



B K BIRLA CENTRE
FOR EDUCATION
(Saraswati Birla Group of Schools)

CLASS: XI

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)



INDIAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS'
CONFERENCE

CLASS: XI

Duration: 3 Hrs.

Admission No: -----

ANSWER KEY

DATE: 9/10/2023

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. With which person, the first event of Sumerian trade is associated? 1
- (a) The ancient ruler of Uruk City, Enmerkar
(b) The ancient ruler of Lebanon City, Enmerkar
(c) The ancient ruler of Nile City, Enmerkar
(d) The ancient ruler of Aral City, Enmerkar
Answer:1 (a) The ancient ruler of Uruk City, Enmerkar
- Q2. Inanna was the Goddess of 1
- (a) The Moon
(b) Love and War
(c) Wind
(d) Fire
Answer:2 (b) love and War
- Q3. The earliest temples in Southern Mesopotamia were built-in 1
- (a) C.4000 BCE
(b) C.5000 BCE
(c) C.6000 BCE
(d) C.7000 BCE
Answer3. (b) C.5000 BCE

- Q4. Mesopotamian weapons were made up of metal (_____). 1
(a) Bronze
(b) Iron
(c) Copper
(d) Iron
Answer4. (a) Bronze
- Q5. Why leaders encouraged the settlement of villagers close to themselves? 1
(a) For food
(b) For water
(c) To be able to rapidly get an army together
(d) To be able to make boat together
Answer5. (c) To be able to rapidly get an army together
- Q6. Augustus, the first Roman Emperor was called the leading citizen whose Latin term is 1
(a) Basileus
(b) Dominus
(c) Princeps
(d) Res gestae
Answer6. (c) Princeps
- Q7. Saint Augustine was bishop of the North African city of 1
(a) Annaba
(b) Algeria
(c) Hippo
(d) Numidia
Answer7. (c) Hippo
- Q8. The emperor who made Christianity the official religion in the Roman Empire was 1
(a) Alexander
(b) Augustus
(c) Constantine
(d) Nero
Answer8: (c) Constantine
- Q9. Which of the following regions was NOT part of the Roman Empire? 1
a) Gaul (modern-day France)
b) Hispania (modern-day Spain)
c) Britannia (modern-day United Kingdom)
d) Germania (modern-day Germany)
Answer9. d) Germania (modern-day Germany)
- Q10. The nomadic people from the Asian steppe who invaded and contributed to the fall of the Roman Empire were the: 1
a) Vandals
b) Huns
c) Visigoths
d) Moors
Answer10. b) Huns

- Q11. Who was bestowed upon the title of Holy Roman emperor in 800 CE? 1
(a) Charlemagne
(b) Clovis
(c) Napoleon Franks
(d) Jame XIV
Answer11: (a) Charlemagne
- Q12. 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 medieval period was called the Dark Era.
Reasoning (R): The medieval era was plagued with the rule of feudalism.
(a) Both assertion and reason are true and the reason is the correct explanation for the assertion.
(b) Both assertion and reason are true but the reason is not the correct explanation for the assertion.
(c) Assertion is true but Reason is false.
(d) Assertion is false but Reason is true.
Answer12: (a) Both assertion and reason are true and the reason is the correct explanation for the assertion.
- Q13. Guilds were 1
(a) Trading units
(b) Group of weavers
(c) Group of crafts persons
(d) Group of architects
Answer13: (a) Trading units
- Q14. We see the rise of absolute monarchy in Europe in the 1
(a) 15th & 16th centuries
(b) 13th & 14th centuries
(c) 12th & 13th centuries
(d) 16th & 17th centuries
Answer14. (a) 15th & 16th centuries
- Q15. Marc Bloch emphasised the importance of ----- in shaping human history. 1
(a) History
(b) Politics
(c) Geography
(d) Language
Answer15. (c) Geography
- Q16. Social organisation centred on the ----- . 1
(a) Control of land
(b) Control of Power
(c) Control of Trade
(d) Control of Gold
Answer16. (a) Control of land
- Q17. Who was regarded as Father of Humanism? 1
(a) Francesco Robert
(b) Francesco Petrarch
(c) Joseph Conard
(d) Cicero
Answer17. (b) Francesco Petrarch.
- Q18. Who wrote the famous debate “On the Dignity of Man”? 1
(a) Francesco Petrarch

- (b) Mirandala
- (c) Vinci
- (d) Galileo

Answer18. (b) Mirandala.

