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

Test Booklet Series

TEST BOOKLET

**Subject : Test 2 – Ancient Indian History
Question Paper****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.

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1. Consider the following table:

Language Family	Language	Scheduled / State Language Status
A. Indo-European	Gujarati	Scheduled language
B. Dravidian	Tulu	Scheduled language
C. Austro-Asiatic	Santhali	Scheduled language
D. Indo-Burmese	Bodo	State language of Assam

Which of the rows given above are correctly matched?

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

2. Consider the following table regarding the subdivisions of the Holocene Epoch:

Age	Time Period	Climatic Characteristic
A. Greenlandian	11,700 – 8,300 years ago	Warm period marking the exit from last Ice Age
B. Northgrippian	8,300 – 4,200 years ago	Gradual global warming phase
C. Meghalayan	4,200 years ago to present	Period beginning with a worldwide megadrought

Which of the rows given above are correctly matched?

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

3. Consider the following statements:

1. The Paleolithic Age is associated with hunting, fishing, and gathering as the primary means of subsistence.
2. Sophisticated domestication of animals and plants began during the Mesolithic Age.
3. The Neolithic Age witnessed the emergence of pottery, weaving, and organized burial practices.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

4. Consider the following table:

Site	River Associated	Present Location
A. Harappa	Ravi	Pakistan
B. Mohenjo-daro	Indus	Pakistan
C. Kalibangan	Saraswati	Rajasthan
D. Alamgirpur	Hindon	Uttar Pradesh

Which of the rows given above are correctly matched?

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

5. Consider the following table:

Site	Distinct Feature	Interpretation
A. Chanhudaro	No citadel	Artisan-dominated settlement
B. Banawali	Irregular roads	Weak urban planning
C. Dholavira	Water reservoirs	Advanced water management
D. Kalibangan	Ploughed field	Agricultural practices

Which of the rows given above are correctly matched?

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

6. Which of the following groups of sites belong to the *Mature Harappan* phase of the Indus Valley Civilisation?

- (a) Harappa – Mohenjo-daro – Dholavira
- (b) Kalibangan – Kot Diji – Amri
- (c) Daimabad – Bhagwanpura – Bet Dwarka
- (d) Mehrgarh – Rehman Dheri – Balakot

7. According to ancient Indian cosmogonic ideas, what is the correct sequential order of the four Yugas in one complete cycle (from earliest to latest)?

- Dvapara → Krita → Treta → Kali
- Krita → Dvapara → Treta → Kali
- Krita → Treta → Dvapara → Kali
- Treta → Dvapara → Kali → Krita

8. Consider the following table of major Sanskrit grammatical works, their authors, and the political context during which they were composed:

Grammatical Work	Author	Corresponding King / Period
A. Ashtadhyayi	Panini	Pre-Mauryan period
B. Varttika	Katyayana	Mauryan period
C. Mahabhashya	Patanjali	Pushyamitra Shunga
D. Vakyapadiya	Bhartrihari	Gupta period

Which of the rows given above are correctly matched?

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

9. Consider the following statements regarding the development of the Sanskrit language:

- Ashvaghosha's *Buddhacharita* was composed in Sanskrit.
- Ashtadhyayi* of Panini is the earliest systematic treatise on Sanskrit grammar.
- The grammatical framework laid down by Panini standardised Classical Sanskrit, making it distinct from the more fluid and archaic Vedic Sanskrit.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

10. Which of the following rivers in Rig veda are matched correctly with the modern rivers

- Vitase : Jhelum
- Asikni : Chenab
- Vipas: Sutlej
- Satudri : Beas

Select the answer from the below codes

- 1 and 2
- 2, 3 and 4
- 1, 3 and 4
- 1, 2 and 4

11. In the context of ancient and medieval Indian administration, the terms *barids*, *munhiyans*, *pulisani*, *pativedakas*, *episcopoi*, *ephoroi*, and *gudhapurusha* collectively refer to which of the following categories?

- Spies and intelligence officers
- Coins and officials involved in minting
- Different categories of peasants
- Various types of war criminals

12. Which of the following options gives the correct sequential arrangement of dynasties corresponding to the following emblems?

