

# SAMPLE PAPER 1

## HISTORY

A Highly Simulated Practice Questions Paper  
for CBSE **Class XII** (Term I) Examination

### Instructions

- (i) The paper has been divided into four sections – A, B, C and D.
- (ii) Section A contains 24 questions. Attempt any 20 questions.
- (iii) Section B contains 22 questions. Attempt any 18 questions.
- (iv) Section C contains two Case based Questions with 12 questions Attempt any 10 questions.
- (v) Section D contains questions 59 & 60 which are Map Based Questions. Both the questions have to be attempted
- (vi) Each question carries 0.80 marks.
- (vii) There will be no negative marking.

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Maximum Marks : 40 Time allowed : 90 Min
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### Section A

This section contains 24 questions in total. Attempt any 20 questions.

1. Which two scripts were deciphered by James Prinsep using the earliest inscriptions and the coins?  
(a) Brahmi and Aramaic (b) Kharosthi and Aramaic  
(c) Brahmi and Kharosthi (d) Aramaic and Indus script
2. Who among the following is credited with deciphering the Ashokan edicts?  
(a) James Prinsep (b) William Jones  
(c) Alexander Cunningham (d) John Marshall
3. Which of the following regions yielded evidence of millet consumption during Harappan culture?  
(a) Rajasthan (b) Haryana  
(c) Punjab (d) Gujarat
4. Traces of canal irrigation have been found from the site of .....  
(a) Lothal, Gujarat (b) Shortughai, Afghanistan  
(c) Chanhudaro, Pakistan (d) Kalibangan, Rajasthan

5. Which of the following practices was followed by most of the ruling dynasties?
 

(a) Patriliney	(b) Exogamy
(c) Polyandry	(d) Matriliney
6. What does different variants of Mahabharata reflect?
  - (a) Dialogues between dominant traditions-local ideas and practices
  - (b) Dialogues between king-kinship
  - (c) Dialogues between ruler- courtiers
  - (d) Dialogues between different classes
7. Although Harappa is the first site of the Indus Civilisation to be discovered, Mohenjodaro is the most well known site. What is the most appropriate reason for this?
  - (a) Mohenjodaro is larger in area than Harappa.
  - (b) Presence of citadels and lower parts of Mohenjodaro.
  - (c) Largest number of artefacts are found from Mohenjodaro.
  - (d) Mohenjodaro was far better preserved while structures at Harappa were damaged more.
8. A water reservoir has been found from ..... indicating possibility of water storage for agricultural purposes.
  - (a) Dholavira, Gujarat
  - (b) Rakhigarhi, Haryana
  - (c) Kalibangan, Rajasthan
  - (d) Manda, Jammu and Kashmir region
9. Which of the following is the ancient Upanishad?
 

(a) Purusha Sukta	(b) Dharmashastras
(c) Brihadaranyaka	(d) Dharmasutra
10. .... claimed to be both a unique Brahmana (eka bamhana) and a destroyer of the pride of Kshatriyas.
  - (a) Raja Gotami-puta-Siri-Satakani
  - (b) Raja Vasithi-puta (sami-) Siri-Pulumayi
  - (c) Raja Gotami-puta sami-Siri-Yana- Satakani
  - (d) Raja Madhari-puta svami-Sakasena
11. The first ever capital of the Magadha empire was ..... .
 

(a) Pataliputra	(b) Vaishali
(c) Kosambi	(d) Rajagaha
12. Who among the following was the most powerful of all the Mahajanapdas?
 

(a) Magadha	(b) Koshala
(c) Avanti	(d) Matsya
13. In which of the following countries was 'Dipavamsa' written?
 

(a) Sri Lanka	(b) China
(c) Nepal	(d) India
14. Tirthankaras are those who guide men and women across the river of existence. Mahavira was preceded by
 

(a) 10th Tirthankara	(b) 20th Tirthankara
(c) 23rd Tirthankara	(d) 25th Tirthankara

