solution (c)

- It is the period from the first century BCE to the end of the second century CE in south India.
- There were 3 Sangams conducted in ancient South India called Muchchangam, Tamil legends say.
- These Sangams prospered under the royal patronage of the Pandya kings of Madurai.
- Three dynasties ruled during the Sangam Age – the Cheras, Cholas and Pandyas.
- The key source of evidence about these kingdoms is outlined from the literary references of Sangam Period.

Q.13) Consider the following statements, with reference to the major achievements of Balban's reign?


- 1) He was responsible for introducing Zaminbosi or practice of Sijda.

- 2) He didn't allow Ulemas to interfere into the political affairs of the state.
- 3) Balban was succeeded by Jalaluddin Khilji.

Which of the above given statement are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All of the above

Q.13) Solution (a)

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- He was responsible for introducing Zaminbosi or practice of Sijda. Under this, the people had to kneel down and touch the ground with their head while greeting the Sultan.
 - He propagated the Iranian theory of Divine Rights which said that Sultan was the representative of God on Earth.
 - He ended the influence of the Corp of Forty.
 - He didn't allow Ulemas to interfere into the political affairs of the state.
 - He didn't allow Hindus entry in army or other institutions of authority.
 - He re-organized the army of Delhi Sultanate to counter the threats of the Mongols. For this, he created a new department of military affairs known as Diwan-i-arz which was given in charge of Ariz-i-Mumalik.
 - He built forts and established Afghan garrisons to guard communications with Bengal. The titles of Turkish Khans for vast estates were strictly examined and he took back the lands from which no adequate military service was received and thus, reduced the power of the nobles. He maintained pomp and dignity at his court.
 - Balban was succeeded by his grandson Kaikubad who was not competent enough to maintain the empire intact.

Q.14) Consider the following statements, regards to the Gupta Empire:

- 1) The empire was marked by peace and public safety, and scholars flourished in this environment.
- 2) Kalidasa, a poet of the time, is considered the greatest poet and dramatist of the Sanskrit language.

- 3) Aryabhata, who lived during Gupta empire, was the first of the Indian mathematician-astronomers

Which of the above given statement are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) 1,2 and 3

Q.14) Solution (d)



- Some scholars have argued that the Gupta Empire was a golden age of India. The empire was marked by peace and public safety, and scholars flourished in this environment.
- Kalidasa, a poet of the time, is considered the greatest poet and dramatist of the Sanskrit language.
- Aryabhata, who lived during Gupta Empire, was the first of the Indian mathematician-astronomers who worked on the approximation for Pi. Vishnu Sharma is thought to be the author of the Panchatantra fables, one of the most widely-translated non-religious books in history.
- The Gupta Empire ended with the invasion of the White Huns, a nomadic tribe of people from central Asia, at the end of the fifth century CE.
- Until the sixteenth century, there was no unifying empire; regional political kingdoms ruled India.

Q.15) Consider the following statements, related to Samudragupta?

- 1) He was a follower of Vaishnavite Hinduism but was tolerant of other faiths.
- 2) He refused permission to the king of Sri Lanka, Meghavarna to build a monastery in Bodh Gaya.
- 3) He was also called "Indian Napoleon" by art historian Vincent Smith.

Which of the above given statement are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) 1,2 and 3

Q.15) Solution (c)

- Son of Chandragupta I and Kumaradevi.
- Was a military genius and was successful in adding many territories into the Gupta Empire.
- The Allahabad inscription describes his bravery as composed by his court poet, Harisena. There it is said that he defeated nine kings of the Ganges Valley, twelve kings from the southern region and eighteen forest tribes.
- His region extended from the Himalayas in the north to the Krishna and Godavari Rivers in the south; and from Balkh (Afghanistan) in the west to Brahmaputra River in the east.
- He was a follower of Vaishnavite Hinduism but was tolerant of other faiths. He gave permission to the king of Sri Lanka, Meghavarna to build a monastery in Bodh Gaya.
- He was also called “Indian Napoleon” by art historian Vincent Smith.
- He also performed Ashvamedha sacrifice. Hence, one of his coins refers to him as “the restorer of Ashvamedha.”
- He was also called “Kaviraja” since he composed verses.

