



BK BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATION
SARALA BIRLA GROUP OF SCHOOLS
SENIOR SECONDARY CO-ED DAY CUM BOYS' RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL
MID-TERM EXAMINATION 2023-24
HISTORY (027)



CLASS: XII

Duration: 3 Hrs.

Admission No: -----

ANSWER KEY

DATE: 13/10/2023

Max. Marks: 80

Roll No: -----

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. Answer 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 few questions. Only one of the choices in such questions have to be attempted.

SECTION-A

- Q1. Which Was The First Excavated Site Of Harappan Civilization: 1
- (a) Mohenjodaro
(b) Rakhigarhi
(c) Harappa
(d) Lothal
Ans- (c) Harappa
- Q2. It Was Involved In The Crafts: 1
- (a) Making beads
(b) Making seals
(c) Cutting seashells
(d) All the above
Ans- (d) All the above
- Q3. What Was Easily Available In Balakot And Nageshwar? 1
- (a) Sea shells
(b) Beads
(c) Seals
(d) None of the above
Ans- (a) Sea shells
- Q4. Xuan Zang visited Patliputra in ___ century CE. 1
- (a) 6th

- (b) 7th
- (c) 4th
- (d) 8th

Answer- (b) 7th

Q5. Kushanas were _____?

1

- (a) Nomadic people living in North India
- (b) Nomadic people living in Mongolia
- (c) Nomadic people living in China
- (d) Nomadic people living in south India

Answer- (c) Nomadic people living in China

Q6. 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) Both B and C

Answer- (d) Both B and C

Q7. Marriage within a unit, a kins group, caste or a group living in the same locality is called-

1

- (a) Endogamy
- (b) Exogamy
- (c) Polygyny
- (d) Polyandry

Answer- (a) Endogamy

Q8. Consider the following statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and other labelled as Reason (R).

Read the statements and choose the appropriate option.

1

Assertion (A): Women were expected to give up their father's gotra and take up the husbands's gotra after marriage.

Reasoning (R): Women who married Satavahana rulers retained their father's gotra instead of adopting names derived from their husband's gotra name.

- (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 and R is not correct.
- (d) R is correct but A is not correct.

Answer- (b) Both A and R are correct but R is not the correct explanation of A.

Q9. Which of the following statements is incorrect about the duties as laid down in Manusmriti for the Chandalas?

1

- (a) They had to live on the outskirts of the village
- (b) They had to use discarded utensils
- (c) They were supposed to wear old clothes of the villagers and ornaments made from shells
- (d) It was their duty to serve as executioner and dispose of the bodies of those who had no relatives

Answer- (c) They were supposed to wear old clothes of the villagers and ornaments made from shells

Q10. New tradition of Buddhism was called as _____.

1

- (a) Shwetambar
- (b) Digambar
- (c) Hinayana
- (d) Mahayana

Answer: (d) Mahayana

Q11. Consider the following statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and other labelled as Reason (R).

Read the statements and choose the appropriate option.

1

Assertion (A): The Alvars and Nayanars initiated a movement to protest against the caste system.

Reasoning (R): The major anthologies of compositions by the Alvars, the Nalayira prabandham was frequently described as the Rig Veda, thus claiming that the text was as significant as the four Vedas in Sanskrit it was cherished by the Brahmanas.

- (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 and R is not correct.
- (d) R is correct but A is not correct.

Answer- (c) A is correct and R is not correct.

Q12. Consider the following statements:

1

1. Jainism was started by Rishabhdev
2. Lord Mahavira was 24th Tirthankar of Jainism
3. Teachings of Jainism are given in Angar
4. Jainism started Sanghas to spread its message

Which of the given statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1, 2, 3, 4
- (b) 1, 2, 3
- (c) 2, 3, 4
- (d) 1, 3, 4

Answer: (b) 1, 2, 3

Q13. Who wrote 'Travels in the Mughal Empire'?

