



ST. VIVEKANAND MILLENNIUM SCHOOL
HMT Township, Pinjore
Half Yearly Examination, October, 2025
Level: Proficiency

SUBJECT-HISTORY (027)

Class: XII

Time allowed: 3 HRS.

MM :80

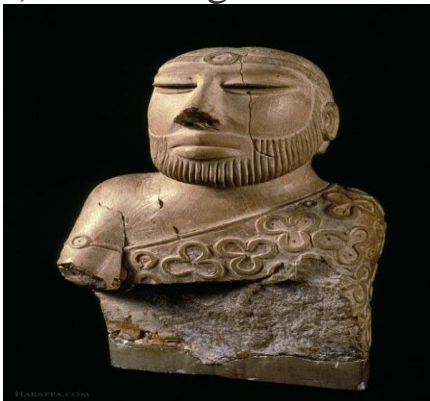
General Instructions:

1. Question paper comprises five Sections – A, B, C, D and E. There are 34 questions in the question paper. All questions are compulsory.
2. Section A – Question 1 to 21 are MCQs of 1 mark each.
3. Section B – Question no. 22 to 27 are Short Answer Type Questions, carrying 3 marks each. Answers to each question should not exceed 60-80 words.
4. Section C - Question no 28 to 30 are Long Answer Type Questions, carrying 8 marks each. Answer to each question should not exceed 300-350 words.
5. Section D – Question no.31 to 33 are Source based questions with three sub questions and are of 4 marks each.
6. Section-E - - Question no. 34 is Map based, carrying 5 marks that includes the identification and location of significant test items. Attach the map with the answer book.
7. There is no overall choice in the question paper. However, an internal choice has been provided in a few questions. Only one of the choices in such questions have to be attempted.
8. In addition to this, separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary

SECTION-A

- 1 The Harappan script was written from 1
- a) Bottom to top b) Top to bottom
- c) Left to right d) Right to left

2



1

The famous 'Priest King' statue was discovered at which

- Harappan site?
- a) Harappa b) Mohenjo-daro c) Lothal d) Kalibangan
- 3 The Director-General of the ASI, often called the 'Father of Indian archaeology', was 1
- a) Alexander Cunningham. b) Hargreaves.
c) James Burgess. d) John Marshall.
- 4 Which river was crucial for the development of the Harappan civilization? 1
- a) Ganges b) Yamuna c) Indus d) Brahmaputra
- 5 Which one of the following was the capital of Magadha? 1
- a) Rajagraha b) Ujjain c) Taxila d) Gandhara
- 6 Hagiography is the biography of a: 1
- (a) king (b) Brahmin (c) scholar (d) saint
- 7 According to Jainism, the last Tirthankara was: 1
- (a) Makkhali Gosala (b) Siddhartha
(c) Mahavira (d) Ajita Kesakambali
- 8 Who was the first woman to be ordained as a bhikkhuni? 1
- (a) Mahapajapati Gotami (b) Mahapajapati Bodhi
(c) Mahapajapati Grishma (d) None of the above
- 9 According to Ibn Battuta's account, the city that rivaled Delhi was: 1
- (a) Multan (b) Gwalior (c) Lahore (d) Daulatabad
- 10 The chief of the merchant community, in urban centres, was known as: 1
- (a) Maulvis. (b) Mullas. (c) Nagarsheths. (d) Sheshtis
- 11 Who wrote the book 'Kitab-ul-Hind'? 1
- (a) Al-Biruni. (b) Abdur Razzaq Samarqandi
(c) Ibn Juzayy. (d) Ibn Battuta.
- 12 Which one of the following is written by Ibn Battuta.? 1
- a) Kitab-ul-Hind b) Rihla c) Dihal d) Deccan-e-Hind
- 13 Marriage within a unit, a kin group, caste or a group living in the same locality, is called 1
- (a) endogamy. (b) exogamy. (c) polygyny. (d) polyandry.
- 14 Alvars were the devotees of: 1
- a) Vishnu b) Shiva c) Brahma d) Jagannatha
- 15 _____ means a chain which signifies a continuous link between master and disciple. 1
- (a) Gathjod b) Silsila c) Saidev d) Niranta