Q.16) Consider the following statements, with regards to the economic life in Post Gupta Era?

- 1) The trade with South East Asia during post Gupta age registered a significant increase.
- 2) India exported sandal wood, pearls, camphor, cotton, metals, and precious and semi precious stones.
- 3) The Shrenis or guilds were important in post Gupta age.

Which of the above given statement are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) 1,2 and 3

Q.16) Solution (d)

- During the post Harsha period the literary and inscriptional evidences show the advanced state of agriculture, trade and economy.
- The early Arab writers also refer to the fertility of the soil and the rich cultivation. Literature like Abhidhanaratnamala mentions that the soil was classified variously as fertile, barren, desert, excellent etc.

- It is also mentioned that different kinds of fields were selected for different classes of crops.
- In the field of industry the oldest one is that of textile. The profession of weavers, dyers, tailors etc. Is mentioned by the contemporary literature.
- Working in metal was also very popular during that period. Some centres of metal industry were famous. Saurashtra (Gujarat) was famous for its bell metal industry while Vanga (Bengal) was known for its tin industry.
- The trade with South East Asia during post Gupta age registered a significant increase. The Arab, Chinese and Indian sources mention the flow of trade between east and west via India.
- India exported sandal wood, pearls, camphor, cotton, metals, and precious and semi precious stones. The imported items consisted majorly of horses. The horses were imported from Central and Western Asia. The Shrenis or guilds were important in post Gupta age.

Q.17) Consider the following statements, with respect to the Harshavardhan?

- 1) Hiuen Tsang visited India during Harsha's reign. He has given a very favorable account of king Harsha and his empire.
- 2) Harsha was a great patron of the arts. He himself was an accomplished writer. He is credited with the Sanskrit works Ratnavali, Priyadarshika and Nagananda.

Which of the above given statement is/are correct?


- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.17) Solution (c)


- Hiuen Tsang visited India during Harsha's reign. He has given a very favorable account of king Harsha and his empire. He praises his generosity and justice.
- Harsha was a great patron of the arts. He himself was an accomplished writer. He is credited with the Sanskrit works Ratnavali, Priyadarshika and Nagananda.
- Banabhatta was his court poet and he composed the Harshacharita which gives an account of Harsha's life and deeds.
- Harsha generously supported the Nalanda University.

- He had a good tax structure. 1/4th of all the taxes collected were used for charity and for cultural purposes.
- Harsha was a competent military conqueror and an able administrator.
- Harsha was the last king to rule over a vast empire in India before the invasions by the Muslims.


Q.18) Consider the following statements regarding the tools and vessels used by Harappan people:

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- 1) The Harappan tools included flat -axes, chisels, arrowhead, spearheads, knives, saws, razors, and fish-hooks.
 - 2) Apart from tools people also made copper and bronze vessels.
 - 3) Harappan people made small plates and weights of lead, and gold and silver jewellery of considerable sophistication.

Which of the above given statement are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
 - b) 2 and 3 Only
 - c) 1 and 3 Only
 - d) All of the above
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Q.18) Solution (d)

- Tools and weapons were simple in form. They included flat -axes, chisels, arrowhead, spearheads, knives, saws, razors, and fish-hooks.
 - People also made copper and bronze vessels.
 - They made small plates and weights of lead, and gold and silver jewellery of considerable sophistication.
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Q.19) Consider the following statements regarding the Art and Architecture of the Chaulkyas of Badami:

- 1) The temples had beautiful mural paintings also
- 2) They built cave temples depicting both religious and secular themes.
- 3) The temples under the Chalukyas are a good example of the Dravida style of architecture.