Q19. The term Renaissance Man' used to describe a person who.....

1

- (a) Has many interests
- (b) Has no interest in development
- (c) Has many interests and skills
- (d) Has technical knowledge

Answer19. (c) Has many interests and skills.

Q20. Ptolemy's Almagest was work on _____.

1

- (a) Mathematics
- (b) Astronomy
- (c) Philosophy
- (d) Sociology

Answer20. (b) Astronomy

Q21. 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 universities of Padua and Bologna could become centres of legal studies from the eleventh century.

Reasoning (R): These urban centres were not influenced by Church.

- (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.

Answer21. (b) Both A and R are correct but R is not the correct explanation of A.

SECTION-B

Q22. What are geographic features of Mesopotamia?

3

Answer.22

1. Mesopotamia is a land of diverse environments. In the north-east lie green, undulating plains, gradually rising to tree-covered mountain ranges with clear streams and wild flowers, with enough rainfall to grow crops.
2. In the north, there is a stretch of upland called a steppe, where animal herding offers people a better livelihood than agriculture – after the winter rains, sheep and goats feed on the grasses and low shrubs that grow here.
3. In the east, tributaries of the Tigris provide routes of communication into the mountains of Iran.
4. The south is a desert – and this is where the first cities and writing emerged. This desert could support cities because the rivers Euphrates and Tigris, which rise in the northern mountains, carry loads of silt. When they flood or when their water is let out on to the fields, fertile silt is deposited.
5. Not only agriculture, Mesopotamian sheep and goats that grazed on the steppe, the north-eastern plains and the mountain slopes produced meat, milk and wool in abundance. Further, fish was available in rivers and date-palms gave fruit in summer.

OR

Why would the early temple have been much like a house?

Answer:

- i. Early settlers began to build temples at selected spots in their villages.

- ii. The earliest known temple was a small shrine made of unbaked bricks.
- iii. These early temples were much like a house because they were small in size.
- iii. There used to be an open courtyard around which rooms were constructed.
- iv. Temples were the residence of various gods.
- v. Temples also had their outer wall going in and out at regular intervals, which no ordinary building ever had.

Q23. What were the major reasons for the collapse of Rome?

3

Answer23.

1. The old-fashioned, traditional explanation for the fall of Rome points out the mass migration as the biggest reason for the collapse of Rome.
2. Rome had always had its fair share of bad emperors.
3. They began to get more and more civilized. Civilized people were not as good warriors on the battlefields as barbarians.
4. Another important reason is perhaps that of Roman unity. The early Romans who built the empire stood united. By the end of course Rome had two capitals, Rome and Constantinople, each with its own emperor.
5. And then there was the plague. Deadly disease killed vast numbers among the population of the empire.

Q24. Write any three advantages and disadvantages of feudal system.

3

Answer24:

Advantages of Feudal System :

- (i) It helped in establishing law and order.
- (ii) It set up an efficient administration.
- (iii) It checked the powers of the absolute monarch.

Disadvantages of the feudal system:

- (i) It weakened the monarchical system.
- (ii) It encouraged the wars.
- (iii) It hampered the process of national unity and integration.

Q25. What was protestant reformation? What were the reasons for its emergence?

3

Answer25:

The Reformation Movement was a movement launched by Martin Luther against the prevailing wrong practices in the Roman Church. Supporters of this movement abolished corrupt practices and tried to establish an improved practice.