Boar → Bow → Fish → Garuda → Tiger

- Chola – Chera – Pandya – Gupta – Vakataka
- Vakataka – Chera – Pandya – Gupta – Chola
- Pandya – Gupta – Vakataka – Chola – Chera
- Chera – Pandya – Gupta – Chola – Vakataka

13. With reference to Jain philosophy, consider the following pairs:

1. Kevalajñāna — Absolute or perfect knowledge attained by a liberated soul
2. Jina — A conqueror of inner passions who has attained liberation
3. Tīrthaṅkara — Ford builder who establishes the Jain order and shows the path to liberation
4. Saṃsāra — State of eternal bliss after liberation

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

14. In which of the following chronological sequences did the given developments first appear in ancient India?

1. Gold coins
2. Punch-marked silver coins
3. Iron plough
4. Urban culture

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

15. Consider the following table relating to religious establishments and their associated traditions:

Religious Establishment	Associated Religion	Primary Function / Feature
A. Basadi	Jainism	Temple for worship of Tirthankaras
B. Chaitya	Buddhism	Prayer hall often housing a stupa
C. Mandir	Hinduism	Place of image worship of deities
D. Tirth	Buddhism	Sacred river-crossing place

Which of the rows given above are correctly matched?

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

16. With reference to symbols associated with important events in the life of the Buddha, consider the following pairs:

Symbol	Event in the life of the Buddha
1. Stupa	Parinirvana
2. Bodhi Tree	Nirvana (Enlightenment)
3. Horse	Mahabhinishkramana (Great Renunciation)
4. Dharmachakra (Wheel)	First sermon at Sarnath

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

17. Consider the following table relating to early Indian rulers and their association with the stupa tradition:

Ruler	Historical Context	Association with Stupas
A. Ashoka	Mauryan emperor (3rd century BCE)	Built stupas across the subcontinent to enshrine relics
B. Ajatashatru	Magadhan ruler, contemporary of the Buddha	Constructed a stupa over the Buddha's relics at Rajgir
C. Bimbisara	Early Magadhan ruler	Introduced the practice of stupa worship
D. Mahapadma Nanda	Founder of the Nanda dynasty	First to enshrine Buddha's bodily remains

Which of the rows given above are correctly matched?

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

18. The sites of Kumrahar and Bulandibagh are associated with the Mauryan Empire in which of the following ways?

- (a) They have yielded the largest number of Ashokan edicts and pillars
- (b) They contain archaeological remains of the Mauryan royal palace
- (c) They preserve commemorative inscriptions issued by Ashoka
- (d) They are sites of two major Buddhist stupas

19. Match List I with List II and select the correct answer using the code given below:

List I

List II

- A. Śruti 1. Ethical conduct and customs of virtuous people
 B. Smṛti 2. Remembered texts laying down social and legal norms
 C. Sadāchāra 3. Mythological and genealogical texts dealing with cosmology and traditions
 D. Purāṇa 4. Revealed sacred texts regarded as divine in origin

Codes

A B C D

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

20. The terms *Nagara*, *Gauri*, *Bhaikshuki*, and *Siddhamatrika* are associated with which one of the following in ancient India?

- (a) Styles of temple architecture
- (b) Scripts used in different regions and periods
- (c) Social customs and practices
- (d) Forms of deities and modes of worship

21. Which one of the following doctrines is central to the philosophy of the Ājīvika sect?

- (a) Doctrine of Anekāntavāda (manifold view of reality)
- (b) Doctrine of Madhyamāpratipadā (the Middle Path)
- (c) Doctrine of Pāramitā (perfections leading to enlightenment)
- (d) Doctrine of absolute fatalism or determinism (Niyati)

22. Evidence of Camel, Horse and Rhinoceros is respectively found in

- a) Kalibangan, Surkotada, Amri
- b) Rehman Dheri, Surkotada, Lothal
- c) Dholavira, Desalpur, Nindowari
- d) Balakot, Allahdino, Saraikola

23. Which of the following religious or philosophical movements are associated with the *Śramaṇa* tradition in ancient India?

1. Jainism
2. Vaisheshika
3. Ajivikas
4. Buddhism

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

24. Which one of the following pairs does NOT belong to the six orthodox (Āstika) systems of Indian philosophy?

- (a) Mīmāṃsā and Vedānta
- (b) Nyāya and Vaiśeṣika
- (c) Lokāyata and Kāpālika
- (d) Sāṃkhya and Yoga

25. Match the following: Important Archeological Findings Harappan Sites

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------------------|
| A. Harappa | 1. Remains of horse bones |
| B. Banawali | 2. Red sandstone male torso |
| C. Ropar | 3. City with radial streets |
| D. Surkotada | 4. Dog buried with human |

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A B C D
- (a) 1 4 3 2
 - (b) 2 3 4 1
 - (c) 3 1 2 4
 - (d) 4 2 1 3

26. With reference to the Indus (Harappan) Civilisation, consider the following pairs of sites and their associated rivers:

1. Dasht River — Sutkagendor
2. Bhogavo River — Lothal
3. Rangoi River — Banawali
4. Hindon River — Alamgirpur

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one pair
- (b) Only two pairs
- (c) Only three pairs
- (d) All four pairs

27. Which one of the following events in the life of the Buddha is associated with a site that is currently recognised as a UNESCO World Heritage Site?