Which of the above given statement are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All of the above

Q.19) Solution (a)

- They built cave temples depicting both religious and secular themes.
- The temples had beautiful mural paintings also.
- The temples under the Chalukyas are a good example of the Vesara style of architecture. This is also called the Deccan style or Karnataka Dravida or Chalukyan style. It is a combination of Dravida and Nagara styles.
- Aihole temples: Ladh Khan temple (Surya Temple), Durga temple, Huchimalligudi temple, Jain temple at Meguti by Ravikirti. There are 70 temples in Aihole.
- Badami temples
- Pattadakal: is a UNESCO World Heritage site. There are ten temples here – 4 in Nagar style and 6 in Dravida style. Virupaksha temple and Sangameshwara Temple are in Dravida style. Papanatha temple is in Nagara style.

Q.20) Consider the following statements regarding the Significance of Narashimavarman I of Pallavas of Kanchi:

- 1) He vanquished the Cholas, Cheras and the Pandyas.
- 2) He sent a naval expedition to Sri Lanka and reinstated the Sinhalese Prince Manivarma.
- 3) Hiuen Tsang visited the Pallava kingdom during his reign in about 640 AD and he describes the people living in his kingdom as happy.

Which of the above given statement are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All of the above

Q.20) Solution (d)

- Son and successor of Mahendravarman.

- Considered the greatest of the Pallavas. Also called Narasimhavarman Mahamalla/Mamalla.
- Defeated and killed Pulakesin II in 642 AD. He took control of Vatapi, the Chalukya capital and assumed the title 'Vatapikonda'.
- Also vanquished the Cholas, Cheras and the Pandyas.
- He sent a naval expedition to Sri Lanka and reinstated the Sinhalese Prince Manivarma.
- He founded the city of Mamallapuram or Mahabalipuram which is named after him.
- Hiuen Tsang visited the Pallava kingdom during his reign in about 640 AD and he describes the people living in his kingdom as happy.
- He also says there was an abundance of agricultural products.
- Great Nayannar saints like Appar, Tirugnanasambandar and Siruthondar lived during his reign.
- He was succeeded by his son Mahendravarman II who ruled from 668 to 670 AD.

Q.21) Consider the following pairs, with respect to the Buddhist Literature:

Literature	Importance
1) Digha Nikaya	Comprises the long discourses.
2) Majjihima Nikaya	Comprises discourses of the middle path.
3) Anguttara Nikaya	Comprises minor collection

Which of the above given pair is/are correctly matched?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All of the above

Q.21) Solution (a)

- Digha Nikaya - Comprises the long discourses.
- Majjihima Nikaya - Comprises discourses of the middle path.
- Anguttara Nikaya - Comprises numerical discourses.
- Samyutta Nikaya - Comprises the connected discourses.
- Khuddaka Nikaya - Comprises minor discourses

Q.22) Consider the following statements, with respect to Dipavamsa:

- 1) Dipavamsa is “Chronicle of Island”.
- 2) Dipavamsa is one of the most important works in Prakrit Literature.
- 3) It details the tooth relic and Bodhi Tree’s arrival in Sri Lanka.

Which of the above given statement is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All of the above

Q.22) Solution (c)

- The meaning of Dipavamsa is “Chronicle of Island”.
- It is the oldest historical record of Sri Lanka. It is believed to have been compiled around 3rd or 4th century BC somewhere in Anuradhapura in Sri Lanka during the reign of King Dhatusena of Sri Lanka, the first Mauryan King of Sri Lanka.
- The Avukana Buddha statue was erected by King Dhatusena in Sri Lanka.
- Dipavamsa is one of the most important works in Pali Literature.
- It details the tooth relic and Bodhi Tree’s arrival in Sri Lanka. It also deals with the arrival of Buddha’s teaching and preachers in Sri Lanka.
- It mentions that Buddha visited Kelaniya and Dighavapi in Sri Lanka.