1

- (a) Francois Bernier
- (b) John Marshall
- (c) Callin McKenzie
- (d) James Princep

Answer- (a) Francois Bernier

Q14. Choose the correct option:

1

- (a) Al-Biruni was greatly influenced by the Indian postal system
- (b) Al-Biruni found the Indian cities quite populated
- (c) According to Ibu-Batuta, crown ownership of land was quite disasterous for farmers
- (d) Ibn-Batuta travelled extensively in Tibet

Answer- c. According to Ibu-Batuta, crown ownership of land was quite disasterous for farmers.

Q15. Indicate which of the following statements is NOT correct.

1

- (a) Al-Beruni came to India in the eleventh century from Uzbekistan
- (b) Ibn Batuta came to India in the fourteenth century from Morocco
- (c) Abdur Razzaq came to India in the fifteenth century from Herat.
- (d) Francois Bernier came to India in the seventeenth century from Portugal

Answer- Francois Bernier came to India in the seventeenth century from Portugal

Q16. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R).

Read the statements and choose the appropriate option.

1

Assertion (A): Lingayats did not practice funerary rites such as cremation, prescribed in the Dharmashastras.

Reason (R): Lingayats believe that on death the devotee will be united with Shiva and will not return to this world.

- (a) Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- (b) Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
- (c) (A) is correct but (R) is not correct.
- (d) (R) is correct but (A) is not correct.

Answer: (a) Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

Q17. Consider the following statements regarding Kabir. 1

(I) Kabir organised his followers into a community and set up rules for congregational worship.

(II) Kabir described the Ultimate Reality using terms drawn from Islam, Vedantic traditions and from yogic traditions.

(III) Verses ascribed to Kabir have been compiled in three distinct but overlapping traditions.

Which of the following statements is/are incorrect?

(a) I and II

(b) II and III

(c) III only

(d) I only

Answer: (d) I only

Q18. Which of the following statements is NOT correct about Baba Guru Nanak? 1

(a) Guru Nanak advocated a form of nirguna bhakti.

(b) Baba Guru Nanak organised his followers into a community.

(c) He rejected sacrifices, ritual baths, image worship, austerities, and the scriptures of both Hindus and Muslims.

(d) Guru Nanak appointed one of his disciples, Arjan, to succeed him as the preceptor (guru).

Answer: (d) Guru Nanak appointed one of his disciples, Arjan, to succeed him as the preceptor (guru).

Q19. Which of the following statements is correct regarding Mahanavami Dibba? 1

(a) It was a high platform with slots for wooden pillars at a dose and regular intervals.

(b) It was a massive platform located on one of the highest points in the city.

(c) It was a place where the king met his advisers.

(d) All of the above

Answer- (b) It was a massive platform located on one of the highest points in the city.

Q20. Which of the following statements is correct regarding the Amara-nayaka system? 1

(a) The Amara-nayakas were traders.

(b) Main features of this system were derived from the mansabdari system.

(c) Kings had no control over the Amara- nayakas.

(d) The Amara-nayakas were military commanders who were given territories to govern by the Raya.

Answer- (d) The Amara-nayakas were military commanders who were given territories to govern by the Raya.

Q21. Who was the founder of the Vijayanagar empire? 1

a) Krishnadeva Raya

b) Vira Narasimha

c) Harihara I and Bukka

d) Rama Raya

Answer- c) Harihara I and Bukka

SECTION-B

Q22. "Burials is a better source to trace social differences prevalent in the Harappan civilization".

Discuss. 3

Answer- 1. Studying burials is a strategy to find out social differences.

2. At burials in Harappan sites the dead were generally laid in pits.

3. Sometimes, there were differences in the way the burial pit was made – in some instances; the hollowed-out spaces were lined with bricks.

4. Some graves contain pottery and ornaments, perhaps indicating a belief that these could be used in the afterlife.
5. Jewellery has been found in burials of both men and women.

OR

Would you agree that the drainage system in Harappan cities indicates town planning? Give reasons for your answer.

Answer- One of the most amazing features of the Harappan civilisation was the drainage system of their cities.

Some of its features are:

1. The streets and towns in the cities were laid out in a grid pattern intersecting at the right angles.
2. The streets had proper drains at regular intervals having a fixed pattern.
3. Every house was connected with the drainage system for the carrying of the waste to the disposal centre.

