

CLASS XII
PRE-MID-TERM EXAMINATION (2025-26)
HISTORY (027)
SET-A2

TIME: 2 Hours

MAX MARKS-50

General Instructions:

1. The Question paper consists of 6 printed pages.
2. The Question Paper is divided into five sections-Section A, Section B, Section C, Section D & Section E.
3. The question paper has 18 questions in all.
4. Answer all the questions.
5. **Section A:** Question numbers 1 to 9 are objective type questions carrying 1 mark and should be answered in one word or one sentence each.
6. **Section B:** Answer to questions carrying 3 marks (Question 10 to 13) should not exceed 100 words each.
7. **Section C:** Question number 14 &15 are Long Answer Questions & should not exceed 350 words each.
8. **Section D:** Question number 16 &17 are Source-based question carrying 4 marks each.
9. **Section E:** Question number 18 is a Map question that includes the identification & labeling of significant test items.

S.NO	SECTION A OBJECTIVE ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS	1x9=9								
1	<p>Two statements are given in the question below as Assertion A and Reason R. Read the statements and choose the appropriate option.</p> <p>Assertion(A): Recovering artefacts is merely the initial step in the archaeological process.</p> <p>Reason(R): Archaeologists employ various methods such as classification based on material and function, analysis of contextual clues, and reliance on indirect evidence to understand the significance and purpose of artefacts.</p> <p>Options:</p> <p>A) Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R)is the correct explanation of (A)</p> <p>B) Both (A) and (R) are correct, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)</p> <p>C) (A) is correct, but (R) is not correct</p> <p>D) (R) is correct, but (A) is not correct.</p>	1								
2	<p>Match the following –</p> <table><tr><td>(1) Magadha</td><td>(i) an epic written in Tamil</td></tr><tr><td>(2) Silappadikaram</td><td>(ii) Indika</td></tr><tr><td>(3) Megasthanese</td><td>(iii) Most Powerful Mahajanapada</td></tr><tr><td>(4) Gandatindu Jataka</td><td>(iv) Describes the plight of Wicked king</td></tr></table> <p>Options:</p>	(1) Magadha	(i) an epic written in Tamil	(2) Silappadikaram	(ii) Indika	(3) Megasthanese	(iii) Most Powerful Mahajanapada	(4) Gandatindu Jataka	(iv) Describes the plight of Wicked king	
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	<p>(1) (2) (3) (4)</p> <p>A) (ii) (i) (iv) (iii)</p> <p>B) (iii) (i) (ii) (iv)</p> <p>C) (i) (ii) (iii) (iv)</p> <p>D) (i) (iii) (ii) (iv)</p>											
3	<p>Match List-I with List-II:</p> <table><tr><th>List I</th><th>List II</th></tr><tr><td>(A) Terracotta models of plough</td><td>(I) Kalibangan</td></tr><tr><td>(B) Ploughed field</td><td>(II) Shortughai</td></tr><tr><td>(C) Traces of canals</td><td>(III) Dholavira</td></tr><tr><td>(D) Water reservoirs</td><td>(IV) Cholistan</td></tr></table> <p>Choose the correct answer from the options given below:</p> <p>1. (A) - (IV), (B) - (I), (C) - (II), (D) - (III)</p> <p>2. (A) - (I), (B) - (II), (C) - (IV), (D) - (III)</p> <p>3. (A) - (I), (B) - (II), (C) - (III), (D) - (IV)</p> <p>4. (A) - (IV), (B) - (III), (C) - (II), (D) - (I)</p>	List I	List II	(A) Terracotta models of plough	(I) Kalibangan	(B) Ploughed field	(II) Shortughai	(C) Traces of canals	(III) Dholavira	(D) Water reservoirs	(IV) Cholistan	1
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5	<p>Although Cunningham encountered some Harappan artefacts, the civilization missed capturing his attention due to his investigation strategies. Which of the following statements explains why this happened?</p> <p>A) He excavated in mainlands and not in fertile soil near rivers.</p> <p>B) He relied on travel accounts of Chinese travelers which did not cover Harappa.</p> <p>C) He studied only metal artefacts while excluding a lot of artefacts from Harappa.</p> <p>D) He used primitive dating techniques which put Harappan artefacts in different timelines.</p>	1										

6	<p>Which of the following statement is correct with regard to the interpretation of Sutta Pitaka-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Originally human beings did not have fully evolved bodily forms, nor was the world of plants fully developed. II. All beings lived in an idyllic state of peace, taking from nature only what they needed for each meal. III. There was a gradual deterioration of this state as human beings became increasingly greedy, vindictive and deceitful IV. Human beings were not responsible for the creation of this system and could not change it in future. <p>OPTIONS-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A) Only I B) I & II C) I, II, III D) Only IV 	1
7	<p>There are two statements given below, marked as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct option.</p> <p>Assertion (A): Historians believe that the Harappan civilization was highly literate.</p> <p>Reason (R): Writing has been found in many everyday objects such as seals, copper tools, jewellery, and terracotta tablets in the Harappan region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation for A. B) Both A and R are true, and A is the correct explanation for A. C) A is true, but R is false. D) A is false, but R is true 	1
8	<p>Which of the following strategies were evolved by Brahmanas to enforce the norms of Varna order from c. 600 BCE to 600 CE?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A) Brahmanas used to emphasize that the varna system is divine. B) Brahmanas tried to convince people that their occupation and status are determined by birth. C) Brahmanas advised the kings to ensure that people follow the norms of the varna system within the kingdom. D) All of these. 	1
9	<p>Read the following statements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Brahmanical authorities named new groups living in forests as the nishadas. II. Brahmana to assign a name to occupational categories such as the goldsmith, blacksmiths, potters etc. III. They classified them as a jati. Jatis which shared a common occupation. IV. They were sometimes organised into shrenis or guild <p>Which of the above statements are correct related to Brahmanical perception?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A) Only I B) I, II and III C) II, III and IV D) I,II, III and IV 	1