Q.23) With reference to the Buddhism, consider the following statements regarding the Third Buddhist Council:

- 1) It was held in 250 BC at Pataliputra.
- 2) Buddhist missionaries were sent to other countries.
- 3) The council was presided over by Sabakami.

Which of the above given statement is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All of the above

Q.23) Solution (a)

- Conducted under the patronage of Emperor Ashoka of Maurya dynasty.

- It was held in 250 BC at Pataliputra.
- The council was presided over by Mogaliputta Tissa.
- Main objective was to purify Buddhism from opportunistic factions and corruption in the Sangha.
- The Abhidhamma Pitaka was composed here making the almost completion of the modern Pali Tipitaka.
- Buddhist missionaries were sent to other countries.
- Buddhism preached by Emperor Ashoka was Hinayana.

Q.24) With reference to the Buddhism, consider the following statements regarding the fourth Buddhist Council:

- 1) Vasumitra and Ashvaghosha presided over this council
- 2) This council resulted in the division of Buddhism into two sects namely, Mahayana (the Greater Vehicle) and Hinayana (the Lesser Vehicle).
- 3) Here, Abhidhamma texts were translated from Prakrit to Pali.

Which of the above given statement is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All of the above

Q.24) Solution (a)

- Conducted under the patronage of King Kanishka of Kushan dynasty.
- It was held in the 1st century AD at Kundalvana in Kashmir.
- Vasumitra and Ashvaghosha presided over this council
- All deliberations were conducted in Sanskrit.
- Here, Abhidhamma texts were translated from Prakrit to Sanskrit.
- This council resulted in the division of Buddhism into two sects namely, Mahayana (the Greater Vehicle) and Hinayana (the Lesser Vehicle).
- Mahayana sect believed in idol worship, rituals and Boddhisattvas. They regarded the Buddha as God. Hinayana continued the original teachings and practices of the Buddha. They adhere to the scriptures written in Pali while the Mahayana includes Sanskrit scriptures as well.

Q.25) Consider the following statements, with respect to the Buddhist scholar Nagarjuna:

- 1) Nagarjuna founded the Madhyamika school of Hinayana Buddhism.
- 2) His most important work is Mūlamadhyamakakārikā.
- 3) His theory is also known as Shunyavad “emptiness”.

Which of the above given statement is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All of the above

Q.25) Solution (b)

- Nagarjuna founded the Madhyamika school of Mahayan Buddhism.
- He was contemporary of Satavahana King Gautamiputra.
- He was born in a Brahmin family in Nagarjunkonda in modern Andhra Pradesh.
- Due to his birth in Brahmin family and later conversion in Buddhism.
- It can be justified that his early work was in Sanskrit and not in Pali or Hybrid Sanskrit.
- Most important work is Mūlamadhyamakakārikā, which means Fundamental Verses on the Middle Way. His theory is also known as Shunyavad “emptiness”.

Q.26) Consider the following statements, with respect to the Mahayana Buddhism:

- 1) It allows salvation through having faith and committing oneself to Buddha.
- 2) Its main principles were based on the possibility of universal liberation from suffering for all beings.
- 3) Its principles are also based on the existence of Buddha's and Bodhisattvas embodying Buddha nature.

Which of the above given statement is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All of the above

Q.26) Solution (d)

- This sect of Buddhism believes in the heavenliness of Buddha and believes in Idol Worship.
- Mahayan sect spread from India to several other nations such as China, Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Nepal, Tibet, Bhutan and Mangolia.
- Mahayana believes in Mantras. Its main principles were based on the possibility of universal liberation from suffering for all beings. That's why, this sect is called Mahayana (The Great Vehicle).
- Its principles are also based on the existence of Buddha's and Bodhisattvas embodying Buddha nature.
- It allows salvation through having faith and committing oneself to Buddha.

