

DO NOT OPEN THIS TEST BOOKLET UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO

T.B.C. : STS-K-TPT  
Serial No.:

Test Booklet Series

TEST BOOKLET

**Subject : Test 6 – Ancient History**  
**Answer Key**



**Time Allowed : Two Hours**

**Maximum Marks : 200**

## INSTRUCTIONS

1. IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE EXAMINATION, YOU SHOULD CHECK THAT THIS TEST BOOKLET DOES NOT HAVE ANY UNPRINTED OR TORN OR MISSING PAGES OR ITEMS, ETC. IF SO, GOT IT REPLACED BY A COMPLETE TEST BOOKLET.

**2. Please note that it is the candidate's responsibility to encode and fill in the Roll Number and Test Booklet Series A, B, C or D carefully and without any omission or discrepancy at the appropriate places in the OMR Answer Sheet. Any omission/discrepancy will render the Answer Sheet liable for rejection.**

3. You have to enter your Roll Number on the Test Booklet in the Box provided alongside. DO NOT write anything else on the Test Booklet.

4. This Test Booklet contains 100/80 items (questions).

Each item is printed in English. Each item comprises of four responses (answers). You will select the response

which you want to mark on the Answer Sheet. In case you feel that there is more than one correct response, mark the response which you

consider the best. In any case, choose ONLY ONE response for each item.

5. You have to mark all your responses ONLY on the separate Answer Sheet provided. See directions in the Answer Sheet.

6. All items carry equal marks

7. Before you proceed to mark in the Answer Sheet the response to various items in the Test Booklet, you have to fill in some particulars in the Answer Sheet as per instructions sent to you with your Admission Certificate.

8. After you have completed filling in all your responses on the Answer Sheet and the examination has concluded, you should hand over to the Invigilator only the Answer Sheet. You are permitted to take away with you the Test Booklet.

9. Sheets for rough work are appended in the Test Booklet at the end.

10. **Penalty for wrong answers:**

THERE WILL BE PENALTY FOR WRONG ANSWERS MARKED BY A CANDIDATE IN THE OBJECTIVE TYPE QUESTION PAPERS

(i) There are four alternatives for the answer to every question. For each question for which a wrong answer has been given by the candidate, **one third** if the marks assigned to that question will be deducted as penalty.

(ii) If a candidate gives more than one answer, it will be treated as a wrong answer even if one of the given answers happens to be correct and there will be same penalty as above to that question.

(iii) If a question is left blank, i.e., no answer is given by the candidate, there will be no penalty for that question.

DO NOT OPEN THIS TEST BOOKLET UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO

1. With reference to the Sanskrit plays

Pratigyaugandharayana,  
Svapnavasavadatta and  
Ratnavali,

consider the following statements:

1. All three plays revolve around the Vatsa king Udayana.
2. Except Ratnavali, the other two plays are attributed to Bhasa.
3. Ratnavali was written by Bana after the 5th century CE, whereas the other two plays belong to an earlier period.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

✔ Correct Answer: a) 1 and 2 only

🔗 Explanation

Statement 1 – Correct All three plays centre on King Udayana of Vatsa.

Statement 2 – Correct Pratigya yaugandharayana and Svapnavasavadatta are attributed to Bhasa.

Statement 3 – Incorrect Ratnavali was written by King Harsha (7th century CE), not Bana. Hence the statement is factually incorrect.

2. Which of the following **capitals and their cultural contributions** are correctly matched?

Capital	Dynasty	Cultural Contribution
(A) Vallabhi	Maitraka	Center of Buddhist Learning
(B) Kannauj	Gurjara-Pratihara	Hub of Sanskrit Literature
(C) Halebidu	Hoysala	Known for Hindu Temples
(D) Pataliputra	Gupta	Development of Dravidian Architecture

Options:

- (a) A and B only
- (b) A, B, and C only
- (c) A, C, and D only
- (d) B, C, and D only

Correct Answer: (b) A, B, and C only

Explanation:

- Vallabhi (Maitraka Dynasty) → Buddhist learning center and university (Correct)
- Kannauj (Gurjara-Pratihara Dynasty) → Hub of Sanskrit literature and learning during the Tripartite Struggle (Correct)
- Halebidu (Hoysala Dynasty) → Known for Hindu temples like Hoysaleswara Temple (Correct)
- Pataliputra (Gupta Dynasty) → A center of learning, but Dravidian architecture developed in South India, not in Pataliputra (Incorrect)

3. With reference to Kanishka of Kushana dynasty, consider the following statements:

1. He was the founder of the Saka era which starts from 78 A.D.
2. He fought against the Chinese and also acquired some Chinese territories.
3. He was one of the major patrons of Mahayana Buddhism.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct answer: d) 1, 2 and 3**

4. Which of the following pairs of **Concepts /Practices – Tamil Term – Meaning** are correctly matched?

Concept/ Practice	Tamil Term	Meaning
(A) Sacred or Magical Forces	Ananku	Associated with supernatural power
(B) Memorial Stones	Nadukal/ Virukal	Erected in honor of fallen warriors
(C) Ritual Starvation	Vattakirutal	Voluntary death through fasting
(D) Military Commander	Enadi	Title given to chief of the Ministers
(E) Practice of Sati	Tippayadal	Ritual selfimmolation of widows
(F) Army Chief	Thanaithal aivan	Supreme commander of the military

**Options:**

- (a) A, B, C, and D only
- (b) A, B, C, and E only
- (c) A, B, C, E, and F only
- (d) B, C, D, E, and F only

**Correct Answer: (c) A, B, C, E, and F only**

Explanation:

- Ananku (Sacred or Magical Forces) → Believed to be supernatural and powerful forces in nature (Correct)
- Nadukal/Virukal (Memorial Stones) → Erected to honor fallen warriors, often inscribed with their heroic deeds (Correct)
- Vattakirutal (Ritual Starvation) → Voluntary death by fasting, often seen as an act of honor or penance (Correct)
- Enadi was a military title given to commanders, not the chief of the Ministers (Incorrect)
- Tippayadal (Practice of Sati) → Widows immolating themselves after their husband's death (Correct)
- Thanaithalaivan (Army Chief) → The supreme military leader in Sangam polity (Correct)

5. Which of the following pairs of **Kingdom – Economic Feature – Currency Used** is correctly matched?

Kingdom	Economic Feature	Currency Used
(A) Gupta	Decline of Long-Distance Trade	Dinar
(B) Chola	Maritime Trade Expansion	Kalanju
(C) Vijayanagara	Temple-Based Economy	Varaha
(D) Maurya	Free Market Economy	Pana

**Options:**

- (a) A and B only
- (b) A, B, and C only
- (c) B, C, and D only
- (d) A, B, C, and D only

**Correct Answer: (b) A, B, and C only**

**Explanation of Each Option:**

**(A) Gupta – Decline of Long-Distance Trade – Dinar (Correct)**

- During the **later Gupta period**, **long-distance trade declined** due to the **fall of the Roman Empire (476 CE)** and increasing feudalization.

- **Dinar** was the **gold coin issued by the Guptas**, influenced by Roman coinage.

- **However, trade did not vanish completely**, but it became more **regionalized and agrarianfocused**.

**(B) Chola – Maritime Trade Expansion – Kalanju (Correct)**

- The **Cholas** had a **thriving maritime trade network** with **Southeast Asia, China, and the Arabian world**.

- **Ports like Kaveripattinam, Nagapattinam, and Kayalpattinam** facilitated commerce.

- **Kalanju** was a type of coin used in South India during this period.

**(C) Vijayanagara – Temple-Based - Economy – Varaha (Correct)**

- **The Vijayanagara Empire** relied heavily on **temples as economic centers**, where land grants

(Devadana) supported religious institutions.

- **Trade guilds and merchants** were linked to temple activities.
- **Varaha** was the **gold coin** issued by Vijayanagara rulers like Krishnadevaraya.

**(D) Maurya – Free Market Economy – Pana (Incorrect)**

- The **Mauryan economy was NOT a free market**; rather, it was **highly state-controlled**.
- The **Arthashastra (by Kautilya)** describes **strict state intervention** in trade, taxation, and pricing.
- **Pana** was the silver currency of the **Mauryan period**, but the economic system was **not based on free-market principles**.