- (a) Mahābhinishkramana (Great Renunciation)
- (b) Mahāparinirvāṇa (Final passing away)
- (c) Nirvāṇa (Enlightenment)
- (d) Dharmachakrapravartana (First sermon)

28. **Assertion (A):** The concept of Prajñā-Pāramitā in Buddhism denotes the *Perfection of Wisdom* and is closely associated with the doctrine of Śūnyatā (emptiness).

Reason (R): The doctrine of Śūnyatā holds that all phenomena lack an inherent, independent essence (*svabhāva*) and exist only in dependence on causes, conditions, and interrelations.

Which one of the following is correct?

- (a) Both A and R are correct, and R correctly explains A
- (b) Both A and R are correct, but R does not explain A
- (c) A is correct, but R is incorrect
- (d) A is incorrect, but R is correct

29. In Buddhist philosophy, the doctrine of *Pratītyasamutpāda* / *Pattichcha Samuppada* (Dependent Origination) seeks to explain the origin of suffering and the cycle of birth and rebirth. Which one of the following best captures its core principle?

- (a) All events in the world occur due to divine will or supernatural intervention.
- (b) Phenomena exist independently, without being influenced by external factors.
- (c) All conditioned phenomena arise dependent on causes and conditions, highlighting the principle of causality.
- (d) The doctrine rejects the ideas of karma and rebirth altogether.

30. The national motto of India, “*Satyameva Jayate*” (Truth Alone Triumphs), inscribed below the State Emblem, is derived from which one of the following Upanishads?

- (a) Katha Upanishad
- (b) Chandogya Upanishad
- (c) Aitareya Upanishad
- (d) Mundaka Upanishad

31. With reference to the Indus Valley Civilisation, consider the following statements:

1. Archaeological evidence suggests the presence of royal palaces and organised temples.
2. The people of the Indus Valley Civilisation appear to have worshipped both male and female deities.
3. There is evidence to suggest the use of horse-drawn chariots in warfare.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1, 2 and 3
- (d) None of the statements given above is correct

32. With reference to the religious and philosophical traditions of ancient India, consider the following statements:

1. Sautrāntika and Sāmmitiya were sects belonging to Jainism.
2. The Sarvāstivādins held that the constituents of phenomena exist in the past, present, and future, and are therefore not wholly momentary.

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

33. Which one of the following statements best describes the nature of *Tantric worship* in ancient India?

- (a) Tantric practices were accessible to both men and women.
- (b) Tantric rituals strictly adhered to caste and class distinctions.
- (c) Tantric worship was confined exclusively to Eastern India.
- (d) Tantric practitioners universally accepted the authority of the Vedas.

34. Geologists have recently identified the last 4,200 years as a distinct age in Earth’s climatic history. This geological age has been named after which one of the following Indian States?

- (a) Tamil Nadu
- (b) Rajasthan
- (c) Himachal Pradesh
- (d) Meghalaya

35. A 9th-century text, the *Manjushrimulakalpa*, refers to a renowned grammarian associated with the court of the Nanda king at Pataliputra. Legendary accounts about this scholar are also preserved in *Kathasaritsagara* of Somadeva and *Brihatkathamajari* of Kshemendra.

Who was this grammarian?

- (a) Bhartrihari
- (b) Patanjali
- (c) Katyayana
- (d) Panini

36. With reference to the economic activities of the Harappan (Indus Valley) Civilisation, consider the following statements:

1. The Harappans maintained extensive internal trade networks across different regions of the Indian subcontinent.
2. Maritime and overland trade links existed between the Harappans and the Mesopotamian (Sumerian) civilisation.
3. Cotton textiles and ivory objects were among the important items exported by the Harappans.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

37. The concepts of *Mahāvratā* and *Anuvratā* are associated with which one of the following religious traditions?

- (a) Vows observed by monks and lay followers in Buddhism
- (b) Vows based on strict determinism as propounded by the Ajivikas
- (c) Vows undertaken by monks and householders in Jainism
- (d) A vow-less, materialist doctrine advocated by the Lokayatas

38. With reference to the script and sources of the Harappan (Indus Valley) Civilisation, consider the following statements:

1. The Harappan script has been identified as a form of cuneiform script.
2. The Harappan script was written in a boustrophedon style, alternating between left-to-right and right-to-left directions.
3. Harappan literature constitutes the principal source for reconstructing the history of the Indus Valley Civilisation.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) One only
- (b) Two only
- (c) Three only
- (d) None

39. Which one of the following correctly describes the Neolithic Age in comparison to earlier Stone Age phases?

- (a) Use of microliths and nomadic lifestyle
- (b) Exclusive dependence on hunting and gathering
- (c) Emergence of agriculture, permanent settlements, and social stratification
- (d) Absence of burial practices and art forms

40. Consider the following pairs of Chalcolithic cultures and their prominent archaeological discoveries:

Culture / Site	Broad Location	Prominent Discovery
A. Ahar-Banas Culture	South-eastern Rajasthan	Black-and-red ware and copper artefacts
B. Kayatha Culture	Malwa region	Evidence of iron tools
C. Jorwe Culture	Deccan plateau (Maharashtra)	Painted pottery and planned settlements
D. Ochre Coloured Pottery (OCP) Culture	Ganga-Yamuna Doab	Copper hoards

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

41. Consider the following table:

Site	River	Cultural Phase Represented
A. Alamgirpur	Hindon	Late Harappan
B. Surkotada	—	Last phase of Indus civilisation
C. Rangpur	Bhadar	Pre-Harappan only
D. Ropar	Sutlej	Harappan-Post Harappan transition

Which of the rows given above are correctly matched?

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

42. Which of the following literary works attributed to King Harsha is written under strong Buddhist influence, particularly emphasising self-sacrifice and compassion?

- (a) Ratnavali
- (b) Priyadarshika
- (c) Nagananda
- (d) Harshacharita

43. Which of the following doctrines or practices were shared by both Buddhism and Jainism?

1. Rejection of the absolute authority of the Vedas
2. Non-acceptance of the efficacy of ritualistic practices
3. Commitment to non-violence towards all forms of life
4. Advocacy of a middle path avoiding extremes of asceticism and sensual pleasure

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

44. With reference to different Buddhist philosophical schools, consider the following pairs:

1. Sautrāntika — School that relies primarily on the sūtras
2. Vibhajyavāda — School that emphasises analytical distinction and classification of doctrines
3. Sarvāstivāda — School that holds that all dharmas exist in the past, present, and future
4. Bahuśrutiya — School associated with scholars who are “well-versed” or “widely learned” in scriptures

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

45. The texts *Shravakachara*, *Charitraprabhrita* and *Dharmasangrahatika* primarily lay down rules of conduct for the lay followers of which one of the following religious traditions?

- (a) Buddhism
- (b) Shaivism
- (c) Jainism
- (d) Vaishnavism

46. With reference to certain historical terms used in ancient India, consider the following pairs:

1. Yavanapriya — Lover of Pepper
2. Ayovikāra Kuśi — Tribal female sculptural motif
3. Śālabañjikā — Iron ploughshare
4. Sandhivigraha — Principle of peace and war in statecraft

Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one pair
- (b) Only two pairs
- (c) Only three pairs
- (d) All four pairs

47. Which of the following statements about Jain Tirthankaras is/are correct?

1. There are 24 Tirthankaras in each half-cycle of time.
2. Rishabhadeva was the first Tirthankara of the current Avasarpini cycle.
3. Parshvanatha was the 24th and last Tirthankara.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

48. Some Buddhist rock-cut caves are classified as *Chaityas*, while others are known as *Viharas*. Which of the following correctly distinguishes a Chaitya from a Vihara?

- (a) A Vihara is a place of worship, whereas a Chaitya serves as the residential quarters of monks
- (b) A Chaitya is a place of worship, whereas a Vihara functions as the dwelling place of monks
- (c) A Chaitya refers to the stupa located at the rear of the cave, while a Vihara is the axial hall leading to it
- (d) There is no functional or architectural difference between Chaityas and Viharas

49. With reference to town planning in the Harappan civilisation, consider the following statements:

1. The Great Bath, one of the most distinctive architectural features of the Harappan civilisation, is located at Lothal.
2. Major Harappan cities such as Harappa, Mohenjo-daro, and Kalibangan had a citadel constructed on an elevated mud-brick platform.

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

50. Which one of the following statements is *NOT* correct?

- (a) The statue of Gomateshwara at Shravanabelagola represents the last Tirthankara of Jainism.
- (b) India's largest Buddhist monastery is located in Arunachal Pradesh.
- (c) The Khajuraho Group of Monuments were constructed under the patronage of the Chandela kings.
- (d) The Hoysaleswara Temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva.