Q.27) Consider the following pairs, with respect to the Bodhisattvas and their importance:

Name	Importance
1) Sadaparibhuta	Manifests never disparaging spirit.
2) Maitreya	He is also known as Ajita Bodhisattva
3) Samantabhadra	He is described as holding a lotus flower.

Which of the above given pair is/are correctly matched?

- 1 and 2 Only
- 2 and 3 Only
- 1 and 3 Only
- All of the above

Q.27) Solution (a)

- **Avalokitesvara** - He is described as holding a lotus flower. He is known as Guanshiyin Pusa in China.
- **Manjusri** - He is described as a male Bodhisattva wielding a flaming sword in his right hand. He is known as Wenshu in China and Jampelyang in Tibet.
- **Samantabhadra** - It means Universal Worthy and he is associated with meditation. He is manifested through action and he is a major figure in Flower Garland Sutra.
- **Ksitigarbha** - He is described as a Buddhist monk in the Orient/ East Asia. It means Earth Womb. He is revered as the guardian of children and patron deity of deceased children. He carries a staff.

- **Maitreya** - He is also known as Ajita Boddhisattva. It is believed that he will arrive when oceans will decrease in size. He keeps a Kumbha or phalial in his hand and is destined to rule Varanasi (Pure Land).
- **Vajrapani** - He is described 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** - He is a Bodhisattva which manifests never disparaging spirit.
- **Akasagarbha** - He is boundless as space. He was the twin brother of Ksitigarbha. He manifests wisdom.

Q.28) Consider the following statements, with respect to the Bodhisattvas vows:

- 1) To destroy all evil passions.
- 2) To learn the truth and teach others.
- 3) To destroy all worldly problems.

Which of the above given statement is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All of the above

Q.28) Solution (a)

- The mark of a bodhisattva in the Mahayana is that he/she has taken the bodhisattva vow.
- The bodhisattva vow is solemnly made before one's master in a special ritual, and involves four pledges:
- To save all beings from difficulties.
- To destroy all evil passions.
- To learn the truth and teach others.
- To lead all beings to Buddha hood.

Q.29) Consider the following pairs, with respect to the major event in the life of Tirthankar:

Name	Event
1) Chyavana Kalyanak	Tirthankar's soul is born.
2) Diksha Kalyanak	Tirthankar's soul gives up all his/her worldly possessions
3) Nirvana Kalyanak	Tirthankar's soul is liberated from this worldly physical existence

Which of the above given pair is/are correctly matched?

- 1 and 2 Only
- 2 and 3 Only
- 1 and 3 Only
- All of the above

Q.29) Solution (b)

- Jains celebrate five major events in the life of a Tirthankar. They are called Kalyanak (auspicious events). They are:
- Chyavana Kalyanak** - This is the event when the Tirthankar's soul departs from its last life, and is conceived in the mother's womb.
- Janma Kalyanak** - This is the event when the Tirthankar's soul is born.
- Diksha Kalyanak** - This is the event when the Tirthankar's soul gives up all his/her worldly possessions and becomes a monk/nun. (Digambar sect does not believe that women can become Tirthankar or be liberated.)
- Kevaljnana Kalyanak** - This is event when Tirthankar's soul destroys the four ghati karmas completely and attains the Kevaljnana (absolute knowledge). Celestial angels set Samavsaran for Tirthankars from where he/she delivers the first sermon. This is the most important event for the entire Jain order as the Tirthankar reinstates Jain Sangh and preaches the Jain path of purification and liberation.
- Nirvana Kalyanak** - This event is when a Tirthankar's soul is liberated from this worldly physical existence forever and becomes a Siddha. On this day, the Tirthankar's soul destroys the four Aghati karmas completely, and attains salvation, the state of eternal bliss.