15. Who among these wrote the biography of Shaikh Muinuddin Chishti, titled as Munis al Arwah?  
 (a) Shahjahan (b) Akbar  
 (c) Mumtaz (d) Jahanara
16. Which of these was a part of Chishti worship?  
 (a) Religious dance was performed  
 (b) Songs are considered as the best path  
 (c) Qawwali was sung  
 (d) All of the above
17. The domes over the gate of fortified settlement are regarded as typical features of the architecture introduced by the .....  
 (a) Greek rulers (b) Yavanas  
 (c) Turkish Sultans (d) Portuguese
18. Which of the following dynasties built Hiriya canal, one of the most prominent waterworks?  
 (a) Chera dynasty (b) Chola dynasty  
 (c) Sangama dynasty (d) Suluva dynasty
19. Which of these was the capital of Akbar in which dargah of Shaikh Salim Chishti was constructed?  
 (a) Lahore (b) Multan  
 (c) Delhi (d) Fatehpur Sikri
20. In Sufi tradition, the word 'Pir' means  
 (a) the Supreme God  
 (b) the greatest of all Sufi saints  
 (c) the orthodox teacher who contests the Sufi beliefs  
 (d) the Guru of the Sufis
21. "Lord Virupaksha," the guardian diety of kingdom was also recognised as a form of .....  
 (a) Shiva (b) Vishnu  
 (c) Brahma (d) Indra
22. Which of the following is correct about 'Mahanavamidibba'?  
 (a) Wooden craft of nine deities  
 (b) Big royal palace  
 (c) Platform where ritual ceremonies were performed  
 (d) Place where royal armies were kept
23. What was the balcony-like structure in a stupa called?  
 (a) Semicircular mound at earth, i.e. Anda  
 (b) Harmika that represents the abode of Gods  
 (c) A most called Yashti  
 (d) Chhatri which surmounts the constraction
24. Which of these Buddhist texts dealt with Buddha's teachings?  
 (a) Vinaya Pitaka (b) Sutta Pitaka  
 (c) Abhidhamma Pitaka (d) Tipitaka

## Section B

*This section contains 22 questions in total. Attempt any 18 questions.*

25. Identify the incorrect pair.

- (a) Mohenjodaro - First Indus Valley Civilisation site to be discovered
- (b) Lothal-Dockyard of Indus Valley Age
- (c) Harappa - situated on the banks of Ravi river
- (d) Mohenjodaro - Great Bath was found

26. Consider the following statements in reference to the inscriptions and spot the correct one(s).

- I. They are writings engraved on hard surfaces such as stone, metal or pottery.
- II. They usually record the achievements, activities or ideas of those who commissioned them and include the exploits of kings, or donations made by women and men to religious institutions.
- III. Inscriptions are virtually temporary records belonging to a certain date.

- (a) I and II
- (b) Only II
- (c) Only III
- (d) II and III

27. Which one of the following is incorrectly paired?

- (a) Meluhha-Land of seafarers
- (b) Dilmun-Island of Bahrain
- (c) Magan-A name for Oman
- (d) Dardistan - Desert adjacent to Thar (Rajasthan) in Pakistan

28. Match the following communities with their works.

A. Kumhar	1. Ironsmith
B. Suvarnakara	2. Hunters
C. Nishad	3. Potters
D. Karamakara	4. Goldsmith

**Codes**

- |             |             |             |             |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| A B C D     | A B C D     | A B C D     | A B C D     |
| (a) 3 4 2 1 | (b) 2 1 3 4 | (c) 4 2 1 3 | (d) 3 4 1 2 |

29. Identify the term from the following information.

- Written collection of letter by sufi master
- Addressed to the disciples and associates
- Shaikh's experience of religious truth

- (a) Tazkiras
- (b) Maktubat
- (c) Malfuzat
- (d) Vachanas

30. Consider the following statements about Ashoka's Dhamma:

- I. Its principles were simple and virtually universal.
- II. The principles were supposed to be emancipatory for this world as well as the next one.
- III. A special officer called Dhamma Mahamatta was appointed for the propagation of Dhamma.

Which of the above is/are incorrect?