Q23. Explain the factors responsible for the rise of Magadha.

3

Answer- 1. Powerful rulers- Bimbisara and Ajatasattu

2. Availability of iron.
3. Fertile soil
4. Availability of elephants in forest.
5. Strong capital – Rajgir and Pataliputra

Q24. The Mahabharata is a good source to study the social value of ancient times. Prove it.

3

Answer- 1. Emphasized patriliney succession.

2. It tells the relation between the caste and the occupation.
3. Vivid description of the caste system and interrelation.
4. Provides evidence to patriarchal society.
5. Different types of marriage were practised.

Q25. Summarise the central teachings of Jainism.

3

Answer- 1. The entire world is animated – even stones, rocks and water have life.

2. They believe in non-injury to living beings.
3. The cycle of birth and rebirth is shaped through karma.
4. Asceticism and penance are required to be free from the cycle of karma.
5. Jaina monks and nuns take five vows.

Q26. . What were the “barriers” discussed by Al-Biruni that obstructed him in understanding India?

3

Ans. Following were the barriers he faced in understanding India –

1. Problems of Language – According to him, Sanskrit was so different from Arabic and Persian that ideas and concept could not be easily translated from one language.
2. Difference of religion beliefs and practices – He was Muslim and his religious beliefs and practices were quite different from India.
3. Self-absorption and insularity of the local population – According to him the third barrier was the isolation policy of the Indians.

OR

What were the elements of the practice of Sati that drew the attention of Bernier?

Ans. Bernier used the example of practice of Sati to show the difference in the way women is treated in the Eastern and Western society:

1. In this practice a woman whose husband has died was made to sit on the holy pyre of her husband.
2. The people who witnessed all these events showed no mercy for the women.
3. All these events took place without the concern of the women.

Q27. Discuss the major beliefs and practices that characterised Sufism.

3

Ans. 1. Sufis turned to asceticism and mysticism in protest against the growing materialism.

2. They regarded Prophet Muhammad as a perfect human being.
3. Sufis organised communities around the khanqah controlled by a shaikh.
4. The Sufi saints were away from the political powers.
5. The Sultans used to set up charitable trusts as grants for the hospices.

SECTION-C

Q28. Explain the importance of the Royal Centre in Vijayanagara with a special focus on its important structures. 8

Answer- 1. The Royal Centre existed in the south-western part of the Vijayanagara.

2. It had more than sixty temples.
3. This Royal Centre had about thirty palaces.
4. Many buildings had large and distinctive structures.

The main complexes of the royal centre were as follows:

- a. The Kings's Palace: It is the largest complex of the royal centre. There is no definite evidence to show that it was a royal residence. It had two very impressive platforms. They were called as the Audience Hall and the Mahanavami Dibba.
- b. The Audience Hall: It was a high platform having wooden pillars at close and regular intervals. However it is not clear for what purpose was the hall used.
- c. The Mahanavami Dibba:
 - I. It was a massive platform having a base of about 11000 sq. ft.
 - II. It has a height of forty feet.
 - III. The base of the platform was covered with relief carvings.
 - IV. The ceremonies performed on this occasion included:
 - * Worship of the image
 - * Worship of the State horse
 - * The sacrifice of buffaloes and other animals.

OR

Q. Describe the contribution of Krishnadeva Raya the greatest King of the Vijayanagara.

Answer- His period is characterized by expansion and consolidation. Broad tolerance prevailed in his empire.

1. After a series of battles Vijayanagara emerged as a strongest military power.
2. Preach and Prosperity.
3. Efficient administration under his sway.
4. Productive agriculture.
5. Flourished inland coastal and overseas trade.
6. He was a great builder.
7. He was a scholar of Telugu and patron of Telugu, Kannada and Tamil poets.
8. He was a man of justice.

Q29. Discuss the main features of Mauryan administration. 8

Ans. (i) Central administration- King had control over legislative, executive, judiciary, army and finance.

(ii) Provincial administration- The Empire was divided in too many provinces.

