

CUET-UG History Sample Paper - 14

Duration: 1 Hour

Maximum Marks: 250

Instructions

- This paper contains a total of 50 Multiple Choice Questions.
- Each correct answer carries **+5 marks**.
- Each incorrect answer carries **-1 mark**.
- No negative marking for unattempted questions.

Q1. Which of the following archaeologists was the first to use the term 'Indus Civilisation'?

- (A) Alexander Cunningham
- (B) Sir John Marshall
- (C) R.E.M. Wheeler
- (D) Daya Ram Sahni

Q2. At which Harappan site was a specialized drill for bead-making discovered?

- (A) Lothal
- (B) Chanhudaro
- (C) Dholavira
- (D) Both (a) and (b)

Q3. The "Hadal" type of settlement in the Harappan context refers to:

- (A) Citadels
- (B) Lower Towns
- (C) Drainage systems
- (D) Granaries



- Q4.** Which among the following was the first director general of ASI who missed the significance of Harappa because he thought Indian history began with the first cities in the Ganga Valley?
- (A) R.E.M. Wheeler
 - (B) John Marshall
 - (C) Alexander Cunningham
 - (D) G.F. Dales
- Q5.** Identify the Mahajanapada that was a 'Gana-Sangha' (Oligarchy) rather than a Monarchy:
- (A) Magadha
 - (B) Kosala
 - (C) Vrijji
 - (D) Avanti
- Q6.** James Prinsep deciphered Brahmi and Kharosthi scripts in the year:
- (A) 1810
 - (B) 1838
 - (C) 1784
 - (D) 1857
- Q7.** The Arthashastra was primarily composed by Kautilya, who was the minister of:
- (A) Ashoka
 - (B) Chandragupta Maurya
 - (C) Bindusara
 - (D) Ajatashatru



- Q8.** In the Mauryan administration, the term 'Pativedaka' referred to:
- (A) Spies
 - (B) Reporters
 - (C) Revenue Collectors
 - (D) Military Governors
- Q9.** The ambitious project of preparing a Critical Edition of the Mahabharata was led by:
- (A) B.B. Lal
 - (B) V.S. Sukthankar
 - (C) Max Mueller
 - (D) James Prinsep
- Q10.** According to the Manusmriti, which of the following is NOT a way for women to acquire wealth?
- (A) Inheritance
 - (B) Bridal procession gifts
 - (C) Token of affection from brother
 - (D) Investment in trade
- Q11.** Under the 'Gotra' rules, which of the following is true?
- (A) Women retained their father's gotra after marriage.
 - (B) Members of the same gotra could marry.
 - (C) Women adopted their husband's gotra after marriage.
 - (D) Gotras were named after famous queens.
- Q12.** The term 'Mlechchhas' was used in ancient Sanskrit texts to describe:



- (A) Brahmin priests
- (B) Shudra laborers
- (C) Non-Sanskrit speaking outsiders
- (D) Buddhist monks

Q13. Who were the main patrons who provided funds for the preservation of the Sanchi Stupa in the 19th century?

- (A) The British Government
- (B) Shahjehan Begum and Sultan Jehan Begum
- (C) The French Government
- (D) The Nawabs of Awadh

Q14. The 'Hagiography' of a saint refers to:

- (A) A collection of their teachings
- (B) A critical historical biography
- (C) A biography written by a follower focusing on miracles
- (D) A government record of their influence

Q15. In Buddhist architecture, the 'Harmika' is:

- (A) The hemispherical mound
- (B) The balcony-like structure atop the mound
- (C) The gateway (Torana)
- (D) The path for circumambulation

Q16. Which of the following is NOT one of the 'Three Jewels' (Triratna) of Jainism?

- (A) Right Faith
- (B) Right Knowledge



- (C) Right Conduct
- (D) Right Speech

Q17. Al-Biruni's Kitab-ul-Hind was written in which language?

- (A) Persian
- (B) Arabic
- (C) Turkish
- (D) Sanskrit

Q18. Ibn Battuta was appointed as the Qazi (Judge) of Delhi by which Sultan?

- (A) Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq
- (B) Muhammad bin Tughlaq
- (C) Alauddin Khalji
- (D) Iltutmish

Q19. Francois Bernier's work is characterized by his comparison of India with:

- (A) China
- (B) Persia
- (C) Europe
- (D) The Ottoman Empire

Q20. The 'Rihla' provides an account of the social and cultural life of India in the:

- (A) 11th Century
- (B) 13th Century
- (C) 14th Century
- (D) 17th Century



Q21. The Alvars were devotees of:

- (A) Shiva
- (B) Vishnu
- (C) Shakti
- (D) Buddha

Q22. The compilation of the compositions of the 12 Alvars is known as:

- (A) Tevaram
- (B) Nalayira Divyaprabandham
- (C) Guru Granth Sahib
- (D) Bijak

Q23. The 'Ziyarat' in Sufism refers to:

- (A) Fasting
- (B) Pilgrimage to the tombs of Sufi saints
- (C) Musical recitations
- (D) Charity

Q24. Which Sufi Silsila was the most influential in India?