- (a) I and III
- (b) I and II
- (c) I, II and III
- (d) None of these

31. Arrange the following Mahajanapadas according to their locations from East to West.

- |               |             |
|---------------|-------------|
| I. Anga       | II. Matsya  |
| III. Panchala | IV. Magadha |
| V. Koshala    |             |

**Codes**

- |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| (a) I, III, V, II, IV | (b) II, IV, V, III, I |
| (c) I, IV, V, III, II | (d) III, IV, V, II, I |

32. Match the following pairs.

Part-I	Part-II
A. Manda	1. Rajasthan
B. Rakhigarhi	2. Uttar Pradesh
C. Kalibangan	3. Haryana
D. Dholavira	4. Gujarat
	5. Jammu and Kashmir

**Codes**

- |             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| A B C D     | A B C D     |
| (a) 2 3 1 4 | (b) 2 3 5 4 |
| (c) 5 3 1 4 | (d) 2 5 1 3 |

33. Consider of the following features and identify the script.

- It is undeciphered.
- It is not alphabetical having 375 to 400 signs.
- It is written from right to left

- |                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| (a) Brahmi          | (b) Kharoshthi    |
| (c) Harappan script | (d) None of these |

34. Correct sequence of the following locations of the Ashokan edicts and inscriptions from North to South will be

- |                  |               |
|------------------|---------------|
| I. Shahbazgarhi  | II. Rummindei |
| III. Nigalisagar | IV. Sopara    |
| V. Girnar        |               |

- |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| (a) I, II, III, IV, V | (b) I, III, II, V, IV |
| (c) I, III, V, II, IV | (d) V, IV, III, II, I |

35. Two statements are given in the question below as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the appropriate option.

**Assertion (A)** Historians believed that everything that was laid in Sanskrit texts was actually practised.

**Reason (R)** Historians wanted to reconstruct the social history by using other texts written in different language also.

**Codes**

- |  |
|--|
| (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  |

36.



This is an image of Shiva as .....

- (a) Virupaksha (b) Brihadishvara  
(c) Nataraja (d) Kalvairav

37. Identify the social category of people from the information given below.

- Their task was to handle corpses and dead animals.
- They were placed at the very bottom of the hierarchy.
- They had to live outside the village, use discarded utensils, and wear clothes of the dead and ornaments of iron.
- They could not walk about in villages and cities at night.

- (a) Chandals (b) Kshatriyas (c) Brahmanas (d) None of these

38. Match the following

Group a	Group b
A. Kudirai Chettis	1. Military chiefs
B. Nayakas	2. King
C. Rayas	3. A major political innovation
D. Amar-Nayakas	4. Horse merchant

Codes

- |       |   |   |   |       |   |   |   |
|-------|---|---|---|-------|---|---|---|
| A     | B | C | D | A     | B | C | D |
| (a) 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | (b) 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| (c) 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | (d) 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 |

39. Consider the following statements in respect of the early Vedic tradition.

Which one is not correct?

- (a) The Rigveda, compiled between c.1500 and 1000 BCE.  
(b) The Rigveda consists of hymns in praise of a variety of deities, especially Agni, Indra and Soma.  
(c) At first, sacrifices were performed individually.  
(d) The Rajasuya and Ashvamedha were performed by chief's and kings.

- 40.** Two statements are given in the question below as Assertion (A) and Reason (R).  
Read the statements and choose the appropriate option.  
**Assertion (A)** Bhakti Saints adopted local languages to preach their ideas to the masses.  
**Reason (R)** Regional Vernacular languages could be understood by the common people. They stressed equality and to live a simple life  
**Codes**  
(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
- 41.** Which of the following is the basics of Sufi movement?  
I. A group of religious-minded people turned to asceticism and mysticism.  
II. The sufis sought on interpretation of the Quran through personal experiences.  
III. Some mystic men started movements on the basis of Sufi ideas and these mystics scarved.  
IV. They were known by different names like Qalandars, Malangs, Madaris, Haidaris, etc.  
Identify the correct options.  
(a) I, II and III                      (b) III, IV and I                      (c) All of these                      (d) None of these
- 42.** Which of the following statements is incorrect regarding the lively discussions and debates in the Buddhist texts?  
(a) Debates took place in the Kutagarashala.  
(b) Many of the teachers questioned the authority of the Vedas.  
(c) In these debates, the kings tried to convince one another as well as laypersons about the validity of their philosophy or the way they understood the world.  
(d) If a philosopher succeeded in convincing one of his rivals, the followers of the latter also became his disciples.
- 43.** Identify the name of the writing from the information given below.  
• It is a biography of a saint or religious leader.  
• It often praise the saint's achievements and may not always be literally accurate.  
• These writings tell us about the beliefs of the followers of that particular tradition.  
(a) Epigraphy    (b) Calligraphy  
(c) Hagiography    (d) Bibliography
- 44.** Consider the following statements with reference to the book 'Amuktamalyada'  
I. Presence of harbours to improve trade  
II. Marketing techniques by the king  
III. To help and make the best relations with foreign traders  
Which of the following statements are true?  
(a) I and II                      (b) II and III                      (c) I and III                      (d) All of these
- 45.** Which of the following statements are incorrect about Mirabai?  
I. Mirabai the best-known woman poet within the Sufi tradition.  
II. She was a Rajput princess from Merta in Mewar.  
III. According to some traditions, her preceptor was Raidas, a leather worker.