- (i) In the medieval age, the Roman Catholic Church enjoyed abundant powers, several evils had crept into it.
- ii. The Renaissance created a common sense and rationality. Now people were losing their faith in the Church.
- (iii) The Pope enjoyed absolute powers. The Church officials were free from state laws.
- (iv) Kings' wanted to put a check on the Pope's international rights. So the kings accelerated the Reformation Movement.
- (v) The clergymen were involved in immoral practices. So people's faith in the Church was minimised.

Q26. The Europeans in the Middle Ages believed that the earth was the centre of the universe. What were the changes that the Renaissance scientists brought about in this view? Mention the names of two scientists in this connection.

3

Answer26:

- (i) Copernicus and Galileo contributed tremendously in the field of astronomy by inventing new tools and implements to verify astronomical events.
- (ii) Galileo was the first to develop the first telescope to watch the stars.
- (iii) Copernicus was the first to declare that Earth is not flat and is not the centre of universe and it revolves

around the sun.

(iv) Later on German scientist Kepler searched out other members of 'solar system'.

Q27. Define the concept of Humanism.

3

Answer27:

1. It is a philosophy of life.
2. It stressed the importance of man and his sentiments rather than the religious matters.
3. During the Renaissance period the influence of Humanism was much evident in art, science and literature.
4. The exponents of Humanism believed that the worldly problems of man should be solved first and then man should think about God, Heaven etc.

SECTION-C

Q28. Who were the three main players in the political history of the Roman Empire? How did the Roman Emperor manage to govern such a vast territory?

8

Answer28.

The emperor, the aristocracy and the army were the three main players in the political history of the Roman Empire.

The Roman Emperor managed to govern a vast and diverse empire by:

1. Organising all the territories of the empire except Italy into provinces, and by organising an administrative infrastructure for the provinces.
2. Spread of Roman Citizenship to the people of these regions.
3. The urban centres which lined the shores of the Mediterranean were equipped with its own local administration. Through these cities, government taxed the provincial countryside which generated much of the wealth.
4. The unification of the entire Mediterranean and establishment of peace, gave a boost to long distance trade.
5. Augustus developed, a non-senatorial imperial bureaucracy equates. These local upper classes were given a stake in the empire.
6. Their collaboration was sought in governance, collection of taxes and raising an army.
7. Thus, through limiting the power of the senate, exercising of absolute rule, support of the army and new elites in the provinces, the Roman Emperors were able to control the vast and diverse territories of the Roman Empire.

OR

Discuss the political history of the Roman Empire.

1. The Roman Empire was a mosaic of territories and cultures that were chiefly bound together by a common system of government.
2. All those who lived in the empire were subjects of a single ruler, the emperor, but they followed various cultures, religions, languages and races.
2. Many languages were spoken in the empire, but for the purposes of administration Latin and Greek were the most widely used.
3. Augustus was the first emperor who established monarchy in 27 BCE. He was also called the 'Principate'.
4. The Senate had existed in Rome for centuries, and had been a body representing the aristocracy, the wealthiest families of Roman and later Italian descent mainly landowners.
5. Next to the emperor and the Senate, the other key institution of imperial rule was the army.
6. Romans had a paid professional army where soldiers had to put in a minimum of 25 years of service.
7. The emperor, the aristocracy and the army were the three main 'players' in the political history of the empire. The success of individual emperors depended on their control of the army.

8. Public baths were a striking feature of Roman urban life and urban populations also enjoyed a much higher level of entertainment.

Q29. How did changing nature of population affect economy and society in Europe?

8

Answer29:

This rise in the population had several economic and social effects:

1. A number of towns came into being. They also became the centre of trade and commerce.
2. Society became more advanced and civilised.
3. This change brought about new changes in agricultural production. Production reached its peak.
4. Good quality goods were produced which increased the life expectancy rate.
5. Depopulation resulted in a major shortage of labour.
6. Serious imbalances were created between agriculture and manufacture because there were not enough people to engage in both equally.
7. Wage rates increased because the demand for labour, particularly agricultural labour, rose in England due to Black Death.