- (A) Suhrawardi
- (B) Naqshbandi
- (C) Chishti
- (D) Qadiri

Q25. The ruins at Hampi were brought to light in 1800 by:

- (A) John Marshall



- (B) Colin Mackenzie
- (C) Alexander Cunningham
- (D) Robert Sewell

Q26. Which ruler of Vijayanagara composed the work 'Amuktamalyada'?

- (A) Harihara I
- (B) Bukka I
- (C) Krishnadeva Raya
- (D) Devaraya II

Q27. The 'Mahanavami Dibba' was a massive platform used for:

- (A) Storing grains
- (B) Royal ceremonies and rituals
- (C) Housing the cavalry
- (D) Public debates

Q28. The battle of Rakshasi-Tangadi (Talikota) which led to the decline of Vijayanagara took place in:

- (A) 1526
- (B) 1556
- (C) 1565
- (D) 1600

Q29. Abu'l Fazl was the author of:

- (A) Baburnama
- (B) Akbarnama
- (C) Humayunnama



(D) Padshahnama

Q30. In the Mughal land revenue system, 'Polaj' was land that was:

- (A) Left fallow for one year
- (B) Cultivated every year
- (C) Left fallow for 3-4 years
- (D) Uncultivable waste

Q31. The term 'Zamin-i-Paibaqi' in the Mughal administration meant:

- (A) Land held by the Emperor
- (B) Land reserved for assignment as Jagir
- (C) Land given to religious heads
- (D) Land owned by the Zamindars

Q32. Which Mughal Emperor abolished the Jizya tax in 1564?

- (A) Babur
- (B) Akbar
- (C) Jahangir
- (D) Shah Jahan

Q33. The Permanent Settlement was introduced in Bengal by:

- (A) Lord Dalhousie
- (B) Lord Cornwallis
- (C) Lord Wellesley
- (D) Warren Hastings

Q34. The Santhal Rebellion (1855-56) was directed against:



- (A) The British and the Dikus (outsiders/moneylenders)
- (B) The Mughal Emperor
- (C) The Maratha Chiefs
- (D) The French traders

Q35. The 'Fifth Report' submitted to the British Parliament in 1813 was primarily about:

- (A) The state of education in India
- (B) The administration of the East India Company in India
- (C) The religious practices of Hindus
- (D) The revolt of 1857

Q36. The Deccan Riots Commission was set up to investigate the riots in:

- (A) 1857
- (B) 1875
- (C) 1920
- (D) 1942

Q37. Who was the leader of the 1857 revolt in Kanpur?

- (A) Nana Sahib
- (B) Kunwar Singh
- (C) Begum Hazrat Mahal
- (D) Rani Laxmibai

Q38. The British officer who suppressed the revolt in Jhansi was:

- (A) Colin Campbell
- (B) Henry Havelock



- (C) Hugh Rose
- (D) John Lawrence

Q39. The painting 'In Memoriam' depicting the suffering of English women and children during 1857 was painted by:

- (A) Joseph Noel Paton
- (B) Thomas Jones Barker
- (C) Felice Beato
- (D) Charles Ball

Q40. Which of the following was a major 'Trigger' for the 1857 revolt?

- (A) The Abolition of Sati
- (B) The Introduction of the Enfield Rifle
- (C) The Education Policy of 1854
- (D) The Subsidiary Alliance

Q41. Mahatma Gandhi made his first major public appearance in India at:

- (A) Champaran (1917)
- (B) Banaras Hindu University (1916)
- (C) Ahmedabad Mill Strike (1918)
- (D) Kheda Satyagraha (1918)

Q42. The Non-Cooperation Movement was called off by Gandhi after the:

- (A) Jallianwala Bagh Massacre
- (B) Chauri Chaura incident
- (C) Rowlatt Act
- (D) Gandhi-Irwin Pact



- Q43.** Which movement is associated with the slogan 'Do or Die'?
- (A) Civil Disobedience Movement
 - (B) Non-Cooperation Movement
 - (C) Quit India Movement
 - (D) Khilafat Movement
- Q44.** The 'Dandi March' was started to protest against:
- (A) High Land Revenue
 - (B) The Salt Law
 - (C) The Rowlatt Act
 - (D) The Simon Commission
- Q45.** The 'Objectives Resolution' in the Constituent Assembly was moved by:
- (A) B.R. Ambedkar
 - (B) Jawaharlal Nehru
 - (C) Rajendra Prasad
 - (D) Sardar Patel
- Q46.** Who was the Chairman of the Drafting Committee of the Indian Constitution?
- (A) Dr. Rajendra Prasad
 - (B) B.N. Rau
 - (C) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar
 - (D) K.M. Munshi
- Q47.** In the Constituent Assembly, who made a strong plea for 'Separate Electorates' for Muslims?