Q.30) Consider the following statements, with respect to the reason for the origin of Jainism/ Buddhism:

- New agriculture economy in north India which was based on iron ploughshare
- Kshatriya reacted strongly against the ritualistic dominion of Brahamanas.
- Preferred simple, puritan & ascetic living and asked people to forgo all good things in life

Which of the above given statement is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All of the above

Q.30) Solution (d)

- Kshatriya reacted strongly against the ritualistic dominion of Brahamanas & varna based on birth.
- Verdhaman Mahavira & Gautama Buddha both belonged to Kshatriya clan & disputed the authority of Brahamanas.
- Real reason was rise of new agriculture economy in north India which was based on iron ploughshare
- Required the use of bullocks & cattle's & could not flourish without animal husbandry.
- But Vedic practices of killing cattle's in sacrifice led to decimation of cattle wealth, against which both Jainism & Buddhism spoke & propagated the idea of ahimsa.
- Preferred simple, puritan & ascetic living & asked people to forgo all good things in life
- Were not allowed to touch gold & silver & were to accept as much to keep their body & soul together.

Q.31) Consider the following statements, regarding the spread of Jainism:

- 1) Mahavira spread his teaching that consists of Women & Men in the organized sangha.
- 2) **First Jain Council** was convened at **Patliputra** presided by **Bhadrabahu**.
- 3) **Second Jain Council** was held at **Valabhi** in 5th century AD.

Which of the above given statement is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All of the above

Q.31) Solution (c)

- Through **Sangha**, Mahavira spread his teaching that consists of Women & Men in the organized sangha

- Under the patronage of **Chandragupta Maurya, Kharaveli of Kalinga** and the royal dynasties of south India such as the **Gangas, the Kadambas, the Chalukyas and the Rashtrakutas**.
- There are two sect of Jainism- Svetambar (White Clad) and Digambar (Sky clad or Naked).
- **First Jain Council** was convened at **Patliputra** presided by **Sthalabahu** who was the leader of Digambar during 3rd century BC.
- **Second Jain Council** was held at **Valabhi** in 5th century AD. In this council the 'Twelve Angas' was compiled.

Q.32) With reference to the ancient history, consider the following statements related to the decline of Buddhism:

- 1) The Sanghas became centres of corruption.
- 2) The monks and nuns began to lead lives of pleasure and ease.
- 3) The Mahayanist and Hinayanist quarreled with each other.

Which of the above given statement is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All of the above

Q.32) Solution (d)

- The important cause of the decline and fall of Buddhism was the decline of Buddhist Sanghas.
- The Sanghas became centres of corruption.
- The discipline of vinay pitaka was violated.
- The viharas were dominated by ease-loving people.
- The monks and nuns began to lead lives of pleasure and ease.
- The Mahayanist and Hinayanist quarreled with each other.
- Internal conflict proved to be the ruin of Buddhism.

Q.33) With reference to the ancient history, consider the following statements related to the Polity and Administration of sangam age:

- 1) The king was assisted by a wide body of officials who were categorized into five councils.
- 2) Major source of fulfilling the royal treasury was the booty captured in wars.

- 3) The roads and highways were maintained and guarded to prevent robbery and smuggling.

Which of the above given statement is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All of the above

Q.33) Solution (d)

- During the Sangam period hereditary monarchy was the form of government. Each of the dynasties of Sangam age had a royal emblem – tiger for the Cholas, carp for the Pandyas, and bow for the Cheras.
- The king was assisted by a wide body of officials who were categorized into five councils.
- They were ministers (amaichar), priests (anthanar), envoys (thuthar), military commanders (senapathi), and spies (otrar).
- The military administration was efficiently organized with each ruler a regular army was associated.
- The chief source of state's income was Land revenue while a custom duty was also imposed on foreign trade.
- Major source of fulfilling the royal treasury was the booty captured in wars.
- The roads and highways were maintained and guarded to prevent robbery and smuggling.