- 16 **Assertion (A):** From C. 500 BCE norms were compiled in Sanskrit texts known as the Dharmasutras and Dharmashastras. **Reason (R):** Brahmanas laid the codes of social behavior for the society in general. 1
- (a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
(b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(c) A is true, but R is false.
(d) A is false, but R is true.
- 17 Consider the following statements with regard to the Indus valley civilization. Which statement is incorrect? 1
- a)Wheat was their staple food.
b)Horse was not an important animal in their life.
c)Disposal of dead took place through burial.
d) Potter's wheel was not in use.
- 18 Which one of the following Statement is correct? 1
- a) Buddha was born in Sanchi.
b) Buddha attained enlightenment in Lumbini.
c) Buddha delivered his first sermsn in Bodhgaya.
d) Buddha attained Mahaparinirvana at Kushinagar.
- 19 **Assertion (A):** Ashoka inscribed his messages to his subjects and officials on stone surfaces. 1
- Reason (R):** He used it as a means of communicating with his people to spread the message of Dhamma
- a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
c) A is true but R is false.
d) A is false but R is true.
- 20 The term "Arthashastra," a treatise on statecraft and economics, was written by whom? 1
- (a)Kalidasa (b) Ashoka (c) Kautilya (d)Kalhana
- 21 Which of the following became the most powerful Mahajanapada between the 6th and 4th centuries BCE? 1

(a) Kashi

(b) Magadha

(c) Kuru

(d) Chedi

SECTION-B

- 22 How were Harappa seals and sealings used to facilitate long distance communication? What did the sealings convey? 3
- Or
- List three problems faced by epigraphists.
- 23 How did the concept of gotra affect the lives of women in early Indian society? 3
- 24 Critically examine the duties as laid down in 'Manusmriti' for the Chandalas. 3
- 25 Describe three salient features of mahajanapadas. 3
- 26 Critically examine why Sanchi survived while Amaravati did not? 3
- 27 Point out any two similarities between the philosophy of Kabir and Guru Nanak Dev. 3

SECTION-C

- 28 Explain the distinctive features of the residential buildings of Mohenjo-Daro.. 8
- Or
- Explain the strategies used by the archaeologists to understand socio-economic differences among the Harappans.
- 29 "The Dharmasutras and Dharmashastras also contained rules about the ideal occupations of the four categories of varnas." Critically examine the statement. 8
- Or
- Explain the administration and revenue system of the Mauryan Empire under Ashoka.
- 30 "Ibn Battuta found Delhi as a city full of exciting opportunities." Support your answer with evidences given by him. 8
- Or
- Explain the views of Bernier about a more complex social reality of the Mughal empire.

SECTION-D

31 **A Church in Khambat:**

4

This is an excerpt from a farman (imperial order) issued by Akbar in 1598. Whereas it reached our eminent and holy notice that the padris (fathers) of the Holy Society of Jesus wish to build a house of prayer (Church) in the city of Kambayat (Khambat, in Gujarat); therefore an exalted mandate... is being issued... that the dignitaries of the city of Kambayat should in no case stand in their way but should allow them to build a Church so that they may engage themselves in their own worship. It is necessary that the order of the Emperor should be obeyed in every way.

1. Who issued the farman? (1)
2. From whom did the King anticipate opposition? (1)
3. What light does this throw on the religious policy of the Mughals? (2)

32 **The practice of sati**

4

Where a widow was expected to immolate herself on her husband's funeral pyre—was observed by many travellers who visited India. Ibn Battuta in the 14th century and François Bernier in the 17th century recorded detailed descriptions of this practice. Sometimes widows were praised for their courage, while at other times social pressure forced them to perform sati. Travellers' accounts provide valuable information, but they must be studied carefully, as these outsiders often judged Indian customs from their own cultural background.

1. What is meant by the practice of sati? Name any one foreign traveler who wrote about sati. (1+1 =2)
2. How did social pressure influence the practice of sati? (1)
3. Why should historians be cautious while using travellers' accounts to study practices like Sati? (1)

33 **A mother's advice**

4

When war between the Kauravas and the Pandavas became almost inevitable, Gandhari made one last appeal to her eldest son Duryodhana:

By making peace you honour your father and me, as well as your well-wishers... It is the wise man in control of his senses who guards his kingdom. Greed and anger drag a man away from his profits; by defeating these two enemies a king conquers the earth... You will happily enjoy the earth, my son, along with the wise and heroic Pandavas... There is no good in a war, no law and profit let alone happiness; nor is there (necessarily) victory in the end — don't set your mind on war...

1. Who did Gandhari appeal to not to go to war? (1)
2. Why did she ask her son not to go to war? (2)
- (c) Which two enemies should a king defeat? (1)

SECTION-E

34 A) On the outline map of India provided, locate and label the following sites:

1. Amravati
2. Magadha
3. Lothal

B) On the same outline map, two places has been marked as 'A' & 'B'. Identify them & write their correct names on the lines drawn near them.

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