- (A) Muhammad Ali Jinnah
- (B) B. Pocker Bahadur
- (C) Maulana Azad
- (D) Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan

Q48. The Constitution of India came into effect on:

- (A) 15 August 1947
- (B) 26 November 1949
- (C) 26 January 1950
- (D) 30 January 1948

Q49. Match the following travellers with their country of origin:

S.No.	Traveller	Code	Country of Origin
i	Al-Biruni	A	Morocco
ii	Ibn Battuta	B	Uzbekistan
iii	Bernier	C	France

- (A) i-B, ii-A, iii-C
- (B) i-A, ii-B, iii-C
- (C) i-C, ii-A, iii-B
- (D) i-B, ii-C, iii-A

Q50. The 'Subsidiary Alliance' was a system devised by:

- (A) Lord Dalhousie
- (B) Lord Wellesley
- (C) Lord Canning
- (D) Lord Curzon



Detailed Solutions**Q1.****Solution****Concept:**

The discovery of the Indus Valley Civilisation (IVC) is one of the most significant events in 20th-century archaeology.

Before its discovery, Indian history was believed to have started with the Vedic period or the rise of the Ganga Valley cities.

The recognition of this Bronze Age civilisation shifted the antiquity of Indian history back by over 2000 years.

Solution:

1. While Alexander Cunningham had collected Harappan seals in the 19th century, he failed to recognize their age or significance because they did not fit into his historical framework.
2. In the early 1920s, excavations led by Daya Ram Sahni at Harappa and R.D. Banerji at Mohenjodaro yielded similar seals, proving that these two distant sites belonged to the same cultural tradition.
3. Sir John Marshall, as the Director-General of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), synthesized these findings and realized that a massive, previously unknown urban civilisation had been uncovered.
4. In 1924, John Marshall officially used the term 'Indus Civilisation' in his formal announcement to the international press and the Illustrated London News.
5. He chose this name because the majority of the early sites discovered were located in the plains of the Indus River and its tributaries, marking a new chapter in world archaeology.

Final Answer: The term was first used by Sir John Marshall.

Answer: (B)



Q2.

Solution**Concept:**

Harappan craft production was highly sophisticated and involved a deep understanding of raw materials and manufacturing techniques.

Bead-making was a primary industry, using stones like carnelian, jasper, crystal, and quartz, alongside metals like copper and gold.

The presence of specialized tools is a key archaeological marker for identifying craft centers and understanding the technological depth of the period.

Solution:

1. Chanhudaro was a small settlement (less than 7 hectares) almost entirely dedicated to craft production, including bead-making, shell-cutting, and seal-making.
2. At Chanhudaro, archaeologists found evidence of the entire production process: raw materials, unfinished beads, rejects, and, most importantly, specialized stone drills.
3. Lothal, located in modern-day Gujarat, was another major hub for beads because of its proximity to sources of raw materials like carnelian from Bharuch.
4. Excavations at Lothal also revealed the same types of specialized drills found at Chanhudaro, indicating a shared technological tradition and exchange of skills between these industrial centers.
5. Recent excavations at Dholavira in the Kutch region have also yielded similar drills, further confirming that specialized drilling was a standardized technology across major Harappan manufacturing sites.

Final Answer: Specialized drills were discovered at both Lothal and Chanhudaro.

Answer: (D)



Q3.

Solution**Concept:**

The layout of Harappan cities suggests a highly organized social structure and advanced urban planning.

Most settlements followed a binary division of space, which reflected the functional requirements of the population and the hierarchy of the society.

This planning included the segregation of administrative zones from residential zones.

Solution:

1. The 'Citadel' or Upper Town was located on the western side. It was smaller in area but built on high mud-brick platforms, making it elevated. This area likely housed the ruling elite and important public buildings.
2. The 'Lower Town' was located on the eastern side. It was significantly larger in area and served as the residential and commercial heart of the city for commoners.
3. The Lower Town was characterized by a grid system of streets and an elaborate drainage system. It was the area where common citizens, craftsmen, and laborers lived and worked.
4. In archaeological classifications, the term 'Hadal' (or 'lower') is used to describe these expansive residential quarters situated at the base of the citadel.
5. Thus, within the Harappan context, the term directly corresponds to the Lower Towns.

Final Answer: The term refers to the Lower Towns.

Answer: (B)



Q4.

Solution**Concept:**

Alexander Cunningham, the first Director-General of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), is often referred to as the "Father of Indian Archaeology."

However, his approach was limited by his reliance on written historical records and a preconceived notion of when Indian urbanisation began.

This led to what is famously known as "Cunningham's Confusion."

Solution:

1. Cunningham's primary goal was to map the geography of early historic India, roughly from the 6th century BCE to the 4th century CE.
2. He relied heavily on the accounts of Chinese Buddhist travelers (Fa-Hien and Hiuen Tsang) to identify sites mentioned in ancient texts.
3. When he visited Harappa, he found seals and artifacts that did not belong to the historic period he was familiar with (the 6th century BCE).
4. Because he believed that Indian cities only began to emerge in the Ganga Valley during the time of the Buddha, he could not conceive of an older civilisation in the Indus Valley.
5. He mistakenly dismissed the Harappan seal as a foreign or "out-of-place" object and failed to investigate the site further, thus missing the opportunity to discover the Bronze Age civilisation.