(iii) Local Government- There was a committee of 30 members to maintain rules and regulations in Pataliputra.

(iv) King used to run the administration with the help of 30 officials.

(v) Five major political centre in the empire.

(vi) Law and order system setup.

(vii) Organised army- a committee with six sub-committee for coordinating military activity.

(viii) To spread Dhamma, appointment of Dhamma Mahamattra.

OR

Q. This is a statement made by one of the best-known epigraphists of the twentieth century, D.C. Sircar: "There is no aspect of life, culture and activities of the Indians that is not reflected in inscriptions." Discuss.

Answer. 1. Inscriptions are a great source of information for understanding the different aspects of the life of the Mauryans.

2. They are historically important as they act as a source of information about the social and political situation in those times.

3. They generally gave information about the achievements of the Kings.

4. These were generally written by men under the service of the Kings.

5. The inscriptions also gave information about the religious donations made by the Kings and princes.

6. Some of the earliest inscriptions were generally written in the Prakrit.

7. Some of the inscriptions also mentioned the date of their commission.

8. In other cases the actual dates of the inscriptions can be determined by several techniques.

Q30. How was the fate of Amaravati stupa different from the Sanchi stupa? Explain. 8

1. The word Stupa means a mound. It is a Buddhist religious building containing the relics of Buddha and his disciples

2. The stupa at Amaravati was one of the largest and the most significant among the Buddhist stupas.

3. The stupa at Sanchi survived while Amaravati did not.

4. It is said that the stupa at Amaravati was discovered sometime earlier than the Sanchi.

5. Perhaps, the scholars were not aware of the significance of preserving the archaeological remains at the site where they were originally found.

6. The Sanchi stupa was discovered in the year 1818. At that time, three of its four gateways were still standing, the fourth was lying on the spot and the mound was in good condition.

7. But from the Amaravati, several pieces of sculptures were already used by the British administration in London to decorate the gardens.

8. There was an insignificant little mound and was totally denuded of its former glory.

OR

Q. Discuss how and why stupas were built.

Ans. 1. The word stupa is originated from the Sanskrit word "Heap."

2. The initial structure of the Stupas was in the shape of semi-circular mound of earth which came to be known as anda.

3. Later this simple structure of the stupa evolved and become complex which balances round and square structures.

4. Above the structure of anda was another structure known as harmika.

5. Harmika was a structure in the shape of the balcony that became the symbol of representation of the abode of God.

6. From the Harmika, a mast like structure arises which came to be known as the yashti.

7. The yashti was surrounded by a chhatri or umbrella.

8. There was also the presence of railing around the mound.

9. The major purpose of the construction of the Stupas was to put the relics of the Buddha and other Buddhist monks.

SECTION-D

Q31. Read the source given below and answer the questions that follows.

Draupadi's Marriage

Drupada, the king of Panchala, organised a competition where the challenge was to string a bow and hit a target; the winner would be chosen to marry his daughter Draupadi. Arjuna was victorious and was garlanded by Draupadi.

The Pandavas returned with her to their mother Kunti, who, even before she saw them, asked them to share whatever they had got. She realised her mistake when she saw Draupadi, but her command could not be violated. After much deliberation, Yudhishthira decided that Draupadi would be their common wife. When Drupada was told about this, he protested. However, the Seer Vyasa arrived and told him that the Pandavas were in reality incarnations of Indra, whose wife had been reborn as Draupadi and they were thus destined for each other. Vyasa added that in another instance a young woman had prayed to Shiva for a husband, and in her enthusiasm, had prayed five times instead of once. This woman was now reborn as Draupadi and Shiva had fulfilled her prayers. Convinced by these stories, Drupada consented to the marriage.