IV. Her songs continue to be sung by women and men, especially those who are poor and considered 'low caste' in Karnataka and Kerala.

**Codes**

- (a) I and II                      (b) I and IV                      (c) III and II                      (d) All of these

46. Which of the following statements below is the incorrect one considering the Vijayanagara Empire?
- (a) Outermost wall linked the hills surrounding the city  
(b) No mortar or cement was used to make walls  
(c) Presence of cultivated land, gardens and houses between the first, second and third walls  
(d) Fortification only encircled cities and royal buildings

## Section C

*This section contains 12 questions in total. Attempt any 10 questions.*

- I. Read the following excerpt carefully and answer the following questions.

### A Prayer To Agni

Here are two verses from the Rig Veda invoking Agni, the God of fire, often identified with the sacrificial fire, into which offerings were made so as to reach the other deities: 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 prays 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.

47. Vedic Sanskrit is considered to be important because
- (a) It was the language of common people  
(b) The Vedic verses were written in Sanskrit  
(c) Sanskrit was not spoken by Brahmins  
(d) Sanskrit was the major language of South India.
48. Why were sacrifices performed during the Vedic Period?
- (a) For the birth of daughters                      (b) For the birth of sons  
(c) For spiritual satisfaction                      (d) For seeking the blessings of Buddha
49. Two statements are given in the question below as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the appropriate 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
- Codes**
- (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



50. Consider the following statements :

- I. Rig Veda consists of hymns in praise of Agni, Indra, Soma etc
- II. Many of these hymns were chanted when sacrifices were performed.

Choose the correct option:

- (a) Only I is correct
- (b) Only II is correct.
- (c) Both I and II are correct.
- (d) Neither I nor II is correct

51. What are the main things to procure from a true prayer to God Agni?

- (a) Abundant food
- (b) Mighty wealth
- (c) Real knowledge
- (d) Both (a) and (b)

52. Vedic Sanskrit was taught orally to men belonging to

- (a) Royal families
- (b) Upper castes
- (c) Priestly families
- (d) All of these

II. Read the following text and answer the following questions:

The Harshacharita is a biography of Harshavardhana, the ruler of Kannauj, composed in Sanskrit by his court poet, Banabhatta (c. seventh century CE).

This is an excerpt from the text, an extremely rare representation of life in a settlement on the outskirts of a forest in the Vindhya:

The outskirts being for the most part forest, many parcels of rice-land, threshing ground and arable land were being apportioned by small farmers ... it was mainly spade culture ... owing to the difficulty of ploughing the sparsely scattered fields covered with grass, with their few clear spaces, their black soil stiff as black iron ... There were people moving along with bundles of bark ... countless sacks of plucked flowers, ... loads of flax and hemp bundles, quantities of honey, peacocks' tail feathers, wreaths of wax, logs, and grass.

Village wives hastened en route for neighbouring villages, all intent on thoughts of sale and bearing on their heads baskets filled with various gathered forest fruits.

53. The Harshacharita is a biography of Harshavardhana, the ruler who belongs to

- (a) Maurya dynasty
- (b) Pushyabhuti dynasty
- (c) Gupta dynasty
- (d) None of these

54. What was the ruling period of Harshavardhana?

- (a) c. 500-600 CE
- (b) c. 606-647 CE
- (c) c 647-692 CE
- (d) None of these

55. Consider the following statements in reference to the given passage.

- I. The description is an excerpt from an inscription written in praise of king Harshavardhana.
  - II. The central theme of the given passage is life on the edges of a village in Vindhya.
  - III. The above said inscription was composed by Banabhatta.
- Which of the above statements are incorrect?