6. Which of the following pairs of **Religion – Text – Key Concept** is correctly matched?

Religion	Text	Key Concept
(A) Jainism	Acaranga Sutra	Non-Violence
(B) Buddhism	Jataka Tales	Past Lives of Buddha
(C) Hinduism	Bhagavata Purana	Bhakti Movement
(D) Shaivism	Guru Granth Sahib	Monotheism

**Options:**

- (a) A and B only
- (b) A, B, and C only
- (c) B, C, and D only
- (d) A, B, C, and D only

**Correct Answer: (b) A, B, and C only**

7. Which of the following correctly describes the social structure during the Sangam Age?

1. There was no strict varna system, but Arasar (kings), Vaishiyar (merchants), and Velalar (farmers) were recognized.
2. Women actively participated in trade, poetry, and handicrafts, and some even served as bodyguards.
3. Widows were allowed to remarry freely, and the practice of Sati was completely absent.
4. The society was divided based on eco-zones (Tinai classification) rather than rigid caste-based divisions.

**Options:**

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 1, 2, and 4 only
- (C) 2, 3, and 4 only
- (D) 1, 3, and 4 only

**Correct Answer: (B) 1, 2, and 4 only**

**Explanation:**

- **Varna system was not rigid**, but kings (Arasar), merchants (Vaishiyar), and farmers (Velalar) were recognized.
- **Women engaged in trade, poetry, handicrafts, and even served as royal bodyguards** (Viraliyar).
- **Widow remarriage was discouraged, and Sati (Tippayadal) was practiced, though not obligatory.**
- **Society was classified into five ecozones (Tinais)—Kurinji (hills), Palai (arid), Mullai (forest), Marudam (plains), and Neydal (coast), rather than rigid caste divisions.**

8. Arrange the following units of the Gupta administration in descending order:

1. Bhukti
2. Vithi
3. Vishaya
4. Village

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Correct Answer : (a) 1-3-2-4**

9. Consider the following statements regarding the Vesara School of Architecture:

1. It combines the features of both Nagara school and Dravidian school.
2. Hoysala, Rashtrakutas, and Pallavas patronized this school.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Answer : (a) 1 only

10. The Hathigumpha inscription, attributed to King Kharavela of Kalinga, provides crucial insights into his reign. Which of the following statements about Kharavela and his achievements, as recorded in the inscription, are correct?

1. He retrieved the Jina image taken by Mahapadma Nanda and reinstalled it in Kalinga.
2. He launched military expeditions, including one that led to the retreat of Demetrius, an Indo-Greek ruler, from Mathura.
3. He built the Mahaviyaya Prasada to commemorate his victories, located on the banks of the Narmada River.
4. He performed multiple Ashvamedha yajnas to establish his supremacy over North India.

Options:

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 1, 2, and 3 only
- (C) 2, 3, and 4 only
- (D) 1, 3, and 4 only

Correct Answer: (A) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct: The Hathigumpha inscription mentions that Kharavela retrieved a Jina image that had been taken away by Mahapadma Nanda centuries earlier, symbolizing the revival of Jainism in Kalinga.
- Statement 2 is correct: Kharavela's military campaigns included an expedition

that led to the retreat of Demetrius (a Yavana ruler) from Mathura.

- Statement 3 is incorrect: Kharavela built the Mahaviyaya Prasada, but it was located on the banks of the Prachi River in Kalinga, not the Narmada River.
- Statement 4 is incorrect: There is no record of Kharavela performing Ashvamedha yajnas; rather, he is known for his patronage of Jainism and public works.

11. During the Vedic period in India, Rajasuya and Vajpeya were

- (a) titles assumed by the kings
- (b) rituals and sacrifices to strengthen king's position.
- (c) land revenue officials
- (d) institutions of higher learning

Correct Answer : **(b) rituals and sacrifices to strengthen king's position.**

12. Who among the following was/were the contemporary/ contemporaries of Harshavardhana?

1. Jinsena
2. Ravikirti
3. Rajashekhar

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1 and 2 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Correct Answer : **(b) 2 only**

13. With reference to Mauryan administration, consider the following statements:

1. Smahartas were civil servants who looked after the day to day administration.
2. Amatyas were in charge of collection of all revenues of the empire.
3. Rajukas were in charge of the district administration.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 3 only

- b) 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 3 only

**Correct answer : d) 3 only**

14. Which of the following correctly describe the Kushana military and its foreign relations?

1. Kanishka adopted the title 'Devaputra' (Son of God), similar to the Chinese rulers.
2. The Kushanas controlled the Silk Route, facilitating trade between India, China, and the Roman Empire.
3. The Hou Han Shu (Chinese records) mention Kanishka's conflicts with the Han dynasty.
4. Kanishka sent Buddhist missionaries to China, facilitating the spread of Buddhism along the Silk Route.

Options:

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 2 and 3 only
- (C) 1, 2, and 4 only
- (D) 1, 2, 3, and 4

**Correct Answer: (D) 1, 2, 3, and 4**

Explanation:

- Kanishka used the title 'Devaputra' (Son of God), showing influence from Central Asian traditions.
- The Kushanas controlled key sections of the Silk Route, strengthening trade between India, China, Persia, and Rome.
- Hou Han Shu (Chinese records) mention Kushana conflicts with the Han Dynasty, especially during Kanishka's reign.
- Kanishka sent Buddhist missionaries to China, leading to the spread of Buddhism along the Silk Route.

15. Consider the following statements:

1. Kalinga rose to power during the reign of King Kharvela of the Chedi dynasty.
2. The Sunga dynasty was followed by the Kanva dynasty.
3. The Junagadh inscription of Pushyamitra Sunga talks about the administration of Mauryan empire.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : (a) 1 and 2 only**

16. Which of the following literary works talks about the overthrow of the Nandas by the Mauryans?

- (a) Mrichchakatikam
- (b) Daskumaracharita
- (c) Mudrarakshasa
- (d) Devichandraguptam

**Correct Answer : (c) Mudrarakshasa**

17. Consider the following statements regarding Chandragupta II:

1. He adopted the title of Vikramaditya.
2. His court at Ujjain was adorned by scholars like Kalidasa and Amarasingha.
3. Chinese pilgrim Fa-hsien visited India during his reign.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : d) 1, 2 and 3**

18. Which of the following is considered to be the location of palace of Mauryan Empire

- (a) Kumrahar and Bulandibagh
- (b) Kumrahar and LauriyaNandangarh
- (c) Rummendei and Bulandibagh
- (d) Rummendei and LauriyaNandangarh

**Correct answer : (a) Kumrahar and Bulandibagh**

19. Which of the following is the correct chronological order of invasion of India by the Central Asian powers:

- Greek, Sakas, Parthians, Kushans.
- Greek, Parthians, Sakas, Kushans.
- Greek, Sakas, Kushans, Parthians.
- Greek, Kushans, Sakas, Parthians

**Correct answer : a) Greek, Sakas, Parthians, Kushans.**

20. Which of the following are the features of Nagara style of Temple Architecture:

- Elaborate walls and gateways.
- Presence of river goddess.
- Absence of a water tank or reservoirs.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- 1 and 2 only
- 2 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only

**Correct answer : c) 2 and 3 only**

21. Arrange the following Mahajanapadas that came into existence in 6th century BC from North to South:

- Avanti
- Taxila
- Magadha
- Koshala

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- 1-3-2-4
- 2-1-3-4
- 1-2-3-4
- 2-4-3-1

**Correct answer : (d) 2-4-3-1**

22. Which of the following pairs of **Literary Work – Author – Theme** is correctly matched?

Literary Work	Author	Theme
(A) Brihat Samhita	Varahamihira	Astronomy & Astrology
(B) Arthashastra	Kautilya	Political Science
(C) Manimekalai	Ilango Adigal	Tamil Buddhist Epic
(D) Harshacharita	Kalidasa	Biography of Harsha

Options:

- A and B only
- A, B, and C only
- B and D only
- A, B, C, and D only

**Correct Answer: (b) A, B, and C only**

Explanation:

- Brihat Samhita (Varahamihira) – Treatise on astronomy and astrology
- Arthashastra (Kautilya) – Political science and economics
- Manimekalai (Sequel to Silappadikaram) was written by Buddhist poet Chithalai Chathanar, not Ilango Adigal
- Harshacharita was written by Banabhatta, not Kalidasa

23. Consider the following regarding Asokan religious policy:

- He didn't tried to disrupt existing social order by his dhamma policy.
- He disapproved rituals and killing of all animals and birds.
- He appointed officers named 'rajukas' for propagating dhamma.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 and 2 only
- 1 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only

**Correct answer : b) 1 only**

24. Which of the following statements are not correct about Gupta administration?

1. Provinces in the Gupta empire were known as Bhuktis, which were subdivided into Vishyas.

2. Provinces were governed by the Bhuktipatis.

3. Sandivigraha looked into the law and order, within the Gupta empire. Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct answer : (b) 2 and 3 only**

25. Menander, an important Indo-Greek ruler, is often associated with the spread of Buddhism. Consider the following statements about him:

1. He ruled from Sakala (modern-day Sialkot) and expanded his empire into the Gangetic plains.

2. He was converted to Buddhism by Nagasena, as recorded in the text Milinda Panha.

3. His rule saw the first use of bilingual and biscript coins, featuring Greek and Brahmi inscriptions.

4. He was the first Indo-Greek king to embrace Shaivism, as indicated by coins depicting Nandi.

Options:

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 1, 2, and 3 only
- (C) 2, 3, and 4 only
- (D) 1 and 3 only

Correct Answer: (A) 1 and 2 only

Explanation: Menander ruled from Sakala (Sialkot) and is best known for his dialogue with Buddhist monk Nagasena in the Milinda Panha, after which he embraced Buddhism. However, the first bilingual coins were issued by earlier Indo-Greeks, not specifically Menander. Also, he did not patronize Shaivism—his coins depict Greek deities like Zeus and Athena.