Q.34) with reference to the ancient history, consider the following statements related to Economy of the sangam age:

- 1) The port city of Puhar became an important place of foreign trade
- 2) Major imports for the traders were horses, gold, and sweet wine.
- 3) Various poems mention of cotton clothes as thin as a cloud of steam

Which of the above given statement is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All of the above

Q.34) Solution (d)

- Agriculture was the chief occupation where rice was the most common crop.

- The handicraft included weaving, metal works and carpentry, ship building and making of ornaments using beads, stones and ivory.
- These were in great demand of all above products in the internal and external trade as this was at its peak during the Sangam period.
- A high expertise was attained in spinning and weaving of cotton and silk clothes. Various poems mention of cotton clothes as thin as a cloud of steam or like a slough of snake. These were in great demand in the western world especially for the cotton clothes woven at Uraiyur.
- The port city of Puhar became an important place of foreign trade, as big ships entered this port containing precious goods.
- Other significant ports of commercial activity were Tondi, Musiri, Korkai, Arikamedu and Marakkanam.
- Many gold and silver coins that were issued by the Roman Emperors like Augustus, Tiberius and Nero have been found in all parts of Tamil Nadu indicating flourishing trade.
- Major exports of the Sangam age were cotton fabrics and spices like pepper, ginger, cardamom, cinnamon and turmeric along with ivory products, pearls and precious stones.
- Major imports for the traders were horses, gold, and sweet wine.

Q.35) Consider the following statements, regarding to the sangam age:

- 1) The **First Sangam**, is believed to be held at Madurai
- 2) The **Second Sangam** was held at Kapadapuram.

Which of the above given statement is/are correct?

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Q.35) Solution (c)

- According to the Tamil legends, there were three Sangams (Academy of Tamil poets) held in the ancient South India popularly called Muchchangam. These Sangams flourished under the royal patronage of the Pandya kings of Madurai.
- The First Sangam is believed to be held at Madurai, attended by gods and legendary sages. No literary work of this Sangam is available.
- The Second Sangam was held at Kapadapuram, only Tolkappiyam survives from this.

- The Third Sangam at Madurai was founded by Mudathirumaran. A few of these Tamil literary works have survived and are useful sources to reconstruct the history of the Sangam period.

Q.36) Consider the following statements, with respect to the Saint Kabir:

- 1) Kabir was the most famous disciple of Ramanujam.
- 2) He was brought up by a Muslim family who were weavers by profession
- 3) He is regarded as the greatest of the mystic saints.

Which of the above given statement is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All of the above

Q.36) Solution (b)

- Kabir was the most famous disciple of Ramananda.
- He was brought up by a Muslim family who were weavers by profession.
- He had a curious mind in learning new things and he learnt much about Hinduism in Benares.
- Kabir's aim was to reunite Hindus and Muslims and form harmony between them.
- He is regarded as the greatest of the mystic saints.
- His followers are called Kabirpanthis.
- In the 14th and 15th centuries, Ramananda, Kabir and Nanak remained the great apostles of the Bhakti cult.
- They aided the common people to shed age-old superstitions and attain salvation through Bhakti or pure devotion.
- Criticized all forms of worship of idols.

Q.37) Consider the following statements, with respect to the Alvars and Nayanars of Tamil Nadu:

- 1) The Alvars and Nayanars led some of the earliest bhakti movements

- 2) The Alvars and Nayanars initiated a movement of protest against the caste system and the dominance of Brahmanas.
- 3) They travelled from place to place singing hymns in Tamil praising their gods.