51. Which one of the following best describes the nature of the Indus Valley Civilisation with respect to religion and society?

- (a) A secular civilisation with no evidence of religious beliefs
- (b) An egalitarian society with no indications of religious practices
- (c) A non-secular civilisation marked by strong and organised religious institutions
- (d) A secular civilisation with evidence of religious beliefs and practices

52. With reference to prehistoric rock paintings in India, consider the following statements:

1. These paintings were largely created on rock surfaces and cave walls.
2. Group hunting scenes form one of the most frequently depicted themes.
3. Animals are depicted only in bold outlines, whereas human figures are shown in a fully realistic manner.
4. Bhimbetka in present-day Madhya Pradesh is one of the most important sites associated with prehistoric paintings.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

53. With reference to Buddhism, consider the following statements:

1. Buddhism does not accept the existence of a permanent soul (ātman).
2. Compared to Brahmanism, Buddhism adopted a more liberal and egalitarian social outlook.
3. The spread of Buddhism was facilitated primarily through the use of Sanskrit as its medium of propagation.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

54. With reference to ancient Indian literature, consider the following texts:

1. Silappadikaram
2. Manimekalai
3. Civaka Chintamani
4. Paumachariu

Which of the above exhibit a distinct *Jaina* influence or flavour?

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

55. With reference to the Harappan (Indus Valley) Civilisation, consider the following statements:

1. Steatite was the most commonly used material for making seals.
2. Stone was the principal material used for the construction of residential buildings.
3. Cotton was widely used as a clothing material.
4. The unicorn motif appears most frequently on Harappan seals.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

56. In a Vedic (Śrauta) sacrifice, four principal priests perform distinct functions. With reference to their roles, consider the following statements:

1. The Hotṛi recites invocations and hymns drawn primarily from the Ṛigveda.
2. The Udgāṛi acts as the overall supervisor of the entire sacrificial performance.
3. The Brāhmaṇa priest is responsible for the construction of the sacrificial altar as prescribed in the Yajurveda.
4. The Adhvaryu chants the introductory, accompanying, and benedictory hymns.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

57. In the context of Vedic social norms, a marriage between a woman of a *higher varna* and a man of a *lower varna* was considered disapproved. Such a marriage is referred to by which of the following terms?

1. Hypogamy
2. Pratiloma
3. Hypergamy
4. Anuloma

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

58. With reference to ancient monuments, archaeological sites, and cultural heritage in India, consider the following statements:

1. No site belonging to the Harappan (Indus Valley) Civilisation in India has been designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
2. No Vedic practice has been recognised by UNESCO as Intangible Cultural Heritage.
3. India has a prehistoric rock art site with evidence of the Paleolithic period that has been inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
4. More than one Buddhist site in India has been recognised as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

59. In the context of ancient Indian art and iconography, the term *Śālabhañjikā* refers to which one of the following?

- (a) A group of anonymous sculptures belonging to the Nanda period
- (b) A Harappan-period temple dedicated to the Mother Goddess
- (c) A sculptural motif depicting a woman with stylised feminine features standing near a tree and grasping a branch
- (d) A mural painting depicting a dying prince from the Ajanta caves

60. With reference to Buddhist religious institutions and practices, consider the following pairs:

1. Chaityas — Monasteries
2. Viharas — Prayer halls
3. Parivrajyā — Entering into homelessness as a novice under a preceptor
4. Uposatha — Observance held on full-moon and new-moon days

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

61. Which one of the following sets consists of chronicles that were composed in the Pāli language and written in Ceylon (Sri Lanka)?

- (a) *Lalitavistara*, *Mahāvastu*, *Buddhacharita*, *Nidānakathā*
- (b) *Mahāvamsa*, *Dīpavamsa*, *Kulavamsa*, *Vamsatthappakāsini*
- (c) *Ādi Purāṇa*, *Triṣaṣṭilakṣaṇa Mahāpurāṇa*, *Pariśiṣṭaparvan*
- (d) *Tirukkoviayar*, *Tanjaivēnan Kovai*, *Tiruttondar Tiruvandādi*

62. Which of the following pairs are matched correctly

1. pancha-mahavrata - Buddhism
2. panchachuda - chandraketugarh
3. pancharatra - Vaishnavas
4. panchastupanikaya - Jainism

Select the answer from the below codes

- (a) One pair only
- (b) Two pairs only
- (c) Three pairs only
- (d) All the four pairs

63. Statement I: *Prajna-Paramita* philosophy is based on the works of Nagarjuna, who developed the concept of *shunyata* (emptiness).