26. Consider the following statements:

1. The Mehrauli Iron Pillar inscription mentions the extensive conquests of Chandragupta II.

2. The Allahabad Pillar inscription provides a detailed account of Samudragupta's reign.

3. The coins issued by Gupta kings provide details about the sacrifices performed by them.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : b) 2 and 3 only**

27. Ashokan inscriptions, considered to be the earliest were written in which of the following scripts?

- 1. Aramaic
- 2. Greek
- 3. Kharoshthi
- 4. Brahmi

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Correct Answer : (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4**

28. Which of the following pairs of **Field – Achiever – Contribution** is correctly matched?

Field	Achiever	Contribution
(A) Mathematics	Aryabhata	Concept of Zero
(B) Astronomy	Varahamihira	Surya Siddhanta
(C) Medicine	Charaka	Ayurveda Texts
(D) Poetry	Banabhatta	Meghaduta

Options:

- (a) A and B only
- (b) A, B, and C only

(c) B and D only

(d) A, B, C, and D only

**Correct Answer: (b) A, B, and C only**

29. Which of the following pairs of **Inscription – Ruler – Significance** is correctly matched?

Inscription	Ruler	Significance
(A) Junagarh Inscription	Rudradaman I	Mentions Sudarshana Lake Repair
(B) Prayagraj Prashasti	Harshavardhana	Describes Harsha's Conquests
(C) Hathigumpha Edict	Kharavela	Refers to Indo-Greek Conflict
(D) Allahabad Pillar Edict	Samudragupta	Details on Gupta Administration

**Options:**

(a) A and C only

(b) A and D only

(c) A, B, and C only

(d) B, C, and D only

**Correct Answer: (a) A and C only**

Explanation:

- Junagarh Inscription (Rudradaman I) describes Sudarshana Lake repair
- Prayagraj Prashasti (Samudragupta, not Harsha) describes conquests
- Hathigumpha Edict (Kharavela) mentions Indo-Greek conflict and Jain patronage
- Allahabad Pillar Edict was Ashoka's, not Samudragupta's

30. *Dutaghatokacha*, *Karnabhara*, *Urubhanga*, *Pratima*, and *Abhisheka* are plays written by:

a) Kalidasa

b) Bhasa

c) Bhavabhuti

d) Harsha

### Explanation of Options

**a) Kalidasa – Incorrect**

Kalidasa authored works such as *Abhijnanasakuntalam*, *Vikramorvashiyam*, and *Malavikagnimitram*, not the above plays.

**b) Bhasa – Correct**

All the mentioned plays — *Dutaghatokacha*, *Karnabhara*, *Urubhanga*, *Pratima*, and *Abhisheka* — are attributed to the early Sanskrit dramatist Bhasa. Many of these draw themes from the Mahabharata and Ramayana.

**c) Bhavabhuti – Incorrect**

Bhavabhuti is known for *Uttararamacharita*, *Malatimadhava*, and *Mahaviracharita*.

**d) Harsha – Incorrect**

Harsha authored *Ratnavali*, *Priyadarshika*, and *Nagananda*.

31. Which of the following pairs of **Ruler – Administrative Reform – Period** is correctly matched?

Ruler	Administrative Reform	Time Period
(A) Chandragupta Maurya	Centralized Bureaucracy	321–297 BCE
(B) Samudragupta	Provincial Decentralization	4th Century CE
(C) Harshavardhana	Feudalism-Based Governance	7th Century CE
(D) Rajendra Chola I	Trade-Based Revenue System	11th Century CE

**Options:**

(a) A and B only

(b) A, C, and D only

(c) B, C, and D only

(d) A, B, C, and D

**Correct Answer: (d) A, B, C, and D only**

 **Correct Answer: b) Bhasa**

32. Which of the following pairs of Women's Roles – Tamil Term – Function in Society are correctly matched?

Women's Role	Tamil Term	Function in Society
(A) Foster Mothers & Wet Nurses	Idaichchiyar	Took care of royal and noble infants
(B) Wandering Minstrels	Panar	Sang and recited poetry, traveled widely
(C) Women Bards & Dancers	Viraliyar	Performed in courts and festivals
(D) Spinning & Weaving	Parutti Pentukal	Involved in both spinning and weaving

**Options:**

- (a) A and B only
- (b) A, B, and C only
- (c) B, C, and D only
- (d) A, C, and D only

**Correct Answer: (b) A, B, and C only**

**Explanation:**

- Idaichchiyar (Foster Mothers & Wet Nurses) → Took care of royal/noble infants (Correct)
- Panar (Wandering Minstrels) → Sang, played music, and recited poetry while traveling (Correct)
- Viraliyar (Women Bards & Dancers) → Performed at royal courts, religious ceremonies, and festivals (Correct)
- Parutti Pentukal (Spinning & Weaving) → Engaged in spinning but NOT weaving (Incorrect)

33. Which of the following were important administrative positions during the Gupta period?

1. Kumaramatyas – High-ranking officials and advisors to the king.
2. Uparika – Provincial governor appointed by the king.
3. Sandhivigrahika – Minister of peace and war.
4. Mahadandanayaka – Chief of village administration.

**Options:**

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 1, 2, and 3 only
- (C) 2, 3, and 4 only
- (D) 1, 3, and 4 only

**Correct Answer: (B) 1, 2, and 3 only**

**Explanation:**

- Kumaramatyas were high-ranking ministers and advisors in the Gupta administration.
- Uparikas were governors of provinces (Bhuktis), appointed by the king.
- Sandhivigrahika was the minister responsible for peace and war negotiations.
- Mahadandanayaka was the chief judicial officer, not the head of village administration. The village was self-governed by local councils (Sabhas).

34. With respect to Mauryan art and architecture, consider the following statements:

1. The Barabar caves were a gift to the Ajivika sect by Ashoka and his son Dashratha.
2. The Sanchi stupa was originally built from stone.
3. The top of the Ashokan pillars display only lion motifs.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 3 only

**Correct Answer : (b) 1 only**

35. With reference to the Satavahanas, consider the following statements:

1. They were against performing Vedic sacrifices.
2. They promoted Buddhism.
3. Their official language was Sanskrit.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 2 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct answer : (a) 2 only**

36. Which of the following events are associated with Kanishka's contribution to Buddhism?

1. He convened the Fourth Buddhist Council at Kundalavana in Kashmir.
2. The council was led by Vasumitra, who compiled the Mahavibhasa, a Sarvastivadin text.
3. Kanishka patronized Mahayana Buddhism, which emphasized the Bodhisattva ideal.
4. He established the Nalanda University as a center for Buddhist learning.

Options:

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 1, 2, and 3 only
- (C) 2, 3, and 4 only
- (D) 1, 3, and 4 only

**Correct Answer: (B) 1, 2, and 3 only**

Explanation:

- Kanishka convened the Fourth Buddhist Council at Kundalavana (Kashmir) to formalize Mahayana Buddhism.
- Vasumitra chaired the council, and Mahavibhasa (Sarvastivadin Buddhist text) was compiled.
- Kanishka strongly promoted Mahayana Buddhism, leading to the rise of the Bodhisattva ideal.
- Nalanda University was established later by the Gupta rulers, not Kanishka (making statement 4 incorrect).

37. In the South Indian medieval history, there is a lot more known and recorded about Cholas than their predecessor. Which of the following can be reasons for it?

1. Chola courts housed several poets and authors who wrote about the kings and the kingdom.
2. Temples built by Chola kings have long inscriptions written on their wall about their victories.
3. Sangam literature gives detailed account of historical narratives of the king and the society of the time.
4. Travellers and traders visiting Chola empire have written extensive literature about the kingdom.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1, 2 and 4 only
- b) 2 and 4 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

**Correct answer : d) 1, 2, 3 and 4**

38. Which of the following statements about Buddhist art and architecture during the PostMauryan period are correct?

1. The Amaravati School of Art flourished under the Satavahanas and was known for its intricate limestone carvings.
2. The Gandhara School of Art developed under Indo-Greek patronage and was influenced by Greco-Roman styles.
3. The Mathura School of Art focused primarily on Buddhist themes and did not depict Hindu deities.
4. Rock-cut viharas and chaityas were prominent architectural features of this period, with sites such as Karle, Bhaja, and Ajanta.