Final Answer: Alexander Cunningham was the archaeologist who missed the significance of Harappa.

Answer: (C)



Q5.

Solution**Concept:**

The 6th century BCE is a major turning point in early Indian history, often associated with early states, cities, and the growing use of iron.

This era saw the rise of sixteen 'Mahajanapadas' (great territorial states).

While the majority of these states were monarchies, some maintained a more ancient form of collective governance.

Solution:

1. In a Monarchy (like Magadha, Kosala, or Avanti), a single king held absolute power, and the administration was centralized around the throne.
2. In a 'Gana' or 'Sangha', the state was governed by an oligarchy rather than a single hereditary ruler.
3. The Vrijji (or Vajji) confederacy, with its capital at Vaishali, was the most famous example of a Gana-Sangha in ancient India.
4. In this system, power was shared by a group of men who were collectively known as 'rajas'. They met in assemblies to discuss and decide on state matters through consensus.
5. This democratic tradition allowed for collective decision-making and was the political environment in which figures like Lord Mahavira and Lord Buddha were born and raised.

Final Answer: Vrijji was the state that functioned as a Gana-Sangha.

Answer: (C)



Q6.

Solution**Concept:**

The decipherment of ancient Indian scripts was a monumental breakthrough that allowed historians to reconstruct the political and social history of early India.

Two primary scripts were used in ancient inscriptions: Brahmi, which is the ancestor of most modern Indian scripts, and Kharosthi, which was used in the northwestern part of the subcontinent.

Solution:

1. James Prinsep was an officer in the mint of the East India Company and a founding editor of the Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal.
2. In the late 1830s, Prinsep managed to decipher the Brahmi script by comparing inscriptions and identifying recurring titles like 'Piyadassi' (meaning 'pleasant to behold').
3. He also deciphered the Kharosthi script by using the bilingual coins of Indo-Greek kings, which featured names written in both Greek and Kharosthi.
4. This major discovery took place in the year 1838, providing a key to understanding the edicts of Emperor Ashoka and the genealogy of early Indian dynasties.
5. This breakthrough fundamentally changed Indian historiography by providing direct evidence of the Mauryan administration and its geographical extent.

Final Answer: James Prinsep deciphered the scripts in 1838.

Answer: (B)



Q7.

Solution**Concept:**

The Arthashastra is a comprehensive ancient Indian treatise on statecraft, economic policy, and military strategy.

It is traditionally attributed to Kautilya (also known as Chanakya or Vishnugupta), who played a pivotal role in the establishment of the first great Indian empire.

Solution:

1. Kautilya was a scholar at Takshashila and a master strategist who sought to end the rule of the Nanda dynasty in Magadha.
2. He mentored and served as the chief advisor and minister to Chandragupta Maurya, helping him overthrow the Nandas and establish the Mauryan Empire.
3. The Arthashastra provides detailed instructions on how a king should govern, manage the treasury, and handle foreign relations, reflecting the administrative complexity of Chandragupta's reign.
4. While the text was likely edited over several centuries, its core is associated with the minister of the first Mauryan ruler.
5. It remains one of the most important sources for understanding the secular and political aspects of ancient Indian society during the Mauryan era.

Final Answer: Kautilya was the minister of Chandragupta Maurya.

Answer: (B)



Q8.

Solution**Concept:**

Emperor Ashoka's administration was highly sophisticated and relied on a diverse range of officials to maintain control over a vast empire.

To ensure that the king remained in touch with the needs and conduct of his subjects, a system of information gathering and reporting was established.

Solution:

1. Ashoka's inscriptions mention several types of officials, such as the Dhamma Mahamattas, who were responsible for spreading the message of Dhamma.
2. Among these officials were the 'Pativedakas', a term derived from the word for reporting or informing.
3. The Pativedakas served as 'Reporters' or 'Special Officers' whose primary duty was to report the affairs of the people to the king at all times.
4. Ashoka famously stated in his Rock Edicts that he was available for the Pativedakas to report to him wherever he was—whether he was eating, in the harem, or in the gardens.
5. This highlights Ashoka's commitment to public welfare and the efficiency of the Mauryan intelligence and administrative network.

Final Answer: The term 'Pativedaka' referred to Reporters.

Answer: (B)

Q9.

Solution**Concept:**

The Mahabharata is one of the world's longest and most complex epics.

In the early 20th century, Indian scholars realized the need for a standardized, critical version of the text to account for the thousands of regional variations that had emerged over centuries of oral and written transmission.

Solution:

1. In 1919, a massive scholarly project was initiated at the Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute in Pune to prepare a Critical Edition of the Mahabharata.
2. The project was led by V.S. Sukthankar, a renowned Sanskrit scholar, along with a team of dozens of other researchers.
3. The team collected Sanskrit manuscripts of the epic written in various scripts from all parts of India, from Kashmir to Kerala.
4. They compared the verses and selected those that were common to most versions, documenting variations in extensive footnotes.
5. The project took 47 years to complete and resulted in a monumental work that allows historians to study the social history of early India with greater textual accuracy.