Statement II: Nagarjuna's doctrine of *shunyata* was an outright denial of existence and promoted nihilism. Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, and Statement II explains Statement I.
- (b) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, but Statement II does not explain Statement I.
- (c) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect.
- (d) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct.

64. Which of the following artefacts is incorrectly matched with the location where it was found?

1. Didarganj Yakshi – Bihar
2. Dhauri Elephant – Odisha
3. Parkham Yaksha Statue – Uttar Pradesh
4. Lohanipur Torso – West Bengal

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

65. Consider the following details about Buddhist Councils in the Ancient Period:

Dynasty	King	Chairman	Location
Haryanka	Ajatashatru	Mahakassapa	Vaishali
Shishunaga	Kalashoka	Sabbakami	Rajagriha
Maurya	Ashoka	Vasumitra (with Ashvaghosha)	Pataliputra
Kushan	Kanishka	Moggaliputta Tissa	Kashmir

Which of the following Buddhist Councils are correctly matched in terms of Dynasty, King, Chairman, and Location?

- (a) First and Second only
- (b) Second and Third only
- (c) First, Third, and Fourth only
- (d) None of the above

66. Which of the following historical associations is correctly matched?

- (a) Harappan Civilization – Painted Grey Ware
- (b) Kushan Empire – Gandhara School of Art
- (c) Mughal Empire – Ajanta cave paintings
- (d) Maratha rule – Pahari School of Painting

67. In the context of the Megalithic period in South India, Topikals and Kudaikals are associated with:

- (a) Ancient methods of water conservation used by early settlers.
- (b) Different types of Megalithic burial structures found in archaeological sites.
- (c) Rock-cut cave temples constructed during the early historic period.
- (d) Sacred fire altars used in rituals.

68. Which one of the following best highlights a key difference between the political organisation of the Early Vedic and the Later Vedic periods?

- (a) In the Later Vedic period, kings exercised authority under the control of tribal assemblies.
- (b) Kingship in the Early Vedic period was strictly hereditary, whereas rulers in the Later Vedic period were elected.
- (c) The Early Vedic polity was predominantly tribal, while the Later Vedic polity became increasingly territorial.
- (d) The Later Vedic period witnessed the complete absence of any system of taxation.

69. Consider the following statements regarding ancient scripts of the Indian subcontinent:

1. The Harappan script is the oldest *deciphered* script of the Indian subcontinent.
2. Brahmi script is known from inscriptions dating back to the 4th century BCE.
3. Al-Biruni referred to multiple regional scripts such as Siddhamatrika, Nagara, and Andhri in different parts of India.
4. During 1500–500 BCE, literary traditions like the Vedas existed, but there is no conclusive archaeological evidence of writing.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

70. Consider the following table:

Site	Geographical Feature	Significance
A. Lothal	Near Gulf of Khambhat	Artificial dockyard
B. Sutkagendor	Makran coast	Coastal trade centre
C. Dholavira	Rann of Kutch	Riverine port
D. Malvan	Tapti River	Southernmost Harappan port

Which of the rows given above are correctly matched?

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

71. Sothi Siswal, Amri, Nal, Damb Sadat are four sites associated with

- (a) Pre Harappan Culture
- (b) Pre Harappan Sub Culture
- (c) Mature Harappan phase
- (d) Late Harappan Phase

72. Consider the following statements:

1. Houses in the Harappan civilisation were generally constructed using standardised burnt bricks.
2. Most Harappan cities followed a grid pattern of streets intersecting at right angles.
3. The Great Bath was primarily used as a residential structure for priests.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

73. With reference to key concepts in Jain philosophy, consider the following pairs:

1. Utsarpini — Phase of moral and material decline
2. Samvara — Voluntary death by fasting
3. Nirjara — Process of shedding accumulated karma
4. Sallekhana — Stoppage of the influx of new karma

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one pair
- (b) Only two pairs
- (c) Only three pairs
- (d) All four pairs

74. With reference to Jainism, consider the following personalities:

1. Devarddhi Kshamashramana
2. Jinasena
3. Gunabhadra
4. Dignaga

Which of the above are associated with Jainism?

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

75. With reference to the Indus Valley Civilisation (IVC), consider the following statements:

1. The Indus Valley Civilisation shows no evidence of religious beliefs or ritual practices.
2. Archaeological findings suggest that the Harappans were skilled in crafts such as basket-making and cloth embroidery.

