



B.K. BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATION

SARALA BIRLA GROUP OF SCHOOLS
A CBSE DAY-CUM-BOYS' RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL

2nd PERIODIC TEST-NOVEMBER 2025

Painting (049)

Class: XI
Date: 10 / 11/ 2025
Admission no:

Time: 1hr.
Max Marks: 25
Roll no:

General Instructions:

- (i) The question paper has 12 questions in all.
- (ii) All questions are compulsory

Section-A

- Q1. In the Sculpture Mara Vijay cave no.26 Ajanta, Buddha has been shown seated in-? (1)
a. AbhayMudra b. Dhyana Mudra c. Dhamma Chakra d. **Dhyana and Bhumi**
- Q2. Name the most remarkable Sculpture composition of Mahabalipuram. (1)
a. Trimurti b. Lakshmi Narayana c. **Decent of Ganga** d. Cymbal Player
- Q3. The Sculpture Devi Uma of Chola period is representation of - ? (1)
a. **Wife of Shiva** b. Wife of Vishnu c. Wife of Raj-Raja first d. None of these
- Q4 Gol- Gumbaj is the Mausoleum of- (1)
a. **Muhammad Adil Shah** b. Sahajahan c. Qutub-ud-din Aibak d. Iltutmish
- Q5 Which stone use in Tajmahal architecture (1)
a. Tile stone b. Lime stone c. Bricks d. **Marble from Makrana stone**

Section-B

- Q 5. Describe the main theme of Ajanta paintings. (2)
The theme of Ajanta paintings mainly revolves around **Buddhism**. They depict scenes from the **Jataka tales**, which illustrate the previous lives of the Buddha, as well as events from the **life of Gautama Buddha**. The paintings also reflect themes of **compassion, love, sacrifice, and devotion**.
- Q 6. Describe the Trimurti sculpture. (2)
The **Trimurti sculpture** is a famous rock-cut relief in the **Elephanta Caves**, representing the **three forms of Lord Shiva Creator (Brahma), Protector (Vishnu), and Destroyer (Mahesh/Shiva)**. It shows three heads on one body, symbolizing the **cosmic functions** of creation, preservation, and destruction
- Q 7. Write the main characteristics of the bronze sculpture Devi Uma? (2)
The **Devi Uma** bronze sculpture is a fine example of **Chola art** from South India. Made using the **lost-wax technique**, it depicts the goddess **Parvati (Uma)**, consort of Shiva, in a graceful and elegant posture. The sculpture highlights **delicate features, rich ornaments**, and a sense of **divine femininity**.
- Q8.Explain the Indo-Islamic architecture? (2)

Section-C

Q10.Explain the compositional arrangement of the Taj Mahal.

(6)

The **Taj Mahal** is a fine example of **Mughal art and design**, known for its **perfect symmetry, balance, and aesthetic harmony**. The entire structure is made of **white marble**, which gives it a pure and glowing appearance. The central dome is bulb-shaped and well-proportioned, surrounded by four smaller domes that maintain visual balance. The floral designs, **pietra dura** (stone inlay work), and **calligraphy** of Quranic verses enhance the surface decoration. Geometric patterns and symmetry are maintained throughout, reflecting the **Islamic sense of order and beauty**. The contrast of white marble with red sandstone elements adds to its visual appeal. Overall, the Taj Mahal shows a perfect blend of **architectural planning, decorative art, and spiritual expression**, making it a masterpiece of Indian fine art.

Q11.Explain the composition of the panel ‘Descent of Ganga’.

(6)

The **‘Descent of the Ganga’** is a large rock-cut **bas-relief panel** located at **Mahabalipuram** in Tamil Nadu. It is a brilliant example of **Pallava art**, carved during the 7th century.

The composition is highly dynamic and lively, carved on two massive boulders. The panel shows a **mythological scene** from Hindu scriptures — either the **descent of River Ganga** to Earth or **Arjuna’s penance** to get the Pashupatastra.

The panel is **crowded with figures** — **gods, animals, sages, celestial beings**, and humans — all carved in **high and low relief**, creating a sense of movement and depth. The central cleft between the two boulders symbolizes the **river Ganga** flowing down from the heavens. A **figure in penance** (possibly Bhagiratha or Arjuna) stands on one leg, and above him are gods like **Shiva**, who receives the river.

There are **naturalistic animal figures** like **elephants, monkeys, deer**, and **nagas (serpent deities)**, showing a harmony between humans, nature, and the divine. The **composition is balanced**, yet dynamic, with figures placed in a natural and rhythmic arrangement, making the entire panel look alive.

This panel is a masterpiece of **narrative relief sculpture**, combining **mythology, symbolism**, and **natural observation**, all carved directly into stone with great skill and imagination.

*****ALL THE BEST*****