	SECTION B SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS	3x4=12
10	Mahabharata is a dynamic text. Justify the statement. OR Analyze the role of scholars in the task of preparing the critical edition of Mahabharata.	3
11	"The problems of archaeological interpretation are most evident in attempts to reconstruct religious practices. "Critically examine the statement.	3
12	Once the kings & chief attained power, they attempted to claim social status in a variety of ways. State three ways in which the new kings who emerged between 1 st century BCE and 1 st century CE try to achieve this? OR "The history of Mauryan empire has been constructed on the variety of sources." Explain the statement.	3
13	Discuss the role of R.E.M wheeler in solving the problem arising due to Marshall's excavations.	3
	SECTION C LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS	8x2=16
14	"There were specific features of familial relationships during the Mahabharata period." Explain the statement with examples. OR The political power of kingship was rarely dependent on birth as Kshatriyas but also open to anyone who could muster support and resources. Explain the statement with examples from sixth centuries BCE onwards.	8
15	The sixth century BCE, was a period of emergence of early states, empires and diverse thoughts in early Indian history. Justify the statement.	8
	SECTION D SOURCE BASED QUESTION	4x2=8
16	Read the following source carefully and answer the questions that follow: The Anguish of the King When the King Devanampiya Piyadassi had been ruling for eight years, the (country of the) Kalingas (present-day coastal Odisha) was conquered by him. One hundred and fifty thousand men were deported, a hundred thousand were killed and many more died. After that, now that (the country of) the Kalingas has been taken, Devanampiya (is devoted), to an intense study of Dhamma, to the love of Dhamma and to instructing (the people) in Dhamma. This is the repentance of Devanampiya on account of his conquest of the (country of the) Kalingas. For this considered very painful and deplorable by Devanampiya that, while one is conquering an unconquered (country) slaughter, death and deportation of people (take place) there. 16.1) Who was called 'Devanampiya Piyadassi'? Give his brief description. 16.2) Mention the importance and limitations of inscriptions. 16.3) Why did the king repent after the war of Kalinga?	1+1+2

17	<p>Read the following source carefully and answer the questions that follow:</p> <p>The Bodhisatta as a chandala</p> <p>Did chandalas resist the attempts to push them to the bottom of the social order? Read this story, which is part of the Matanga Jataka, a Pali text, where the Bodhisatta (the Buddha in a previous birth) is identified as a chandala. Once, the Bodhisatta was born outside the city of Banaras as a chandala's son and named Matanga. One day, when he had gone to the city on some work, he encountered Dittha Mangalika, the daughter of a merchant. When she saw him, she exclaimed "I have seen something inauspicious" and washed her eyes. The angry hangers-on then beat him up. In protest, he went and lay down at the door of her father's house. On the seventh day they brought out the girl and gave her to him. She carried the starving Matanga back to the chandala settlement. Once he returned home, he decided to renounce the world. After attaining spiritual powers, he returned to Banaras and married her.</p> <p>A son named Mandavya Kumara was born to them. He learnt the three Vedas as he grew up and began to provide food to 16,000 Brahmanas every day. One day, Matanga, dressed in rags, with a clay alms bowl in his hand, arrived at his son's doorstep and begged for food. Mandavya replied that he looked like an outcaste and was unworthy of alms; the food was meant for the Brahmanas. Matanga said : "Those who are proud of their birth and are ignorant do not deserve gifts. On the contrary, those who are free from vices are worthy of offerings." Mandavya lost his temper and asked his servants to throw the man out. Matanga rose in the air and disappeared. When Dittha Mangalika learnt about the incident, she followed Matanga and begged his forgiveness. He asked her to take a bit of the leftover from his bowl and give it to Mandavya and the Brahmanas ...</p> <p>17.1) Why were 'chandalas' considered as the bottom of the social order ? 17.2) Why did Dittha Mangalika consider Matanga as inauspicious? 17.3) Interpret the feelings of Matanga from this source.</p>	1+1+2
	<p>SECTION E</p> <p>MAP BASED QUESTION</p>	1x5=5
18	<p>18.1) On the given political map of India, locate and label the following with appropriate symbols: A) Avanti-An important Mahajanpada B) Puhar-An important town</p> <p>18.2) On the same outline map of India, three mature Harappan sites have been marked as 1, 2 & 3. Identify them and write their correct name on the line drawn near them.</p>	2+3

Q18.1 & 18.2)

NAME -
CLASS & SECTION-