Options:

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 1, 2, and 4 only
- (C) 2, 3, and 4 only
- (D) 1, 3, and 4 only

**Correct Answer: (B) 1, 2, and 4 only**

**Explanation:**

- Amaravati School of Art (Satavahana period) was known for intricate

limestone carvings, depicting life events of Buddha.

- Gandhara School of Art, developed under the Kushanas, blended GrecoRoman elements with Buddhist themes.
- Mathura School of Art depicted both Buddhist and Hindu deities, including images of Shiva and Vishnu, making statement 3 incorrect.
- Rock-cut viharas and chaityas (monastic and worship structures) flourished at Karle, Bhaja, and Ajanta.

39. The decline of long-distance trade during the later Gupta period was attributed to various factors. Which of the following correctly explain this decline?

1. The collapse of the Western Roman Empire led to a reduction in IndoRoman trade.
2. The rise of feudalism led to a focus on agrarian economy rather than urban-based trade.
3. The increase in the use of copper and silver coins replaced the earlier gold dinaras, leading to inflation.
4. The invasion of the Huns disrupted trade routes in North India and Central Asia.

Options:

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 1, 2, and 4 only
- (C) 2, 3, and 4 only
- (D) 1, 2, 3, and 4

Correct Answer: (B) 1, 2, and 4 only

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct: The fall of the Western Roman Empire (5th century CE) reduced demand for Indian goods like spices and textiles.
- Statement 2 is correct: The growth of feudalism led to a rural agrarian economy, reducing urban trade networks.
- Statement 3 is incorrect: Gold coins (Dinaras) continued to be issued, though in reduced quantity. The decline in trade was not primarily due to inflation but due to external invasions and political fragmentation.
- Statement 4 is correct: The Huna invasions (5th-6th century CE) disrupted

North Indian and Central Asian trade routes, affecting the Silk Route commerce.

40. In the context of ancient India, Nishka, Satamana and Krishnala were
- (a) women scholars
  - (b) coins used as media of exchange
  - (c) provincial governors
  - (d) specialists in Vedic rituals

**Correct Answer : (b) coins used as media of exchange**

41. The Madhuben and Sonpat inscriptions give us information about his rule. The famous Chinese traveler Hiuen Tsang visited during his reign. He also wrote the epic dramas Nagananda and Priyadarshika. He also organised the Kannauj assembly and Allahabad conference. He is:

- a) Kharavela
- b) Kumaragupta
- c) Harshavardhan
- d) Gautamiputra Satakarni

**Correct Answer : c) Harshavardhan**

42. Which of the following were the prominent gods during the Later Vedic period?

- 1. Rudra
- 2. Agni
- 3. Indra
- 4. Vishnu

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Correct Answer : (c) 1 and 4 only**

43. Which of the following factors contributed to the decline of the Gupta Empire?

1. Continuous Huna invasions weakened the empire's military and economy.
2. The increasing power of feudal lords (Samantas) reduced the central authority of Gupta rulers.
3. The rise of trade guilds (Shrenis) challenged the traditional authority of the king.
4. Weak successors after Skandagupta failed to control internal revolts and external invasions.

Options:

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 1, 2, and 4 only
- (C) 2, 3, and 4 only
- (D) 1, 3, and 4 only

Correct Answer: (B) 1, 2, and 4 only

Explanation:

- Huna invasions (5th-6th century CE) weakened Gupta military strength and drained resources.
- Feudal lords (Samantas) gained autonomy, reducing the power of the central administration.
- Trade guilds (Shrenis) did not challenge the king's authority; rather, they cooperated with the administration.
- Weak successors after Skandagupta failed to counter internal conflicts and external threats, accelerating the empire's decline.

44. Match the following:

List-I	List-II
A. Vikramorvasiya	1. Bhavabhuti
B. Uttara Ramacharitam	2. Bhasa
C. Devi Chandraguptam	3. Kalidasa
D. Swapnavasavadatta	4. Vishakhdutta

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

	A	B	C	D
(a)	1	3	2	4
<b>(b)</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>
(c)	1	4	3	2
(d)	4	2	3	1

Correct Answer : **(b) 3 1 4 2**

45. Which of the following caves were dug out during the reign of Kharavela of Chedi dynasty for the abode of Jaina ascetics and also famous for the presence of Hathigumpha inscription

- a) Aihole Caves
- b) Badami Caves
- c) Bagh Caves
- d) Udaygiri Caves

**Correct Answer : d) Udaygiri Caves**

46. With reference to the Rashtrakutas, consider the following statements:

1. The magnificent rock-cut monolithic Kailasa temple at Ellora was built during their reign.
2. They promoted trade with Arabs by maintaining friendship with them.
3. The Kannada literature saw its beginning during their reign.

Which of the statements above is/are correct?

- a) 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1, 2 and 3
- d) 3 only

**Correct Answer : c) 1, 2 and 3**

47. Which of the following statements regarding Ashoka's Dhamma is/ are correct?

1. Ashoka equated Dhamma as the teachings of Buddha.
2. Humane treatment of servants by masters and prisoners by government officials was one of his Dhamma.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer : (b) 2 only**

48. Consider the following statements:

1. At the outset, the Samkhya School of Philosophy was spiritualistic, but later it tended to become materialistic.

2. In this School, the creation of the world was attributed to Prakriti and Purusha.

3. The great sage Kanada was the founder of the Samkhya School.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 2 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : (a) 2 only**

49. Which of the following scientific contributions are correctly attributed to the Gupta period?

- 1. The concept of zero as a numeral was formalized in the works of Aryabhata.
- 2. Susruta Samhita, an advanced treatise on surgery, was compiled during the Gupta period.
- 3. The Nalanda University, an important center for mathematics and medicine, was founded during this period.
- 4. The Surya Siddhanta provided detailed calculations for solar eclipses and planetary movements.

Options:

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 1, 3, and 4 only
- (C) 2, 3, and 4 only
- (D) 1, 2, 3, and 4

Correct Answer: (B) 1, 3, and 4 only

Explanation:

- Aryabhata formalized the place-value system and discussed zero in Aryabhatiya.
- Susruta Samhita belongs to the earlier Mauryan period, not the Gupta period.
- Nalanda University was founded during the Gupta period (reign of Kumaragupta I) and became a leading center for mathematics, astronomy, and medicine.

- Surya Siddhanta provided accurate calculations for planetary movements and eclipses.

50. Which of the following can be considered as Mauryan's contribution to art and architecture?

- 1. Pillars
- 2. Rock Cut Caves
- 3. Sculptures
- 4. Pottery

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**Correct Answer : (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4**

51. The Gupta period is often called the Golden Age of Sanskrit Literature. Which of the following statements correctly highlight its literary achievements?

- 1. Kalidasa wrote classical Sanskrit plays like Abhijnana Shakuntalam and Meghaduta.
- 2. The Puranas were composed and compiled during this period, influencing later Hindu traditions.
- 3. The Tamil Sangam literature, including works like Silappadikaram, flourished under Gupta patronage.
- 4. The Smritis, including Manu Smriti and Yajnavalkya Smriti, were codified during this period, influencing law and social customs.

Options:

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 1, 2, and 4 only
- (C) 2, 3, and 4 only
- (D) 1, 3, and 4 only

Correct Answer: (B) 1, 2, and 4 only

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct: Kalidasa was the greatest poet-dramatist of the Gupta Age, composing Abhijnana Shakuntalam, Meghaduta, and Raghuvamsa.
- Statement 2 is correct: The Puranas (like Vishnu Purana, Bhagavata Purana) were compiled and gained prominence during this period.

- Statement 3 is incorrect: Sangam literature belongs to the early historic period (200 BCE – 300 CE), predating the Gupta period.
- Statement 4 is correct: Manu Smriti and Yajnavalkya Smriti were codified, influencing Hindu law and caste structures.

52. Which of the following dynasties actively patronized art and architecture in the PostMauryan period?

1. Satavahanas contributed to the expansion of Buddhist stupas, including enlarging the Great Stupa at Sanchi.
2. The Indo-Greeks were responsible for developing the Gandhara School of Art.
3. The Kushanas patronized the Mathura and Gandhara schools of art, leading to the first anthropomorphic images of Buddha.
4. The Pallavas promoted Buddhist architecture, particularly at Ajanta and Ellora.