OR

By the beginning of the 14th century, the economic expansion of Europe slowed down. What were the reasons behind it?

Answer:

Europe's economic expansion slowed down by the early fourteenth century because of the following factors :

- (i) Changes in Climatic Conditions : By the end of the thirteenth century, the warm of the previous 300 years of northern Europe had been replaced by the bitterly cold summers. Seasons for growing crops were reduced atleast by a month.
- (ii) On higher altitudes, it became almost impossible to grow crops. Many agricultural farms were destroyed by storms and oceanic flooding. As a result, government's income, in taxes, was reduced.
- (iii) Intensive Ploughing : The favourable climate before the thirteenth century had converted many forests and pastures into agricultural land.
- (iv) But the soil was exhausted with intensive agriculture despite the practice of the three field rotation of crops. It happened because of lack of proper soil conservation. Number of cattle was also reduced due to short of pastures.
- (v) Shortage of Metal Money: Output from the silver mines in Austria and Serbia was reduced which resulted in the severe shortage of metal money.
- (vi) Consequently, trade was hit. This shortage of silver forced the government to reduce the silver content of the currency. The government started to mix cheaper metals in the silver to make coinage.
- (vii) Bubonic Plague Infection : Trade expanded in the 13th and 14th centuries. Ships carrying goods from far off countries started arriving in European parts. Rats came along with the ships.
- (viii) These rats were carrying deadly bubonic plague infection. As a result, Western Europe was greatly affected by this infection between 1347 and 1350.

Q30. How the world was appeared different to seventeenth century Europeans?

3

Answer30:

1. The world had entered the modern age in seventeenth century.
2. It had taken a new shape which was different from the earlier world in the following ways :
3. New distinct urban culture was developed.
4. Towns people began to think of themselves as more 'civilised' than rural people.
5. Towns - particularly Florence, Venice and Rome had become centres of art and learning.
6. Artists and writers were patronised by the rich and the aristocrates.
7. The invention of printing made books and prints available to many people.
8. A sense of history developed in Europe.

9. People contrasted their modern world with the ancient one of the Greeks and Romans.

OR

Describe the position of the women in the society during the 14th and 15th century.

Answer:

- (i) The new ideal of individuality and citizenship excluded women. Men from aristocratic families dominated public life and were the decision-makers in their families.
- (ii) Women generally had no say in how their husbands should run their business. Obviously, the public role of women was limited and they were looked upon as keepers of the households.
- (iii) The position of women in the families of merchants, however, was somewhat different. In families of merchants and bankers, wives looked after the businesses when the male members were away on work.
- (iv) The early death of a merchant compelled his widow to perform a large public role than was the case in aristocratic families.
- (v) A few women were intellectually very creative and sensitive about the importance of a humanist education.
- (vi) 'Even though the study of letters promises and offers no reward for women and no dignity', wrote the Venetian Cassandra Fedele (1465-1558), 'every woman ought to seek and embrace these studies'.
- (vii) Fedele's writing bring into focus the general regard for education in that age.
- (viii) She was one of many Venetian women writers who criticised the republic 'for creating a highly limited definition of freedom that favoured the desires of men over those of women'.

SECTION-D

Q31. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

8

Seals in Mesopotamia

In India, early stone seals were stamped. In Mesopotamia until the end of the first millennium BCE, cylindrical stone seals, pierced down the center, were fitted with a stick and rolled over wet clay so that a continuous picture was created. They were carved by very skilled craftsmen, and sometimes carry writing; the name of the owner, his god, his official position, etc. A seal could be rolled on clay covering the string knot of a cloth package or the mouth of a pot, keeping the contents safe.

When rolled on a letter written on a clay tablet, it became a mark of authenticity. So the seal was the mark of a city dweller's role in public life.