Which of the above given statement is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All of the above

Q.37) Solution (d)

- The Alvars and Nayanars led some of the earliest bhakti movements (c. sixth century).
- Alvars – those who are “immersed” in devotion to Vishnu
- Nayanars – leaders who were devotees of Shiva
- They travelled from place to place singing hymns in Tamil praising their gods.
- The Alvars and Nayanars initiated a movement of protest against the caste system and the dominance of Brahmanas or at least attempted to reform the system. This is supported by the fact that bhaktas or disciples hailed from diverse social backgrounds ranging from Brahmanas to artisans and cultivators and even from castes considered “untouchable”
- The Nalayira Divyaprabandham (“Four Thousand Sacred Compositions”) – one of the major anthologies of compositions of the 12 Alvars compiled by the 10th Century
- It was frequently described as the Tamil Veda, thus claiming that the text was as significant as the four Vedas in Sanskrit that were cherished by the Brahmanas.
- From a composition of an Alvar named Tondaradippodi a Brahmana mentions Chaturvedins – Are strangers and without faithfulness to your service.
- Tevaram – a collection of compiled and classified in the 10th century on the basis of the music of the songs of Appar, Sambandar, and Sundarar.

Q.38) Consider the following statements, regarding the view of foreign traveler Fa-Hein on social condition of India:

- 1) The rich people vied with each other in practice of benevolence and righteousness.
- 2) They did not use alcohol and other intoxicants.
- 3) Only Chandalas (Untouchables), who lived outside cities, engaged in hunting and fishing and were meat eaters.

Which of the above given statement is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All of the above

Q.38) Solution (d)

- The people were prosperous and content with their lives. Public morality was high. Mostly the people were vegetarians and avoided meat and onions in their meals.
- They did not use alcohol and other intoxicants.
- Only Chandalas (Untouchables), who lived outside cities, engaged in hunting and fishing and were meat eaters.
- The rich people vied with each other in practice of benevolence and righteousness.
- They established houses for dispensing charity and medicine and gave large donations to temples, monasteries, Sanghas etc.
- All this suggests that the people were prosperous, happy, liberal and simple in morals.

Q.39) Consider the following statements, with regarding the ambassador Megasthenes:

- 1) He was Ambassador of Selucus Nicator I of Greece.
- 2) In Indica we found royal palace of Magadha made by iron.
- 3) Seven division of Indian caste system was mention by him.

Which of the above given statement is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All of the above

Q.39) Solution (c)

- Megasthenes appointed as the ambassador of the Mauryan court by Governor Selucus Nicator of Greece.
- He describes the social and administrative conditions under Mauryans in the name of Megasthenes Indica.
- In Indica, it is found that the royal palace of Magadha made of wood.
- Also mentioned about the seven type of caste system which prevalent in India

Q.40) Consider the following pairs, with respect to the Ancient poet and their contribution:

Poet	Contribution
1) Harisena	Prayag Prashasti on Allahabad Pillar inscription
2) Kalidasa	Kumarasambhava, Raghuvamsa, Meghdoota.
3) Ravikirti	Mrichchha Katikam

Which of the above given pair is/are correctly matched?

- 1 and 2 Only
- 2 and 3 Only
- 1 and 3 Only
- All of the above

Q.40) Solution (a)

- **Ashvaghosa** - Buddhacharitra (a biography of Buddha), Saundarananda
- **Banabhatt** - Kadambari, Harsha Charita
- **Bharavi** - Kiratarjuniyam (about Kirat and Arjun)
- **Bhavabhuti** - Malatimadhava, Mahaviracharita
- **Dandin** - Dasakumaracarita, Kavyadarsa
- **Harisena** - Prayag Prashasti on Allahabad Pillar inscription
- **Jayadev** - Geet Govinda (Krishna and Radha)
- **Jinasena** – Harivamshapurana
- **Kalidasa** - Kumarasambhava, Raghuvamsa, Meghdoota, Ritusambara. His plays are Abhijan Shakuntalam, Vikramorvasi, and Malvikanimithram.
- **Magha** - Sishupalavadha (about the killing of Shishupal)
- **Rajasekhara** - Kavyamimamsa and Karpuramanjari (written to please his wife in Sauraseni Prakrit).
- **Ravikirti** - Aihole inscription
- **Shudraka** - Mrichchha Katikam
- **Thiruvalluvar** - Thirukkural (Tamil epic)
- **Vishakhadutta** - Mudra Rakshas and Devichandraguptam