- (a) I and II
- (b) II and III
- (c) I and III
- (d) All of these

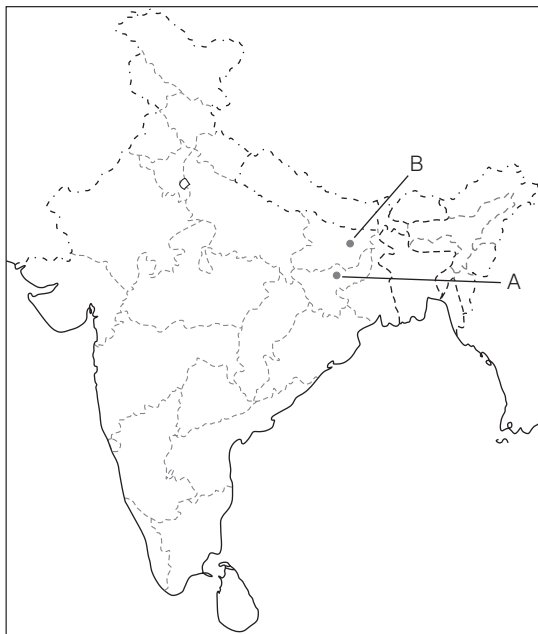
56. The outskirts of the forest in the Vindhya region has .....

- (a) laterite soil
- (b) black soil
- (c) alluvial soil
- (d) forest soil

57. What are the different forest products people collect from the forest of the Vindhyas?  
(a) Bark, flowers, wax, grass (b) Honey, logs  
(c) Flax, black soil, black iron (d) Both (a) and (b)
58. In the given passage, a certain reference to women has been made performing some activity of their day to day life. What is that particular activity?  
(a) Ploughing the fields  
(b) Walking towards other villages with luggages like barks, plucked flowers, flax and hemp, honey and so on  
(c) Going to other villages to sell forest fruits they have collected.  
(d) None of the above

## Section D

On the given outline map of India, identify the location with the help of specified information.



59. On the Indian map, 'A' is marked as the capital of Magadha. Identify it among the following options.  
(a) Indraprastha (b) Vaishali  
(c) Champa (d) Rajagaha
60. On the same map, 'B' is also marked as the most powerful Mahajanapada. Identify it from the following options.  
(a) Sopara (b) Magadha  
(c) Vajji (d) Anga

## Answers

1 (c)	2 (a)	3 (d)	4 (b)	5 (a)	6 (a)	7 (d)	8 (a)	9 (c)	10 (a)
11 (d)	12 (a)	13 (a)	14 (c)	15 (d)	16 (d)	17 (c)	18 (c)	19 (d)	20 (d)
21 (a)	22 (c)	23 (b)	24 (b)	25 (a)	26 (a)	27 (d)	28 (a)	29 (a)	30 (d)
31 (c)	32 (c)	33 (c)	34 (b)	35 (b)	36 (c)	37 (a)	38 (b)	39 (c)	40 (a)
41 (c)	42 (c)	43 (c)	44 (d)	45 (b)	46 (d)	47 (b)	48 (b)	49 (b)	50 (c)
51 (d)	52 (c)	53 (b)	54 (b)	55 (d)	56 (b)	57 (d)	58 (c)	59 (d)	60 (b)