Questions:

- (31.1) Which type of material was used to make seals? 1
- (31.2) What were the various types of seals? 1
- (31.3) Who carved these seals? Write a few features of Mesopotamian seals. 2

Answers 31.

(i) Seals were made of stones. It is evident from the fact that until the end of the first millennium BCE, cylindrical stone seals were prevalent in society.

(ii) There were two types of seals. These were:

Stamp seals and Cylindrical seals

(iii) These seals were carved by skilled craftsmen.

Features:

Artistically the carving of the seals was of excellent quality.

Engraving on these seals depict the scene of everyday life.

The inscribed sign describes the authenticity of the seal.

Q32. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

The late Roman bureaucracy, both the higher and middle echelons, was a comparatively affluent group because it drew the bulk of its salary in gold and invested much of this in buying up assets like land. There

was of course also a great deal of corruption, especially in the judicial system and in the administration of military supplies. The extortion of the higher bureaucracy and the greed of the provincial governors were proverbial. But government intervened repeatedly to curb these forms of corruption – we only know about them in the first place because of the laws that tried to put an end to them, and because historians and other members of the intelligentsia denounced such practices. This element of ‘criticism’ is a remarkable feature of the classical world. The Roman state was an authoritarian regime, in other words, dissent was rarely tolerated and government usually responded to protest with violence (especially in the cities of the East where people were often fearless in making fun of emperors). Yet a strong tradition of Roman law had emerged by the fourth century, and this acted as a brake on even the most fearsome emperors. Emperors were not free to do whatever they liked, and the law was actively used to protect civil rights. That is why in the later fourth century it was possible for powerful bishops like Ambrose to confront equally powerful emperors when they were excessively harsh or repressive in their handling of the civilian population.

Questions:

- (32.1) What was the main reason of corruption in administration of the Roman Empire? 1
 (32.2) What was the role of the Roman government in handling corruption that was widespread among the higher bureaucracy and provincial governors? 1
 (32.3) What do you know about law system of the Roman Empire? 2

Answers32:

- (i) The extortion of the higher bureaucracy and the greed of the provincial governors were the main reasons of corruption.
 (ii) The government intervened repeatedly to control corruption. The Roman state was an authoritarian regime, dissent was rarely tolerated and government usually responded to protest with violence.
 (iii) Roman law had emerged by the fourth century, and this acted as a brake on even the most fearsome emperors. They were not free to do, whatever they liked, and the law was actively used to protect civil rights. That is why in the later fourth century it was possible for powerful bishops like Ambrose to confront equally powerful emperors when they were excessively harsh or repressive in their handling of the civilian population.

Q33. Read the given passage and answer the questions that follow:

William Tyndale (1494-1536), an English Lutheran who translated the Bible into English in 1506, defended Protestantism thus : ‘In this they be all agreed, to drive you from the knowledge of the scripture, and that ye shall not have the text thereof in the mother-tongue, and to keep the world still in darkness, to the intent they might sit in the consciences of the people, through vain superstition and false doctrine, to satisfy their proud ambition and insatiable covetousness, and to exalt their own honour above king and emperor, yea, and above God himself.

Which thing only moved me to translate the New Testament? Because I had perceived by experience, how that it was impossible to establish the lay-people in any truth, except the scripture were plainly laid before their eyes in their mother-tongue, that they might see the process, order, and meaning of the text.’

- (33.1) Who was William Tyndale? 1

Answer: He was an English Lutheran who translated Bible into English.

- (33.2) What did he defend? 1

Answer: Protestantism.

- (33.3) What is New Testament? 1

Answer: It is a section of the Bible, which deal with the life and teaching of the Christ and his early followers.

- (33.4) Who set-up Society of Jesus and when? 1

Answer: Ignatius Loyala set up the Society of Jesus in 1540 in Spain.

SECTION-E

Q34. On the given map, mark and locate the following:

- (34.1). Uruk
- (34.2). Ur
- (34.3). Babylon
- (34.4). Mari
- (34.5). Assyria