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

76. With reference to the Brahmanical and Śramaṇa traditions in ancient India, consider the following statements:

1. The Brahmanical tradition upheld the authority of the Vedas, whereas the Śramaṇa tradition rejected Vedic authority.
2. The Brahmanical tradition emphasised rituals, sacrifices, and household life, while the Śramaṇa tradition stressed renunciation and asceticism.
3. The Śramaṇa tradition accepted the varna system as divinely ordained.
4. Both traditions equally emphasised ahimsa as the supreme moral principle.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

77. The terms *Harmika*, *Torana*, *Vedika*, *Medhi*, and *Chhatra* are associated with which one of the following?

- (a) Categories of taxes during the Nanda period
- (b) Architectural elements of Buddhist stupas and monuments
- (c) Structural components of Ashokan pillars
- (d) Classification of social groups in the post-Mauryan period

78. With reference to ancient Indian literary works and their authors, consider the following pairs:

1. Kuvalayamala — Udyotanasuri
2. Madhyamaka Karika — Nagasena
3. Paumachariu — Vimalasuri

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

79. The transition from the Stone Age to the Metal Age in human history corresponds to which one of the following geological epochs?

- (a) Oligocene
- (b) Pliocene
- (c) Holocene
- (d) Eocene

80. With reference to the sacred texts and languages of Buddhism and Jainism, consider the following statements:

1. The sacred canonical texts of Buddhism are collectively known as the Siddhānta or Āgama.
2. The earliest Buddhist texts were composed in Pāli, a language belonging to the Prakrit family.
3. The earliest Jain canonical texts were composed in Ardha-Māgadhī, a Prakrit language.
4. Nandi Sūtra and Anuyogadvāra (Anuyogadvara) are important Jain texts.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

81. With reference to ancient Indian literature and philosophical ideas, consider the following statements:

1. The Pañcha-lakṣaṇas (five defining characteristics) are traditionally associated with the Purāṇas.
2. The concepts of Puruṣārthas derive their philosophical foundations from the Vedas and Upaniṣads.

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

82. With reference to the provisions on slavery in the Arthashastra, consider the following statements: Which one of the statements is *incorrect*?

- (a) The sale or mortgage of a pregnant female slave without making arrangements for maternity was punishable.
- (b) A female slave (dāsī) who bore her master a son continued to remain a slave for life.
- (c) Slaves were employed both in private households as well as in state service.
- (d) The Arthashastra laid down rules for manumission, including release of slaves upon payment.

83. With reference to the concept of *Bodhisattvas* in Buddhism, consider the following statements:

1. Bodhisattvas are prominently venerated in Hīnayāna (Theravāda) Buddhism.
2. Avalokiteśvara is a Bodhisattva who embodies the compassion of all Buddhas.
3. Maitreya is regarded as a Bodhisattva who will become the future Buddha.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

84. With reference to the Mahajanapadas of ancient India, consider the following pairs of Mahajanapada, its capital, and the associated river:

Mahajanapada	Capital	River
Gandhara	Taxila	Indus
Asmaka	Potali	Godavari
Vajji	Vaishali	Gandak
Kosala	Shravasti	Sarayu

How many of the above rows are correctly matched?

- (a) One row only
- (b) Two rows only
- (c) Three rows only
- (d) All four rows

85. Consider the following statements"

Statement I: According to the Shvetambara Jain tradition, the embryo of Mahavira was originally conceived by a Brahmana woman, but Indra transferred it to the womb of Trishala.

Statement II: This transfer of the embryo was done because a Brahmana woman or a woman from a low family was considered unworthy of giving birth to a future Tirthankara.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, and Statement II explains Statement I.
- (b) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, but Statement II does not explain Statement I.
- (c) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect.
- (d) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct.

86. Which one of the following ancient Indian scripts was predominantly written from right to left?

- (a) Brahmi
- (b) Nandināgarī
- (c) Śāradā
- (d) Kharoṣṭhī

87. Consider the following table:

Site	Geographical Feature	Significance
A. Lothal	Near the Gulf of Khambhat	Artificial dockyard
B. Sutkagendor	Makran coast	Coastal trade centre
C. Dholavira	Rann of Kutch	Riverine port
D. Malvan	Tapti River	Southernmost Harappan port

Which of the rows given above are correctly matched?