Final Answer: The project was led by V.S. Sukthankar.

Answer: (B)



Q10.

Solution**Concept:**

The Manusmriti is one of the most influential legal texts (Dharmashastras) of ancient India, compiled between c. 200 BCE and 200 CE.

It prescribes social roles, duties, and laws, including specific rules regarding the ownership and acquisition of property for men and women.

Solution:

1. The Manusmriti outlines six ways for women to acquire wealth, collectively known as 'Stridhana' (woman's wealth).
2. These includes gifts received at the time of marriage (bridal procession), tokens of affection from parents, brothers, or husbands, and wealth received at subsequent ceremonies.
3. Women were generally denied the right to inherit paternal property or ancestral land, which was reserved for sons to prevent the fragmentation of family holdings.
4. Therefore, 'Inheritance' was explicitly NOT listed as a standard way for women to acquire wealth according to the patriarchal norms of the Manusmriti.
5. While women had control over their Stridhana, the text emphasizes that they should not hoard property without their husband's permission.

Final Answer: Inheritance is NOT a way for women to acquire wealth according to Manusmriti.

Answer: (A)



Q11.

Solution**Concept:**

The concept of 'Gotra' was a Brahmanical practice that emerged around 1000 BCE to classify people, especially Brahmanas.

Each Gotra was named after a Vedic seer, and all those who belonged to the same Gotra were considered to be his descendants.

The system was governed by two primary rules regarding marriage and identity.

Solution:

1. The first rule of Gotra was that members of the same Gotra could not marry each other, as they were considered siblings; this is known as Gotra exogamy.
2. The second rule was that women were expected to give up their father's Gotra and adopt that of their husband upon marriage.
3. Historical evidence, such as the inscriptions of the Satavahana rulers, shows that these rules were occasionally defied, as some Satavahana queens retained their father's Gotra names (like Gautami and Vashisthi) even after marriage.
4. However, according to the normative Brahmanical texts like the Dharmashastras, the standard rule was for the woman to adopt the husband's Gotra.
5. Therefore, the statement "Women adopted their husband's gotra after marriage" is the correct representation of the established rule.

Final Answer: Women adopted their husband's gotra after marriage.

Answer: (C)



Q12.

Solution**Concept:**

Ancient Indian society used various terms to categorize people based on their language, culture, and adherence to Brahmanical norms.

Sanskrit speakers often viewed those who spoke non-Sanskrit languages or did not follow Vedic rituals as "others."

Solution:

1. The term 'Mlechchha' was used in ancient Sanskrit texts to denote people who were outside the Varna system or the fold of Brahmanical civilization.
2. It was primarily a linguistic and cultural category used to describe those who spoke languages other than Sanskrit, which were considered "barbaric" or "unrefined."
3. For example, the Shakas from Central Asia were referred to as Mlechchhas by the Brahmanas, although some Shaka rulers later patronized Sanskrit.
4. The term did not necessarily imply a low economic status, but rather a lack of cultural integration into the Indo-Aryan social order.
5. In later periods, the term was also extended to describe any foreign group or invader whose customs differed significantly from those of the subcontinent.

Final Answer: The term was used to describe non-Sanskrit speaking outsiders.

Answer: (C)

Q13.

Solution**Concept:**

The preservation of the Sanchi Stupa is a remarkable story of cooperation between Indian royalty and the colonial administration.

While many other stupas, like Amaravati, were dismantled or ruined, Sanchi remained intact due to timely intervention and patronage in the 19th century.

Solution:

1. In the 19th century, Europeans (specifically the French and the British) were very interested in taking the eastern gateway of Sanchi to their museums in Paris and London.
2. The rulers of Bhopal, Shahjehan Begum and her successor Sultan Jehan Begum, played a crucial role in preventing this by providing plaster casts instead of the original structures.
3. They provided significant financial grants for the preservation of the site and for the construction of a museum and a guesthouse at the site.
4. Sultan Jehan Begum also funded the publication of the volumes written by John Marshall about the site.
5. Because of this sustained royal patronage, Sanchi remains one of the best-preserved early Buddhist monuments in India today.

Final Answer: The patrons were Shahjehan Begum and Sultan Jehan Begum.

Answer: (B)



Q14.

Solution**Concept:**

Historians use various types of literature to reconstruct the lives of religious leaders.

Hagiographies are a unique genre of writing that differs from traditional biographies in their intent and content.

Solution:

1. A hagiography is a biography of a saint or a religious leader, typically written by a devoted follower or a member of the same religious order.
2. Unlike modern historical biographies, hagiographies often praise the saint and emphasize their supernatural powers and miracles to inspire faith in the readers.
3. They are not always factually accurate in a chronological sense, but they are vital for historians to understand the beliefs, traditions, and perceptions of the followers.
4. Hagiographies help in reconstructing the "aura" or the spiritual influence a saint had on contemporary society.
5. For example, the hagiographies of Sufi saints or Bhakti poets provide deep insights into the social and religious fabric of medieval India.