Options:

- (A) 1, 2, and 3 only
- (B) 1 and 3 only
- (C) 2, 3, and 4 only
- (D) 1, 2, 3, and 4

Correct Answer: (A) 1, 2, and 3 only

Explanation:

- Satavahanas enlarged Buddhist stupas, such as the Great Stupa at Sanchi and Amaravati Stupa.
  - Indo-Greeks contributed to the Gandhara School of Art, introducing Greco-Buddhist artistic elements.
- Kushanas, under Kanishka, patronized both the Mathura and Gandhara schools, creating the first human depictions of Buddha.

53. Consider the following statements:

1. The first evidence of the use of Sanskrit can be found in the inscription of Rudradamana at Junagarh.
2. Sanskrit language belongs to Indo-Aryan Group of language.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2

d) Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Answer : c) Both 1 and 2

54. The system of village autonomy with sabhas and their committees developed through the ages and reached its culmination during the Chola rule. In this regard, consider the following statements:

1. Uttaramerur inscriptions describe the system of village administration under the Cholas.
2. The committee members, who would carry out administration were selected by a system, called Kudavolai system.
3. The committee members were called Variyapperumakkal.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 and 3 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 2 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : (d) 1, 2 and 3**

55. Panchatantra was written during and by

- (a) Later Vedic Period – Kalidasa
- (b) Sultanate Period – Tulsidas
- (c) Mauryan Period – Banabhatta
- (d) Gupta Period – Vishnusharma

Correct Answer : (d) Gupta Period – Vishnusharma

56. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Both Nalanda and Vikramashila were residential universities.
2. The rise of Bhagvatism is considered as the cause of the decline in Buddhism.
3. Buddhist literature was written in Pali and Sanskrit simultaneously. Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 3 only

**Correct Answer : (a) 1 and 2 only**

57. Which of the following correctly describes the social structure during the Sangam Age?

1. There was no strict varna system, but Arasar (kings), Vaishiyar (merchants), and Velalar (farmers) were recognized.

2. Women actively participated in trade, poetry, and handicrafts, and some even served as bodyguards.

3. Widows were allowed to remarry freely, and the practice of Sati was completely absent.

4. The society was divided based on eco-zones (Tinai classification) rather than rigid caste-based divisions.

Options:

(A) 1 and 2 only

(B) 1, 2, and 4 only

(C) 2, 3, and 4 only

(D) 1, 3, and 4 only

Correct Answer: (B) 1, 2, and 4 only

Explanation:

- Varna system was not rigid, but kings (Arasar), merchants (Vaishiyar), and farmers (Velalar) were recognized.

- Women engaged in trade, poetry, handicrafts, and even served as royal bodyguards (Viraliyar).

- Widow remarriage was discouraged, and Sati (Tippayadal) was practiced, though not obligatory.

- Society was classified into five ecozones (Tinai)—Kurinji (hills), Palai (arid), Mullai (forest), Marudam (plains), and Neydal (coast), rather than rigid caste divisions.

58. Which of the following features correctly differentiate the Gandhara, Mathura, and Amaravati schools of art?

1. Gandhara art used schist stone and had Greco-Roman influences, while Mathura art used red sandstone.

2. Mathura sculptures depicted more indigenous Indian facial features compared to the more Hellenistic Gandhara sculptures.

3. The Amaravati school focused more on symbolic representations of Buddha rather than anthropomorphic images.

4. The Gandhara school primarily developed in Southern India, while Amaravati flourished in the Northwest.

Options:

(A) 1 and 2 only

(B) 1, 2, and 3 only

(C) 2, 3, and 4 only

(D) 1, 3, and 4 only

Correct Answer: (B) 1, 2, and 3 only

Explanation:

- Gandhara sculptures were made from schist stone and showed GrecoRoman influences. Mathura sculptures were made from red sandstone and had indigenous styles.

- Mathura sculptures had more Indianized facial features, while Gandhara sculptures had Hellenistic (Greek-style) influences.

- Amaravati art used symbolic depictions (such as footprints, wheels, and empty thrones) to represent Buddha in earlier phases, before transitioning to anthropomorphic representations.

- Gandhara developed in the Northwest (Pakistan, Afghanistan), while Amaravati flourished in Southern India, making statement 4 incorrect.

59. Which of the following foreign travelers or texts provide information about Post-Mauryan India?

1. Periplus of the Erythraean Sea

2. Hou Han Shu (Chinese Annals)

3. Indica by Megasthenes

4. Geography by Ptolemy

Options:

(A) 1 and 2 only

(B) 1, 2, and 4 only

(C) 2, 3, and 4 only

(D) 1, 3, and 4 only

Correct Answer: (B) 1, 2, and 4 only

Explanation:

- Periplus of the Erythraean Sea (1st century CE) describes Indo-Roman trade and key ports like Muziris.

- Hou Han Shu (Chinese Annals) records contacts between the Kushanas and the Han Dynasty of China.

- Geography by Ptolemy (2nd century CE) maps Indian trade routes and cities.

- Indica by Megasthenes belongs to the Mauryan period, not the PostMauryan period (making statement 3 incorrect).

60. Which of the following pairs of **Women's Occupations - Tamil Term - Role in Society** are correctly matched?

Women's Occupation	Tamil Term	Role in Society
(A) Shepherdesses	Ayichchiyar	Herding cattle and livestock
(B) Cotton Spinning	Parutti Pentukal	Spinning cotton, bleaching, and washing
(C) Pottery Making	Venni-kuyattiyar	Involved in making clay pots
(D) Women Bards & Dancers	Chevilittai	Performed religious rituals

**Options:**

- (a) A and B only
- (b) A, B, and C only
- (c) B, C, and D only
- (d) A, C, and D only

**Correct Answer: (b) A, B, and C only**

**Explanation:**

- Shepherdesses (Ayichchiyar, Kovichchiyar, Idaichchiyar) → Responsible for herding cattle and livestock (Correct)
- Spinning (Parutti Pentukal) → Engaged in spinning, bleaching, and washing but not weaving (Correct)
- Pottery Making (Vennikuyattiyar) → Specialized in clay pot making (Correct)
- Women bards & dancers (Chevilittai, Viraliyar) → Performed as wandering minstrels, entertainers, not religious rituals (Incorrect)

61. Which of the following pairs of **Dynasty - Major Economic Feature - Trade Center** is correctly matched?

Dynasty	Major Economic Feature	Trade Center
(A) Maurya	State-Controlled Economy	Pataliputra
(B) Satavahana	Extensive Indo-Roman Trade	Arikamedu
(C) Gupta	Decline of Long-Distance Trade	Tamralipti
(D) Chola	Guild-Based Temple Economy	Lothal

**Options:**

- (a) A and B only
- (b) B and C only
- (c) C and D only
- (d) A, B, and D only

**Correct Answer: (b) B and C only**

**Explanation:**

- **Mauryas had a state-controlled economy, and Pataliputra was a trade hub**
- **Satavahanas engaged in Indo-Roman trade, and Arikamedu was an important port**
- **Gupta economy saw a decline in longdistance trade, with Tamralipti being a major port**

**Cholas had a temple-based economy, but Lothal (Harappan site) was not their trade center**

62. Consider the following pairs:

Mahajanapada : Capital

1. Vatsa : Kaushambi
2. Anga : Indraprastha
3. Magadha : Rajgir
4. Matsya : Mathura

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer : (a) 1 and 3 only

63. Consider the following pairs:

S.No.	Text	Genre of content
1.	Tolkappiyam	Grammar and poetics
2.	Tirukkural	Philosophy
3.	Silappadikaram	Tamil version of Ramayana

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Correct answer : (a) 1 and 2 only

64. The Junagarh Inscription of Rudradaman is a crucial source of Post-Mauryan history. Which of the following statements about this inscription are correct?

1. It is the earliest known long inscription in Sanskrit.
2. It credits Rudradaman I with repairing the Sudarsana Lake, originally built during the Mauryan period.
3. It mentions that Gautamiputra Satakarni was defeated twice by Rudradaman I but was spared due to marital ties.
4. The inscription was written by Yavanesvara, a Greek convert to Hinduism.

Options:

- (A) 1 and 2 only

(B) 1, 2, and 3 only

(C) 2, 3, and 4 only

(D) 1, 3, and 4 only

Correct Answer: (B) 1, 2, and 3 only

Explanation: The Junagarh Inscription is in chaste Sanskrit and is the earliest long inscription in that language. It credits Rudradaman with repairing the Sudarsana Lake. It also mentions his victories over Gautamiputra Satakarni, but he spared him due to marital ties. However, it was written by Sukrat, not Yavanesvara.