## EXPLANATIONS

- (c) James Prinsep, an officer in the mint of the East India Company, deciphered Brahmi and Kharosthi, two scripts used in the earliest inscriptions and coins.
- (a) James Prinsep is credited with deciphering the Ashokan edicts.
- (d) Evidence of Millet consumption during Harappan culture are found from the sites in Gujarat. Grains found at Harappan sites include wheat, barley, lentil, chickpea and sesame.
- (b) Traces of canal irrigation have been found at the Harappan site of Shortughai in Afghanistan.
- (a) Most of the ruling dynasties followed patriliney (tracing descent from father to son, grandson and so on) system, although there were variations in practices.
- (a) Mahabharata was written in a variety of scripts in different parts of the country. These variations are clearly reflected through the dialogues between dominant tradition and local ideas of a particular region.
- (d) Mohenjodaro is the most well known site because the evidences yielded from the site of Mohenjodaro were found in preserved and better condition. On the other hand, the evidences found from the site of Harappa (the first site to be discovered) were more in damaged condition.
- (a) A water reservoir has been found from Dholavira (Gujarat) which may have also been used to store water for agriculture purposes.
- (c) The Brihadaranyaka Upanishad is the earliest or ancient Upanishad which contains a list of successive generations of teachers and students.
- (a) Raja Gotami-puta-Siri-Satakani claimed to both a unique Brahmana (eka bamhana) and a destroyer of the pride of Kshatriyas. Gotami-puta-Siri-Satakani is the best known ruler of the Satavahana dynasty. He did not allow the intermarriage amongst the four varnas.
- (d) Rajagaha (the Prakrit name for present day Rajgir in Bihar) was the first ever capital of Magadha empire. Rajagaha meant 'House of the king'. It was a fortified settlement, located amongst hills. Later, in the fourth century BCE, the capital was shifted to Pataliputra, present-day Patna, commanding routes of communication along the Ganga.
- (a) Magadha (in present-day Bihar) became the most powerful Mahajanapada between the sixth and the fourth centuries BCE. It was due its productive agro-based (Gangetic Valley region) and minerals based location (iron ore and other mines) along with favourable trade and transports followed by policies of the rulers.
- (a) In Sri Lanka, texts such as the Dipavamsa (literally, the chronicle of the island) and Mahavamsa (the great chronicle) were written. They contain regional histories of Buddhism. Many of these works contained biographies of the Buddha. Some of the oldest texts are in Pali, while later compositions are in Sanskrit.
- (c) Mahavira was preceded by 23rd Tirthankara. There are 24 Tirthankaras of Jainism. The first Tirthankara was Rishabhdev and the last one was Mahavira. According to the Jainism scriptures, the philosophy of Jainism was formalised by the last Tirthankara, i.e. Vardhaman Mahavira.

15. (d) 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 Chishti School in India. It has biographical, autobiographical and historical facts.
16. (d) Religious dance, song and qawwalis are a part of Chishti worship. Amir Khusrau gave a unique form to the Chishti Sama by introducing the *qaul*, a hymn sung at the opening or closing of qawwali. Qawwals at the shrine of Shaikh Nizam ud-din Auliya always started their recital with the *qaul*.
17. (c) The domes over the gate and the arch on the gateway which led to the fortified settlement were the architectural elements introduced by the Turkish Sultans. This kind of architecture was known as Indo-Islamic style of architecture.
18. (c) Hiriya canal was built by the Sangama dynasty. It was made to overcome the shortage of water in the city of Vijayanagara. This canal drew water from a dam across the Tungabhadra river and irrigated the cultivated valley that separated the 'sacred centre' from the 'urban core'.
19. (d) Fatehpur Sikri was Akbar's capital. The dargah of Shaikh Salim Chishti constructed in Fatehpur Sikri symbolised the bond between the Chishtis and the Mughal state.
20. (d) In sufi tradition, Pir or murshid means the Guru of the Sufis. The Sufis began to organise communities around the hospice or khanqah (Persian) controlled by a teaching master known as shaikh (in Arabic), pir or murshid. Pir enrolled disciples and appointed a successor (khalifa). He established rules for spiritual conduct and interaction between inmates as well as between laypersons and the master.
21. (a) Lord Virupaksha, the guardian deity of the kingdom was regarded as a form of Lord Shiva. The Vijayanagara kings claimed the rule on behalf of the God Virupaksha. The Virupaksha temple was built in Vijayanagara to honour the deity.
22. (c) 'Mahanavamidibba' was a platform where religious or ritual ceremonies were performed. It was a massive platform rising from a base of about 11,000 sq ft to a height of 40 ft. Here, rituals and ceremonies were held during the ninth day of the ten day Hindu festival during the autumn months of September and October. The platform had high walls all around it.
23. (b) Harmika that represents the abode of Gods, is a balcony-like structure in a stupa. A mast called the *yashti* arise from harmika. It has a small platform with a railing located at the very top of a stupa. Sometimes umbrellas were mounted in the harmika as a symbol of honour and respect.
24. (b) Sutta Pitaka explains Buddha's teaching elaborately. By giving some stories it explains Buddhist philosophy. Buddhist text Therigatha is a part of Sutta Pitaka. It is a collection of verses composed by bhikkhunis.
25. (a) The first site of the Indus Valley Civilisation to be discovered was Harappa (not Mohenjodaro) on the banks of Ravi river by Daya Ram Sahni in 1921. Mohenjodaro was discovered in 1922 by Rakhal Das Banerjee. Both the sites are presently in Pakistan .
26. (a) Statements I and II are correct. Statement III is not correct as inscriptions are virtually permanent records (not temporary) some of which carry dates.
27. (d) The desert to the West and North-West side of the Indian desert of Thar in Pakistan region is known as Cholistan not Dardistan.
28. (a) Kumhar community were potters, Suvarnakara community were goldsmiths, Nishad community were hunters and Karamakara community were ironsmiths.
29. (a) The given information is correct about Tazkiras. The fourteenth-century Siyar-ul-Auliya of Mir Khwurd Kirmani was the first sufi Tazkira written in India. The most famous Tazkira is the Akhbar-ul-Akhyar of Abdul Haqq Muhaddis Dehlavi.
30. (d) All of these statements I, II and III are correct according to Ashoka's Dhamma.
31. (c) The given Mahajanapadas according to their locations from East to West are Anga, Magadha, Koshala, Panchala and Masya.
32. (c) Manda, Rakhigarhi, Kalibangan and Dholavira are some mature Harappan sites in Jammu and Kashmir, Haryana, Rajasthan and Gujarat, respectively.
33. (c) The Harappan script remains undeciphered to date and is evidently not alphabetical as it has too many signs.
34. (b) The correct sequence of the given locations of the Ashokan edicts and inscriptions from North to South is Shahbazgarhi, Nigalisagar, Rummindei, Girnar and Sopara.