Final Answer: It is a biography written by a follower focusing on miracles.

Answer: (C)

Q15.

Solution**Concept:**

The architecture of a Buddhist Stupa is deeply symbolic, representing the cosmic order and the presence of the Buddha.

Each part of the structure, from the base to the top, has a specific name and religious significance.

Solution:

1. The main body of the stupa is the 'Anda', a semi-circular mound of earth representing the universe.
2. Above the Anda is the 'Harmika', which is a square, balcony-like structure that was believed to be the abode of the gods.
3. Arising from the Harmika is a central mast called the 'Yashti', which is often topped by a 'Chhatri' or umbrella.
4. The stupa is surrounded by a railing ('Vedika') and accessed through elaborate gateways called 'Toranas'.
5. The Harmika is a critical transition point in the architecture, marking the sacred space above the physical mound.

Final Answer: The Harmika is the balcony-like structure atop the mound.

Answer: (B)



Q16.

Solution**Concept:**

Jainism is one of the world's oldest religious traditions, emphasizing non-violence (ahimsa) and asceticism.

The path to liberation in Jain philosophy is defined by the 'Triratna' or the 'Three Jewels'.

These three elements must be practiced together to shed karma and achieve 'Moksha' (liberation from the cycle of birth and death).

Solution:

1. The first jewel is 'Samyak Darshana' or Right Faith/Perception, which involves having an unbiased belief in the true nature of the soul and the universe.
2. The second jewel is 'Samyak Jnana' or Right Knowledge, which involves the correct and detailed understanding of the Jain scriptures and reality.
3. The third jewel is 'Samyak Charitra' or Right Conduct, which involves living life according to Jain ethical codes and vows.
4. 'Right Speech' (Samyak Vach), while an important ethical virtue in many Indian traditions (including the Buddhist Eightfold Path), is not specifically listed as one of the three foundational 'Triratna' of Jainism.
5. Therefore, Right Speech is the outlier in the context of the Jain Three Jewels.

Final Answer: Right Speech is NOT one of the 'Three Jewels' of Jainism.

Answer: (D)

Q17.

Solution**Concept:**

Al-Biruni was a polymath from Khwarizm (modern-day Uzbekistan) who accompanied Sultan Mahmud of Ghazni to India in the 11th century.

He spent many years in the subcontinent, studying Sanskrit, Hindu philosophy, and scientific texts to provide an objective account of Indian culture.

Solution:

1. Al-Biruni's seminal work is titled 'Kitab-ul-Hind', which translates to 'The Book of India'.
2. Although Al-Biruni studied Sanskrit texts extensively, he wrote his own findings and observations in the language of the court and the scholarly world he belonged to.
3. Arabic was the language of intellectual discourse in the Islamic world during that era, and the 'Kitab-ul-Hind' was composed in simple, lucid Arabic.
4. The book is divided into 80 chapters covering subjects such as religion, philosophy, festivals, astronomy, alchemy, manners, and laws.
5. He intended his work to be a bridge of understanding for those who lived on the frontiers of the subcontinent and spoke Arabic.

Final Answer: Al-Biruni's Kitab-ul-Hind was written in Arabic.

Answer: (B)



Q18.

Solution**Concept:**

Ibn Battuta was a tireless traveler from Morocco who reached India in the 14th century. His accounts in the 'Rihla' provide a vivid description of the political and social atmosphere of the Delhi Sultanate during one of its most eccentric periods.

Solution:

1. Ibn Battuta arrived in Delhi in 1333 during the reign of Muhammad bin Tughlaq.
2. The Sultan was known for his patronage of scholars and was impressed by Ibn Battuta's knowledge of Islamic law (Sharia) and his extensive travels.
3. Muhammad bin Tughlaq appointed him as the 'Qazi' or the judge of Delhi, a position he held for several years.
4. Later, after a brief period of falling out of favor, he was restored to the Sultan's grace and sent as an imperial envoy to China.
5. His appointment as Qazi reflects the cosmopolitan nature of the Tughlaq court, where scholars from the Islamic west were highly valued.

Final Answer: He was appointed as Qazi by Muhammad bin Tughlaq.

Answer: (B)

Q19.

Solution**Concept:**

Francois Bernier was a French physician and traveler who lived in India for twelve years (1656–1668) during the Mughal era.

His writings are significant because he viewed India through a lens of 'binary opposition', constantly contrasting Indian conditions with those in his homeland.

Solution:

1. Bernier's work, 'Travels in the Mughal Empire', is dedicated to the French King Louis XIV.
2. He argued that the fundamental difference between India and Europe was the lack of private property in land in the Mughal Empire.
3. Bernier believed that because the Mughal state owned all land, there was no incentive for farmers to improve the soil, leading to the "ruin of agriculture."
4. He used the "European model" of private ownership as the ideal standard to criticize what he perceived as the stagnant and tyrannical Oriental system.
5. His comparisons were aimed at warning European monarchs against the dangers of absolute state ownership.