65. Which of the following pairs of **Gupta Administrative Title – Function – Meaning** is correctly matched?

Title	Function	Meaning
(A) Sandhivigrahika	Minister of War & Peace	Diplomatic Negotiator
(B) Kumaramatyas	Parallel King	Royal Representative
(C) Vishayapati	Head of Bhukti (province)	District Officer
(D) Dandapasika	districtlevel police office	Law Enforcer

Options:

- (a) A and B only
- (b) A and D only
- (c) B and C only
- (d) A, B, and D only

**Correct Answer: (b) A and D only**

Explanation:

- Sandhivigrahika (War & Peace Minister) was a high-ranking official
- Kumaramatyas were high-ranking officers, but not a Parallel King
- Vishayapati was a district officer, not the head of a province (Bhukti was under Uparika)
- Dandapasika was a district-level police office, responsible for enforcing law

66. Ashokan inscriptions, regarded as the earliest known written records of India, exhibit linguistic and regional diversity. Considering the geographical distribution and historical context of these inscriptions, which of the following statements are correct?

1. The inscriptions in Aramaic and Greek were found in the northwestern regions of the Mauryan Empire, reflecting foreign influences.
2. Kharoshthi script was primarily used for inscriptions in Gandhara and adjacent areas, influenced by Achaemenid traditions.
3. Brahmi, the most widely used script, was employed for inscriptions across the Indian subcontinent, including those in Prakrit and Sanskrit.
4. The usage of Greek script in some edicts suggests direct diplomatic relations between the Mauryan Empire and the Hellenistic world.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: (d) 1, 2, 3, and 4

67. Which of the following pairs of **Dynasty – Founder – Capital** is correctly matched?

Dynasty	Founder	Capital
(A) Gurjara-Pratihara	Nagabhata I	Kannauj
(B) Rashtrakuta	Dantidurga	Badami
(C) Paramara	Bhoja	Tripuri
(D) Eastern Chalukya	Vishnuvardhana IV	Kanchi

**Options:**

- (a) A and B only
- (b) A and C only
- (c) B and D only
- (d) A, B, and D only

Correct Answer: (b) A and C only  
Explanation:

- Nagabhata I founded the GurjaraPratihara dynasty, and Kannauj became their capital
- Dantidurga founded the Rashtrakutas, but their capital was Manyakheta (not Badami)
- Bhoja was a famous ruler of the Paramaras, but the capital was Dhar, not Tripuri
- Vishnuvardhana IV ruled the Eastern Chalukyas, but their capital was Vengi, not Kanchi

68. Which one of the following drama of ancient India deals with the love affair of a poor Brahmana with the daughter of a courtesan?

- (a) Abhijnanashakuntalam
- (b) Mrichchhakaktika**
- (c) Malavikagnimitra
- (d) Vikramorvashi

Correct Answer : **(b) Mrichchhakaktika**

69. Consider the following statements, with reference to Ancient India:

1. With improvement in technology, the settlements in India moved from west to east.

2. During ancient India, major cities came up along the river banks.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Answer : c) Both 1 and 2

70. Which of the following administrative features were unique to the Satavahana dynasty?

1. Their kingdom was divided into Aharas, similar to the Mauryan Janapadas.
2. They were the first rulers in Indian history to grant tax-free land grants to both Brahmanas and Buddhist monks.
3. The Naneghat Inscription of Naganika describes the matrilineal succession system of the Satavahanas.
4. The feudal system under them had three grades of feudatories—Raja, Mahabhoja, and Senapati.

Options:

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 1, 2, and 4 only
- (C) 2, 3, and 4 only
- (D) 1, 3, and 4 only

Correct Answer: (B) 1, 2, and 4 only

Explanation: The Satavahanas introduced Aharas as administrative divisions and were the first to grant tax-free lands to religious institutions. Their feudal system included three grades of feudatories—Raja, Mahabhoja, and Senapati. However, they did not follow matrilineal succession—though they used matronymics (e.g., Gautamiputra Satakarni), the system remained patrilineal.

71. Which of the following statements about the administrative structure of the Sangam period are correct?

1. The kingdom was divided into Mandalams (provinces), which were further divided into Nadus.
2. The Ur was a village unit, classified into Perur (big village), Sirur (small village), and Mudur (old village).
3. The king's court, called Nalavai, had judicial, legislative, and executive functions.
4. The coronation ceremony of the king was known as Ariyanai, and the successor was titled Ilavarasan.

Options:

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 1, 2, and 3 only
- (C) 1, 3, and 4 only
- (D) 2, 3, and 4 only

Correct Answer: (B) 1, 2, and 3 only  
Explanation:

- Mandalams and Nadus were administrative divisions.
- Ur villages were classified into Perur, Sirur, and Mudur based on size and antiquity.
- Nalavai (king's court) had multiple functions.

The coronation was called "Mudisoottuvila", not Ariyanai (which refers to the throne). The crown prince was called Ilavarasan, but this was not linked to Ariyanai.

72. Which of the following statements about the Kushana Empire are correct?

1. The Kushanas originated from the Yueh-Chi tribe and first established their rule in Bactria before expanding into India.
2. Vima Kadphises was the first Kushana ruler to issue gold coins in India.
3. Kanishka extended the Kushana Empire from Central Asia to the Gangetic plains, making Purushapura his capital.
4. The Kushanas introduced the Gupta Era, which later became the foundation of the Indian calendar system.

Options:

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 1, 2, and 3 only
- (C) 1, 3, and 4 only
- (D) 2, 3, and 4 only

Correct Answer: (B) 1, 2, and 3 only  
Explanation:

- Kushanas were originally from the Yueh-Chi tribe and first established their rule in Bactria (modern Afghanistan) before moving into India.
  - Vima Kadphises was the first Kushana ruler to issue gold coins in India, imitating Roman coinage.
- Kanishka expanded the empire from Central Asia to the Gangetic plains and made Purushapura (Peshawar) his capital.
- The Shaka Era (78 CE), not the Gupta Era, was introduced by Kanishka (making statement 4 incorrect).

73. Which of the following pairs are correctly matched?

Dynasty	Founder	Capital	Time Period
(A) Pala	Gopala	Pataliputra	750 – 1174 CE
(B) Rashtrakuta	Dantidurga	Manyakheta	753 – 982 CE
(C) Eastern Chalukya	Jayasimha I	Vengi	7th – 12th CE
(D) Chola	Rajaraja I	Gangaikonda Cholapuram	848 – 1279 CE

Options:

- (a) A and B only
- (b) A, B, and C only
- (c) B, C, and D only
- (d) A, B, C, and D

Correct Answer: (b) A, B, and C only

Explanation:

- Pala → Gopala → Capital was originally Pataliputra, later Vikramashila (Correct)
- Rashtrakuta → Dantidurga → Capital was Manyakheta (Correct)
- Eastern Chalukya → Jayasimha I → Capital was Vengi (Correct)
- Chola → Founded by Vijayalaya, Rajaraja I was the most famous ruler → Thanjavur was the original capital, Gangaikonda Cholapuram became the capital under Rajendra I, not Rajaraja I (Incorrect)

74. Which of the following literary works were matched correctly with the authors

1. Devichandraguptam – Vishakadatta
2. Mrichikakatikam – Shudraka
3. Ashtadhyayi – Kalhana
4. Rajatarangini – Panini

Select the answer from the codes given below

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 3 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Correct Answer : b) 1 and 2 only

75. Which of the following school explains about 8 consciousness which include 5 senses + manovijñāna (mental consciousness) + Klistha Manas (defiled consciousness) + Alaya

Vijnana (storehouse consciousness)

- a) Yogachara (Cittamatra) School
- b) Madhyamaka School
- c) Vaibhāṣika School
- d) Sautrāntika School

**Correct Answer : a) Yogachara (Cittamatra) School**

76. Which of the following statement is true

1. Gommateshwara statue was built in 981 A.D by the Ganga dynasty minister Chavundaraya
  2. Vimal Vasahi temple dedicated to Jain lord Rishabha in Dilwara was built in 1031 CE by Vimalsha a minister of Bhima I
- Select the answer from the below codes

- a) 1 only correct
- b) 2 only correct
- c) Both 1 and 2 correct
- d) Neither 1 nor 2 correct

**Correct Answer : c) Both 1 and 2 correct**

77. Consider the following statements about the Kushana dynasty:

1. The founder of the Kushana dynasty was Wima Kadphises.
2. Kujula Kadphises issued gold coins.
3. Wima Kadphises was a devotee of Lord Siva.
4. Kanishka was the founder of the Saka era, which starts from 78 A.D.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer : (b) 3 and 4 only

78. Which of the following correctly describe the administrative system of the Satavahanas?

1. Aharas were the administrative divisions, similar to Mauryan Janapadas.
2. The provincial governors were called Mahasenapati and also functioned as feudatories.
3. The Satavahanas followed a rigid, centralized administration without any feudal elements.
4. They issued tax-free land grants to Brahmanas and Buddhist monks, setting a precedent for later dynasties.

