



B.K. BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATION

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



MID-APRIL TEST 2025-26

HISTORY 027

Marking Scheme

Class: XII

Date: 21.04.25

Admission no:

Time: 1hr

Max Marks: 25

Roll no:

SECTION-A

Q1. The Indus or Harappan Civilisation Is Distinguished from the Other Contemporary Civilisations by It's: 1

- A- Town planning B- underground drainage system
C- uniformity of weights and measures D- large agricultural surplus

Ans- A

Q2. The Harappans did not know the use of: 1

- A- Copper B- Bronze
C- Gold D- Iron

Ans- D

Q3. Which British officer deciphered Brahmi and Kharosthi? 1

- A.George Thomas B.Lord Macaulay
C.James Wilson D.James Prinsep

Ans- D.James Prinsep

Q4. Which of the following statements is incorrect regarding 'Gahapati'? 1

- A.They belong to the urban elite
B.They are the owner of resources-land, animal and other things
C.They are the owner, master or head of the household
D.They are the officials of the king.

Ans- D.They are the officials of the king.

Q5. Assertion (A): The Harappan culture is named after the first site where this culture was discovered. 1

Reason (R): Alexander Cunningham announced the discovery of this culture to the world in 1924.

Options:

- A. Both A and R are correct and R is the correct explanation of A.
B. Both A and R are correct but R is not the correct explanation of A.
C. A is correct but R is wrong.
D. A is wrong but R is correct.

Ans. Option C is correct.

Q6. 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.

Options:

- A. Both A and R are correct and R is the correct explanation of A.
B. Both A and R are correct but R is not the correct explanation of A.
C. A is correct but R is wrong.
D. A is wrong but R is correct.

Ans. Option A is correct.

SECTION-B

Q7. Explain two factors that contributed to the collapse of the mature Harappan Civilization around 1800 BCE. 2

1. Climatic change
2. Deforestation
3. Excessive floods
4. Shifting and drying up of rivers
5. Overuse of the landscape

Q8. What was the drainage system of the Harappans? 2

Ans- i. The drains were made of mortar, lime and gypsum.

ii. They were covered with big bricks and stones which could be lifted easily to clean the drains.

iii. Smaller drains from houses on both the sides of the streets came and joined a brick laid main channel.

Q9. State any two features of the Mahajanapadas. 2

Ans- i. Maximum Mahajanapadas ruled by kings but some ruled by Ganas or Sanghas.

ii. Each had its own capital often fortified.

iii. Permanent army recruited from the peasantry regular bureaucracies.

Q10. Mention any two features of the administrative system of the Mauryan Empire. 2

Answer: i. There were five major political centres in the empire viz, Pataliputra, Taxila, Ujjayini, Tosali and Suvamagiri.

ii. The administrative control was strongest in areas around the capital and the provincial centres and these centres were carefully chosen by the kings.

SECTION-C

Q11. List some of the problems faced by epigraphists. 3

Ans: i. Sometimes, the letters of inscriptions are very faintly engraved.

ii. Sometimes, the inscriptions may be damaged or letters missing.

iii. On certain occasions it is not easy to be sure about the exact meaning of the words used in the inscriptions.

iv. Many more inscriptions must have existed, which have not survived.

Q12. "The archaeological records provide no immediate answer to the Harappan central authority".

Analyse different views given on the same. 3

Answer: i. Some archaeologists opine that Harappan society had no rulers and that everybody enjoyed equal status.

ii. Other scholars have the opinion that there was no single ruler but several. Mohenjodaro had a separate ruler, Harappans had another. In the same way, other regions had different rulers.

iii. Some scholars also argued that there was a single state given the similarity in artefacts, the evidence for planned settlements, the standardised ratio of brick size and the establishments near source of raw material.

iv. The last theory seems to be the most plausible.

SECTION-D

Q13. Describe the distinctive features of the domestic architecture of Mohenjo-Daro. 5

Answer: 1) Houses had a courtyard and with rooms all around.

2) It was used for weaving and cooking during hot and dry season.

3) The most important feature was the apparent concern for the privacy.

4. There are no windows along the walls of ground level.

5) Every house had its own bathroom.

6) Many houses had wells often in a room that could be reached by passerby.