35. (b) Here, the two statements are correct but the second one does not justify the first statement. The reason that why did the historian believe in Sanskrit text is not explained here. The statement (R) suggests that historians tried to reconstruct the social history by, the help of other texts as well.
36. (c) It is a famous statue of Lord Shiva as Nataraja which is worshipped in many temples of South India.
37. (a) The given information is about Chandals.
38. (b) Kudirai Chettis were the horse merchants from whom the horses needed by the army were bought. Nayaks were the military chiefs, Rayas were the kings and the Amar Nayakas were a major political innovation of the Vijayanagara empire.
39. (c) Sacrifices were at first performed collectively (not individually). Sacrifice became the most significant part of the religion of the later Vedic period.
40. (a) Both the Assertion and Reason are true and Reason is the correct explanation of Assertion. Regional vernacular languages could be understood by the common people. Thus, Bhakti Saints adopted local languages to preach their ideas to the masses.
41. (c) All the statements are correct. Sufis are a group of religious minded people who turned to asceticism and mysticism in protest against the growing materialism of the Caliphate as a religious and political institution. The Sufis sought the interpretation of the Quran through personal experiences.
42. (c) In these debates teachers (not king) traveled from place to place, trying to convince one another as well as laypersons, about the validity of their philosophy or the way they understood the world.
43. (c) The given information is about Hagiography.
44. (d) All the statements are correct. Krishnadeva Raya wrote about all these facts (statements) in the book 'Amuktamalyada', a book on statecraft written in Telugu.
45. (b) Statements I and IV are incorrect. Mirabai is the best-known woman poet within the bhakti tradition (not Sufi tradition). Mirabai's songs continue to be sung by women and men, especially those who are poor and considered 'low caste' in Gujarat and Rajasthan (not in Karnataka and Kerala).
46. (d) Fortification of the Vijayanagara empire encircled the entire cities, royal buildings and the entire empire.
47. (b) Vedic hymns were created in Vedic Sanskrit. So, it is considered important.
48. (b) Sacrifices were performed during the vedic period for the birth of sons.
49. (a) A is correct and R is the correct reason. Agni was considered to be the messenger God, hence offerings were made to Agni.
50. (c) Both the statements I and II are correct.
51. (d) The main things to procure from a true prayer to God Agni are abundant food and mighty wealth.
52. (c) Vedic Sanskrit was taught orally to men belonging to priestly families.
53. (b) Harshavardhana was a ruler of Pushyabhuti dynasty.
54. (b) The ruling period of Harshavardhana was c. 647-692 CE.
55. (d) All these statements are true as these are clearly depicted in Harshacharita.
56. (b) From Harshacharita it is known that the outskirts of the forest in the Vindhya region consists of black soil which is very stiff like black iron. It is not good for agriculture.
57. (d) The different forest products people collected from the forest of the Vindhyas are bark, flowers, wax, grass, honey, logs and peacock's tail feathers.
58. (c) The specific reference to the women in the given passage is that village wives went to neighbouring villages, for selling fruits and bear the baskets filled with various gathered forest fruits on their heads.
- 59 & 60.