Final Answer: Francois Bernier compared India with Europe.

Answer: (C)



Q20.

Solution**Concept:**

The 'Rihla' (The Journey) is the travelogue of Ibn Battuta, documenting his thirty years of travel across Afro-Eurasia.

It is considered one of the most valuable primary sources for understanding the medieval world.

Solution:

1. Ibn Battuta set out from Morocco in 1325 and spent a significant portion of his life traveling through Africa, the Middle East, India, and Southeast Asia.
2. He reached the Indian subcontinent in 1333, which falls within the 14th century.
3. His account of India focuses on the reign of Muhammad bin Tughlaq, the urban culture of Delhi, the postal system, and the various crops and fruits (like the coconut and betel nut) he found unique.
4. The 'Rihla' provides an "outsider's" perspective on the social, cultural, and religious life of 14th-century India.
5. His descriptions of the wealth of Indian cities and the dangers of travel during this period are particularly detailed.

Final Answer: The Rihla provides an account of 14th-century India.

Answer: (C)

Q21.

Solution**Concept:**

The Bhakti movement in South India was led by two groups of poet-saints: the Alvars and the Nayanars.

These saints traveled from place to place singing hymns in Tamil in praise of their respective deities, playing a crucial role in the social and religious transformation of medieval South India.

Solution:

1. The Alvars were a group of 12 poet-saints who were deeply devoted to Lord Vishnu and his various incarnations.
2. The word 'Alvar' literally means "those who are immersed" in devotion to God.
3. They composed hymns that expressed emotional and personal bonds with the divine, often transcending caste barriers.
4. On the other hand, the Nayanars were devotees of Lord Shiva.
5. Together, these movements challenged the dominance of Buddhism and Jainism in the region and led to the establishment of the temple-centric traditions of the Tamil country.

Final Answer: The Alvars were devotees of Vishnu.

Answer: (B)



Q22.

Solution**Concept:**

The hymns composed by the Alvars were eventually collected and systematized into a single massive anthology.

This compilation is held in such high regard that it is often referred to as the 'Tamil Veda', signifying its spiritual importance in the South Indian Vaishnava tradition.

Solution:

1. The collection of hymns by the 12 Alvars is known as the 'Nalayira Divyaprabandham', which translates to "The Four Thousand Divine Compositions."
2. It was compiled in its current form by Nathamuni in the 10th century.
3. The 'Tevaram', by contrast, is a collection of hymns dedicated to Lord Shiva, composed by the Nayanars.
4. The 'Bijak' contains the teachings of Kabir, while the 'Guru Granth Sahib' is the holy scripture of the Sikhs.
5. The Nalayira Divyaprabandham remains a central part of the liturgy in Vishnu temples across South India today.

Final Answer: The compilation is known as Nalayira Divyaprabandham.

Answer: (B)

Q23.

Solution**Concept:**

Sufism, the mystical dimension of Islam, emphasizes a personal and emotional connection with God.

Various rituals and practices evolved within Sufi Silsilas (orders) to help devotees achieve spiritual proximity to the divine and show respect to the saints.

Solution:

1. The term 'Ziyarat' literally means "visitation" or "visit."
2. In the Sufi context, it refers specifically to the practice of making a pilgrimage to the 'Dargah' (tomb-shrine) of a Sufi saint.
3. This practice is based on the belief that after death, the saint's soul becomes united with God (Wafat) and can thus act as an intercessor for the devotees.
4. During Ziyarat, devotees often offer 'Niaz' (offerings), perform 'Sama' (musical recitations), and seek blessings (Barakat) from the saint.
5. The most famous center for Ziyarat in India is the Dargah of Khwaja Muinuddin Chishti in Ajmer.

Final Answer: Ziyarat refers to pilgrimage to the tombs of Sufi saints.

Answer: (B)



Q24.

Solution**Concept:**

As Sufism spread in India, several orders or 'Silsilas' established themselves.

Each had its own unique approach to spiritual practice, but one particular order became exceptionally popular due to its adaptability to local Indian customs and its proximity to the common people.

Solution:

1. The Chishti Silsila was introduced in India by Khwaja Muinuddin Chishti towards the end of the 12th century.
2. The Chishtis were known for their simple lifestyle and their decision to stay away from worldly power and court politics.
3. They adopted local elements such as the use of vernacular languages for poetry and 'Sama' (devotional music) to connect with the Indian masses.
4. Great saints like Nizamuddin Auliya and Bakhtiyar Kaki belonged to this order, further cementing its influence.
5. Other orders like the Suhrawardi or Naqshbandi were also present but tended to cater more to the elite or were more orthodox in their approach.

Final Answer: The Chishti Silsila was the most influential in India.

Answer: (C)

Q25.

Solution**Concept:**

The ruins of Hampi, the capital of the Vijayanagara Empire, were long forgotten by the general public until modern archaeological efforts began.

The rediscovery of the site was a major milestone in Indian archaeology, involving the use of oral traditions, inscriptions, and modern surveying techniques.