Options:

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 1, 2, and 4 only
- (C) 2, 3, and 4 only
- (D) 1, 3, and 4 only

Correct Answer: (B) 1, 2, and 4 only

Explanation:

- Aharas (districts) were key administrative divisions under the Satavahanas, similar to Mauryan Janapadas.
- Provincial governors (Mahasenapati) acted as feudatories and had military responsibilities.
- Administration was NOT fully centralized; feudal elements existed, with feudatories (Raja, Mahabhoja, Senapati) playing a role.
- They were pioneers in granting taxfree land to Brahmanas and Buddhist monks, a tradition followed by later dynasties.

79. Which of the following statements correctly describe Gupta religious developments?

1. The Gupta rulers were devout followers of Vaishnavism, as seen in their inscriptions and temple constructions.
2. The concept of Bhakti (personal devotion to deities) gained prominence during this period.
3. Buddhism declined during the Gupta period due to state patronage shifting towards Brahmanism and the rise of Mahayana sects.

4. The Ajanta Caves, built during the Gupta period, were primarily Shaivite temples.

Options:

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 1, 2, and 3 only
- (C) 2, 3, and 4 only
- (D) 1, 3, and 4 only

Correct Answer: (B) 1, 2, and 3 only

Explanation:

- Gupta rulers were mostly Vaishnavites, but they also patronized Shaivism and Buddhism. Temples dedicated to Vishnu were constructed.
- Bhakti (personal devotion to deities) became popular, particularly in Vaishnavism and Shaivism.
- Buddhism saw a decline as state patronage shifted toward Brahmanism, and Mahayana Buddhism became more ritualistic.
- Ajanta Caves were Buddhist monastic structures, not Shaivite temples.

80. Which of the following Buddhist and Jain texts provide insights into the Post-Mauryan period?

1. Milinda Panha (Questions of Milinda)
2. Mahavamsa (Chronicle of Sri Lanka)
3. Arthashastra by Kautilya
4. Kalpasutra (Jain text on Mahavira's life)

Options:

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 1, 2, and 4 only
- (C) 2, 3, and 4 only
- (D) 1, 3, and 4 only

Correct Answer: (B) 1, 2, and 4 only

Explanation:

- Milinda Panha (1st century BCE) records the Buddhist dialogue between Indo-Greek King Menander (Milinda) and sage Nagasena.
- Mahavamsa (Sri Lankan Buddhist chronicle) provides details on Indo-Sri Lankan relations during the Post-Mauryan period.
- Kalpasutra is a Jain text that offers historical insights into the spread of Jainism, particularly under rulers like Kharavela.

- Arthashastra belongs to the Mauryan period, not Post-Mauryan India (making statement 3 incorrect).

81. Which of the following **rulers and their religious patronage** are correctly matched?

Ruler	Dynasty	Religious Patronage
(A) Chandragupta II	Gupta	Buddhism and Hinduism
(B) Amoghavarsha	Rashtrakuta	Jainism
(C) Rajaraja Chola I	Chola	Shaivism
(D) Kanishka	Kushana	Vaishnavism

Options:

- (a) A and C only
- (b) A, B, and C only
- (c) B, C, and D only
- (d) A, B, C, and D

**Correct Answer: (b) A, B, and C only**

**Explanation:**

- Chandragupta II (Gupta Dynasty) → Patronized Hinduism but also supported Buddhism (Correct)
- Amoghavarsha (Rashtrakuta Dynasty) → Strong patron of Jainism and encouraged temple construction (Correct)
- Rajaraja Chola I (Chola Dynasty) → Prominent Shaivite, built Brihadeshwara Temple (Correct)
- Kanishka (Kushana Dynasty) → Patronized Mahayana Buddhism, not Vaishnavism (Incorrect)

82. Which of the following **rulers and their territorial expansion policies** are correctly matched?

Ruler	Dynasty	Territorial Expansion
(A) Rajendra I	Chola	Conquered parts of Southeast Asia
(B) Dharmapala	Pala	Controlled Kannauj under Tripartite Struggle
(C) Harshavardhana	Vardhana	Conquered Kalinga and Deccan
(D) Mihira Bhoja	Gurjara-Pratihara	Defended against Arab invasions

Options:

- (a) A and B only
- (b) A, B, and D only
- (c) A, C, and D only
- (d) B, C, and D only

**Correct Answer: (b) A, B, and D only**

**Explanation:**

- Rajendra I (Chola Dynasty) → Led successful naval expeditions to Southeast Asia (Sri Lanka, Malaya, Sumatra, and Java) (Correct)
- Dharmapala (Pala Dynasty) → Briefly controlled Kannauj under the Tripartite Struggle (Correct)
- Harshavardhana (Vardhana Dynasty) → Did not conquer Kalinga and Deccan, but ruled North India from Kannauj (Incorrect)
- Mihira Bhoja (Gurjara-Pratihara Dynasty) → Defended against Arab invasions in Sindh (Correct)

83. Which of the following statements about the sources of the Sangam Age are correct?

1. The Ettuthogai (Eight Anthologies) and Pattuppattu (Ten Idylls) are key sources of Sangam literature.

2. Silappadikaram and Manimegalai are considered part of the Sangam corpus.

3. The Periplus of the Erythraean Sea provides evidence of Indo-Roman trade during the Sangam period.

4. The inscriptions at Mangulam and Alagarmalai mention Sangam chieftains and their patronage of Jainism.

Options:

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 1, 3, and 4 only
- (C) 2, 3, and 4 only
- (D) 1, 2, 3, and 4

Correct Answer: (B) 1, 3, and 4 only

Explanation:

- Ettuthogai and Pattuppattu form the main corpus of Sangam literature.
- Silappadikaram and Manimegalai are post-Sangam epics, not part of the original Sangam corpus.
- The Periplus of the Erythraean Sea confirms trade between Rome and Tamilakam.
- Mangulam and Alagarmalai inscriptions mention Jain patronage by Sangam chieftains.

84. Balacharita, Madhyamavyayoga, Pancharatra, and Dutavakya are all plays written by:

- a) Kalidasa
- b) Bhasa
- c) Shudraka
- d) Harsha

✔ **Correct Answer: b) Bhasa**

🔗 **Explanation of Options**

**a) Kalidasa – Incorrect**

Kalidasa authored works such as *Abhijnanasakuntalam*, *Vikramorvashiyam*, and *Malavikagnimitram*.

**b) Bhasa – Correct**

All the mentioned plays — *Balacharita*, *Madhyamavyayoga*, *Pancharatra*, and *Dutavakya* — are attributed to the early Sanskrit dramatist Bhasa.

**c) Shudraka – Incorrect**

Shudraka is known for *Mrichchhakatika* (The Little Clay Cart).

**d) Harsha – Incorrect**

Harsha authored *Ratnavali*, *Priyadarshika*, and *Nagananda*.

85. Which of the following pairs are correctly matched?

Dynasty	Founder	Capital	Time Period
(A) Gurjara Pratihara	Nagabhata I	Kannauj	8th – 11th CE
(B) Gahadavala	Govindachandra	Varanasi	1090 – 1194 CE
(C) Paramara	Upendra	Dhar	9th – 14th CE
(D) Solanki	Bhima I	Anhilwara Patan	942 – 1244 CE

**Options:**

- (a) A and C only
- (b) A, B, and C only
- (c) A, C, and D only
- (d) B, C, and D only

**Correct Answer: (c) A, C, and D only**

Explanation:

- Gurjara-Pratihara → Nagabhata I → Capital was Kannauj (Correct)
- Gahadavala → Founded by Chandradeva, Govindachandra was a later ruler (Incorrect)
- Paramara → Upendra → Capital was Dhar (Correct)
- Solanki → Founded by Mularaja, Bhima I was a prominent ruler → Capital was Anhilwara Patan (Correct)

86. With reference to Faxian's *Fuguo ji* (A Record of Buddhist Countries) account of the Gupta administration, consider the following statements:

1. There was no restriction on peoples movement and they enjoyed a large degree of personal freedom.
2. There was a decline of Buddhism in the Ganga valley.
3. Roads were unsafe due to the threat of robbers.
4. The Guptas administration was more liberal than the Mauryas.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1, 3 and 4 only
- b) 2, 3 and 4 only
- c) 3 and 4 only
- d) **1, 2 and 4 only**

Correct Answer : **1, 2 and 4 only**

87. Which of the following statements about the Satavahana economy and coinage are correct?

1. The Satavahanas were the first in Indian history to issue silver coins.
2. Gautamiputra Satakarni counterstruck the silver coins of Nahapana, indicating a shift in political control.
3. Satavahana coinage included silver, copper, lead, and potin, with symbols like the Ujjain symbol and ship motifs.
4. The Nashik inscription of Gautami Balashri mentions grants made to Buddhist viharas, reflecting state sponsored economic support.