- 31.1. How does this story reveal that mother was considered as the highest guru? 1
31.2. Why did Kunti not save Draupadi from the dire situation? 1
31.3. Why did Drupada and Seer Vyasa agree Draupadi's strange marriage with five men? 2

Answer:

1. After marriage of Arjuna with Draupadi, the Pandavas returned with her to their mother Kunti, Before seeing her, Kunti asked them to share whatever they had got. Kunti's command could not be violated. So, the Pandavas married Draupadi and she became their common wife. This story reveals that mother was considered as the highest guru.
2. Kunti was considered as the highest guru by her sons. The command of the highest guru could not be violated. Although, Kunti realised her mistake but she did not save Draupadi from the dire situation.
3. The Seer Vyasa told Drupada that the Pandavas were in reality incarnation of Indra, whose wife has been reborn as Draupadi. So, they were destined to each other. Further, Vyasa said that according to other version, a young woman had prayed to Shiva for a husband five times. Shiva fulfilled her wish and the woman was reborn as Draupadi. Hearing this, Draupada agreed to Draupadi's strange marriage with five men.

Q32. Read the source given below and answer the questions that follows.

ON HORSE AND ON FOOT

This is how Ibn Battuta described the postal system:

In India the postal system is of two kinds: The horse -post called 'Uluq' is run by royal horses stationed at distance of every four miles. The footpost has three stations permit. It is called 'dawa', that is, one third of a mile Now, at every third of a mile there is well populated village, outside which are three pavilions in which sit men with girded loins ready to start. Each of them carries a rod, two cubits in length with copper bells at the top. When the courier starts from the city, he holds the letter in one hand and the rod with its bells on the other; and he runs as fast as he can. When the men in the pavilion hear the ringing of bell they get ready. As soon as the courier reaches them one of them takes the letter from his and runs at the top speed shaking the rod all the while until he reaches the next dawa. And the same process continues till the letter reaches its destination. This foot-person is quicker than the horse-post; and often it is used to transport the fruit of Khurasan which are much desired in India.

- 32.1. Name the two kinds of postal System. 1
Ans1. There were two kinds of postal system – the horse postal system and the postal system on foot.
32.2. Explain how the foot post worked. 2

Ans2. In the postal service on foot, there were three stages. They were called the Dawa. It was one third part of a mile. There was a village with dense population at a distance of every three mile. There were three centres outside it. The people used to sit in these centres to start their work. Each one of them had a

long rod having copper bells at its top. Whenever a messenger started his journey, he held the letter in one hand and this rod with copper bells in the other hand. He would run very fast. The people sitting in the camps at once got ready when they heard the sound of the bell. As soon as the messenger reached the camp, one of the people would take the letter and run away at full speed shaking the rod. This process continued till the letter reached its destination.

32.3. Why does Ibn-Battua think that the postal system in India was efficient? 1

Ans3. Ibn-Battua thinks that the postal system in India was efficient because it delivered the information to the destination in less time.

Q33. Read the source given below and answer the questions that follows.

The One Lord:

Here is a composition attributed to Kabir:

Tell me, brother, how can there be no one lord of the world but two?

Who led you so astray?

One Lord

Here is a composition attributed to Kabir:

Tell me, brother, how can there be

No one lord of the world but two?

Who led you so astray?

God is called by many names:

Names like Allah, Ram, Karim,

Keshav, Hari, and Hazrat.

Gold may be shaped into rings and bangles.

Isn't it gold all the same?

Distinctions are only words we invent ...

Kabir says they are both mistaken.

Neither can find the only Ram.

One kills the goat, the other cows.

They waste their lives in disputation

33.1 Name any two scriptures, in which verses, ascribed to Kabir, have been compiled. 1

Answer:1. The two scriptures in which verses of Kabir are found are:

(a) Kabir Bijak (b) Kabir Granthavali

33.2 How did Kabir describe the 'Ultimate Reality'? 2

Answer-2. Kabir described the 'Ultimate Reality' from Islam, as Allah, Khuda, Hazrat and from the vedantic traditions, as Alakh, Nirakar, Brahma, Atman were also taken.

33.3 Do you agree with Kabir? Give your own views. 1

Answer-3. Yes, I agree with Kabir's view. The God is only one in spite of having several names.

SECTION-E

Q34. On the given political outline map of india Locate & Label the following. 5

a. Kotdiji

b. Rakhigadi

c. Nageshwar

d. Harappa

e. Dholavira