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

88. With reference to religious beliefs and practices in the Early Vedic period, consider the following statements:

1. The Rig Veda reflects a wide diversity of deities and forms of worship.
2. Religious life in the Rig Vedic period was uniform, with all people worshipping the same set of Vedic gods.
3. The Rig Vedic religious outlook is best described as naturalistic polytheism, with forces of nature being personified as gods.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 1, 2 and 3
- (d) None of the above

89. With reference to Vajrayana Buddhism, consider the following statements:

1. Vajrayana Buddhism emerged as a development within the Hinayana tradition.
2. Vajrayana Buddhism views the Buddha as an ordinary historical teacher rather than a transcendent figure.
3. Vajrayana Buddhism shows the influence of local cults, magical practices, and esoteric rituals.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

90. The archaeological sites of Hathnora and Odai are best known for the discovery of which one of the following?

- (a) Palaeolithic stone tools
- (b) Prehistoric rock paintings
- (c) Evidence of early sedentary life
- (d) Fossil remains of early hominids

91. Which of the following items in the Harappan civilisation were produced on a standardised, large-scale basis rather than for individual or household use?

1. Burnt bricks
2. Weights
3. Animal rearing practices
4. Pottery

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

92. The traditional date of whose passing away is placed at 527 BCE, marking the beginning of the *Vira-nirvāṇa* era?

- (a) Gautama Buddha
- (b) Mahavira
- (c) Parshvanatha
- (d) Ashvaghosha

93. With reference to the *Gana-Sanghas* that existed as alternatives to monarchies in the pre-Mauryan period, consider the following statements:

1. Most Gana-Sanghas were located in the foothills of the Himalayas or in hilly/mountainous regions.
2. Gana-Sanghas completely rejected the Varna system, and Brahmanas or priests had no role in their society.
3. Gana-Sanghas were neither monarchies nor democracies, but functioned as oligarchies.
4. The gana-puraka was responsible for maintaining quorum in assemblies, and voting was conducted using wooden pieces called *śalākās*.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

94. The emergence of agriculture, domestication of animals, permanent settlements, and the invention of the wheel are characteristic features of which one of the following stages of prehistoric human development?

- (a) Palaeolithic Age
- (b) Mesolithic Age
- (c) Neolithic Age
- (d) Chalcolithic Age

95. With reference to the nature and authority of Vedic literature, consider the following statements:

1. Śruti is regarded as eternal and divinely revealed, whereas Smṛti is considered humanly composed and subject to change over time.
2. Smṛti literature functions in direct opposition to Śruti and does not derive its authority from it.

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

96. **Assertion (A):** In Buddhism, the doctrine of impermanence (Anicca) implies that the notion of a permanent 'self' or 'I' is illusory and that a person is a constantly changing aggregation of experiences and consciousness.

Reason (R): The Buddhist text Milindapanha employs the chariot analogy to explain that what is called a 'person' is merely a convenient designation for a collection of constituent elements, just as a chariot is nothing apart from its parts.

Which one of the following is correct?

- (a) Both A and R are correct, and R correctly explains A
- (b) Both A and R are correct, but R does not explain A
- (c) A is correct, but R is incorrect
- (d) A is incorrect, but R is correct

97. With reference to the Buddhist canonical texts known as the *Tripitakas*, consider the following statements:

1. The Sutta Piṭaka primarily lays down the rules and disciplinary regulations to be followed by Buddhist monks.
2. The Abhidhamma Piṭaka deals mainly with philosophical and metaphysical analysis of Buddhist doctrine.

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

98. What is the common feature shared by the following literary works?

1. *Paumachariu*
2. *Dasharatha Jataka*
3. *Iramavataram*

Select the correct answer from the options given below:

- (a) They are different retellings of the same epic narrative
- (b) They are commentaries on the four Vedas
- (c) They were composed by the same author
- (d) They belong to the same religious tradition

99. With reference to the early history of Jainism, consider the following statements. Which one of them is correct?

- (a) Jainism spread to South India under the leadership of Sthulabhadra.
- (b) The Jainas who followed Bhadrabahu came to be known as Shvetambaras after the Council of Pataliputra.
- (c) Jainism received royal patronage from the Kalinga king Kharavela in the 1st century BCE.
- (d) From its earliest phase, Jainism emphasized image worship, unlike Buddhism.

100. With reference to the Neolithic Age in the Indian subcontinent, consider the following statements:

1. The earliest Neolithic settlements developed in regions to the west of the Indus River.
2. The Neolithic culture of Kashmir is marked by the absence of microlithic tools.
3. Pottery-making made its first appearance during the Neolithic phase.
4. Neolithic communities generally preferred to establish settlements away from hilly regions.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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