Options:

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 2, 3, and 4 only
- (C) 1, 3, and 4 only
- (D) 2 and 4 only

Correct Answer: (B) 2, 3, and 4 only

Explanation:

- Satavahanas did not introduce silver coins first; the Indo-Greeks and Kushanas did so earlier.
- Gautamiputra Satakarni counterstruck Nahapana's coins, showing his conquest over the Western Kshatrapas.

- Their coinage was diverse—silver, copper, lead, and potin—with symbols like the Ujjain symbol and ship motifs. The Nashik inscription (Gautami Balashri) records grants to Buddhist viharas, showing state support for Buddhism.

88. Social and economic life of Harsha's empire can be derived from the accounts of Hiuen Tsang. In this context, consider the following statements:

1. Hiuen Tsang mentions three ways of disposal of the dead—cremation, water burial and exposure in the woods.
2. This period is marked by sharp economic decline due to fall in trade.

Which of the statements given above is/ are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Correct Answer : (c) Both 1 and 2

89. Which of the following statements about Ajanta and Ellora caves are correct?

1. Ajanta caves contain elaborate fresco paintings depicting Jataka tales and Buddhist themes.
2. Ellora caves represent a mix of Buddhist, Hindu, and Jain rock-cut temples.
3. Ajanta caves were built during the Satavahana and Vakataka periods, while Ellora caves were constructed under the Pallavas.
4. The Kailash Temple at Ellora is the largest monolithic rock-cut temple in the world.

Options:

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 1, 2, and 4 only
- (C) 2, 3, and 4 only
- (D) 1, 3, and 4 only

Correct Answer: (B) 1, 2, and 4 only

Explanation:

- Ajanta caves feature fresco paintings illustrating Jataka tales and Buddhist

themes, created primarily during the Satavahana and Vakataka periods.

- Ellora caves house Hindu, Buddhist, and Jain temples, showing religious diversity.
- Ellora caves were built under the Rashtrakutas, not the Pallavas (making statement 3 incorrect).
- The Kailash Temple at Ellora is the largest monolithic rock-cut temple in the world, built by Krishna I of the Rashtrakuta dynasty.

90. Consider the following pairs:

- | S.no. | Temple                           | Patron    |
|-------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| 1.    | The Papanatha temple, Pattadakal | Chalukyas |
| 2.    | The Shore temple, Mahabalipuram  | Pallavas  |
| 3.    | The Kailashanath temple, Kanchi  | Cholas    |

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 2 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer : (c) 1 and 2 only**

91. Which of the following best describes the meaning of the term 'Bhojaka' during the Buddha period:

- a) Chief of village
- b) Tax amounting to 1/6th of total production
- c) Fertile land
- d) Tax free land

**Correct Answer : c) Fertile land**

92. The book 'Rajatarangini', which gives biographies of kings of Kashmir, was written by

- a) Bilhana
- b) Kalhana
- c) Atula
- d) Sandhyakara Nandi

**Correct Answer : b) Kalhana**

93. The Gupta period saw significant advancements in science and technology. Which of the following correctly highlights these achievements?

1. Aryabhata's Aryabhatiya introduced the concept of zero and the placevalue system.
2. Varahamihira's Brihat Samhita discussed planetary movements and astrological predictions.
3. Charaka's Charaka Samhita, written during this period, laid the foundation for Ayurveda.
4. The Iron Pillar of Delhi, made using advanced metallurgical techniques, has remained rust-free for centuries.

Options:

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 2 and 4 only
- (C) 1, 2, and 4 only
- (D) 1, 2, 3, and 4

Correct Answer: (C) 1, 2, and 4 only

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct: Aryabhata's Aryabhatiya introduced the placevalue system, though the formal use of zero was fully developed later.
- Statement 2 is correct: Varahamihira's Brihat Samhita contained details on astronomy, planetary movements, and astrology.
- Statement 3 is incorrect: Charaka's Charaka Samhita belongs to the Mauryan period, not the Gupta period.
- Statement 4 is correct: The Iron Pillar of Delhi (attributed to Chandragupta II) is an example of advanced metallurgy, as it remains rust-free even today.

94. Which of the following statements about Sangam Age art and culture are correct?

1. The earliest references to Tamil drama and music are found in Sangam literature, mentioning instruments like Yal and Parai.
2. Hero stones (Nadukal) were erected in memory of warriors who died in battle, reflecting a tradition of hero worship.
3. Temples played a central role in Sangam culture, with grand stone temples dedicated to Shiva and Vishnu being common.
4. The Silappadikaram and Manimegalai epics provide information on music, dance, and artistic traditions in Tamil society.

Options:

- (A) 1, 2, and 4 only  
(B) 1 and 2 only  
(C) 1, 3, and 4 only  
(D) 2, 3, and 4 only

Correct Answer: (A) 1, 2, and 4 only

Explanation: Sangam literature contains references to Tamil drama and music, mentioning instruments like Yal (string instrument) and Parai (drum).

- Hero stones (Nadukal) were erected to honor fallen warriors, showing hero worship.
- Large stone temples were not common during the Sangam period (they emerged later under Pallavas and Cholas), making statement 3 incorrect.

Silappadikaram and Manimegalai describe dance, music, and artistic traditions in Tamil society.

95. Consider the following statements:

1. They ruled over the Deccan and Central India.
2. They issued lead coins in large number.
3. They made land grants to the Brahmanas and the Buddhist monks.

The above statements best describe which of the following dynasties?

- (a) Rashtrakutas  
(b) Ikshvakus  
(c) Chalukyas  
(d) Satavahanas

Correct Answer : (d) Satavahanas

96. Which of the following insights about the Post-Mauryan period are derived from coinage (numismatics)?

1. The Indo-Greeks introduced bilingual, bscript coins featuring Greek and Kharosthi scripts.
2. The Kushanas were the first rulers in India to issue gold coins on a large scale.
3. Satavahana coins featured Prakrit inscriptions and the Ujjain symbol (crossed circles).
4. Shaka coins exclusively depicted Greek deities and never included Indian motifs.

Options:

- (A) 1 and 2 only  
(B) 1, 2, and 3 only  
(C) 2, 3, and 4 only  
(D) 1, 3, and 4 only

Correct Answer: (B) 1, 2, and 3 only

Explanation:

- Indo-Greek coins were the first to feature Greek and Kharosthi scripts, showing bilingualism.
- Kushanas (Vima Kadphises) were the first to issue large quantities of gold coins in India.
- Satavahana coins often had Prakrit inscriptions and featured symbols like the Ujjain symbol (crossed circles).
- Shaka coins depicted both Greek and Indian deities (e.g., Shiva, Buddha, and Persian deities), making statement 4 incorrect.

97. Which of the following inscriptions provide valuable historical information about the PostMaurya period?

1. Hathigumpha Inscription of Kharavela
2. Junagarh Inscription of Rudradaman I
3. Besnagar Garuda Pillar Inscription of Heliodorus
4. Prayagraj (Allahabad) Pillar Inscription of Samudragupta

Options:

- (A) 1 and 2 only  
(B) 1, 2, and 3 only  
(C) 2, 3, and 4 only  
(D) 1, 3, and 4 only

Correct Answer: (B) 1, 2, and 3 only

Explanation:

- Hathigumpha Inscription (Odisha) of Kharavela (Kalinga ruler) describes his military expeditions and Jain patronage.
- Junagarh Inscription (Gujarat) of Rudradaman I (Shaka ruler) is the earliest long inscription in Sanskrit, mentioning repairs to Sudarshana Lake.
- Besnagar Garuda Pillar Inscription (Madhya Pradesh) records Heliiodorus, a Greek ambassador, who embraced Vaishnavism.

Prayagraj Pillar Inscription belongs to the Gupta period, not the PostMaurya period (making statement 4 incorrect).

98. With reference to the Gupta ruler, Chandragupta II, consider the following statements:

1. He patronized scholars like Dhanvantri and Amarsimha.
2. Chinese traveller Hiuen Tsang visited India in his time.
3. The successors of Chandragupta II had to face an invasion by the Hunas from Central Asia.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 2 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Correct answer : (b) 1 and 3 only

99. In ancient India, the term Skandhavaras was used to refer to the

- (a) military camps
- (b) royal scribes
- (c) Jain monks wearing white clothes
- (d) revenue collectors

Correct Answer : (a) military camps

100. Term 'yavanapriya' mentioned in early Sanskrit texts refers to:

- a) India made steel cutlery
- b) Cotton
- c) Pepper
- d) Indian beads

Correct Answer : c) Pepper