Solution:

1. In 1800, Colonel Colin Mackenzie, an engineer and antiquarian who worked for the East India Company, visited Hampi.
2. He prepared the first survey map of the site by interacting with the priests of the Virupaksha and Vitthala temples.
3. Mackenzie was fascinated by the architectural grandeur and the local legends surrounding the ruins.
4. Much of the early information he collected was based on the memories of the local people and the oral history of the region.
5. His work laid the foundation for subsequent archaeological excavations and the eventual recognition of Hampi as a site of global historical importance.

Final Answer: The ruins were brought to light by Colin Mackenzie.

Answer: (B)



Q26.

Solution**Concept:**

The Vijayanagara Empire was known for its patronage of literature, art, and architecture.

The kings themselves were often accomplished scholars who wrote in various languages including Sanskrit, Telugu, and Kannada.

The reign of Krishnadeva Raya (1509–1529) is considered the golden age of Telugu literature.

Solution:

1. Krishnadeva Raya was the most famous ruler of the Tuluva dynasty and a great scholar-king.
2. He authored a famous work on statecraft and political morality in the Telugu language entitled 'Amuktamalyada'.
3. The book describes the life of the Alvar saint Andal and provides deep insights into the administrative duties and responsibilities of a king.
4. He also wrote a Sanskrit play titled 'Jambavati Kalyanam'.
5. His court was graced by eight legendary poets known as the 'Ashtadiggajas', making his reign a landmark in the cultural history of South India.

Final Answer: Krishnadeva Raya composed the work 'Amuktamalyada'.

Answer: (C)

Q27.

Solution**Concept:**

The Royal Centre of Vijayanagara contained several spectacular ceremonial structures that reflected the power and divine status of the kings.

The 'Mahanavami Dibba' is one of the most prominent landmarks in this section of the city.

Solution:

1. The Mahanavami Dibba is a massive, square pyramid-shaped stone platform rising to a height of 40 feet from a base of about 11,000 square feet.
2. It was used as a stage for royal ceremonies and rituals, particularly during the ten-day Mahanavami festival (Dussehra).
3. During this festival, the king would worship the state deity, inspect the military forces, and receive tributes from subordinate chiefs.
4. The sides of the platform are decorated with intricate carvings showing scenes of daily life, hunting, and military processions.
5. It served as a symbolic display of the king's authority and his connection with the divine during the most important religious event of the year.

Final Answer: It was used for royal ceremonies and rituals.

Answer: (B)



Q28.

Solution**Concept:**

The decline of the Vijayanagara Empire was precipitated by a catastrophic military defeat against a coalition of the Deccan Sultanates.

This event marked the end of the empire's dominance in the South and led to the eventual abandonment of the capital city, Hampi.

Solution:

1. By the mid-16th century, the relationship between Vijayanagara and the neighboring Sultanates (Bijapur, Ahmednagar, and Golconda) had become increasingly hostile.
2. In 1565, the forces of the Deccan Sultanates joined together to attack Vijayanagara.
3. The battle took place at a site called Rakshasi-Tangadi, also popularly known as the Battle of Talikota.
4. The Vijayanagara army, led by the chief minister Rama Raya, was decisively defeated. Rama Raya was captured and executed.
5. Following the victory, the Sultanate armies sacked and destroyed the city of Hampi, leaving it in ruins.

Final Answer: The battle took place in 1565.

Answer: (C)

Q29.

Solution**Concept:**

The Mughal Emperors were great patrons of history writing, resulting in the creation of 'Chronicles' that documented the events of their reigns.

These chronicles were intended to provide a record of the Emperor's achievements and to serve as a guide for future generations.

Solution:

1. Abu'l Fazl was a close friend, advisor, and the court historian of Emperor Akbar.
2. He wrote the 'Akbarnama', a detailed history of Akbar's reign, which took thirteen years to complete.
3. The work is divided into three books: the first deals with Akbar's ancestors, the second with the events of his reign, and the third is the famous 'Ain-i-Akbari'.
4. Abu'l Fazl used a sophisticated style of Persian and gathered data from various administrative departments to ensure accuracy.
5. His work remains the single most important source for understanding the Mughal administration and society in the late 16th century.

Final Answer: Abu'l Fazl was the author of Akbarnama.

Answer: (B)



Q30.

Solution**Concept:**

The Ain-i-Akbari provides a detailed description of the Mughal land revenue system.

Under Akbar, land was classified into four categories based on the continuity of cultivation to determine the revenue (Jama) to be paid to the state.

Solution:

1. The classification was essential to ensure that farmers were not overtaxed and that the state received its fair share based on the productivity of the land.
2. 'Polaj' was the highest category of land; it was land that was cultivated every year for each crop in succession and was never allowed to lie fallow.
3. 'Parauti' was land left out of cultivation for a time (1-2 years) that it might recover its strength.
4. 'Chachar' was land that had lain fallow for three or four years.
5. 'Banjar' was land uncultivated for five years or more.
6. Because Polaj was always under cultivation, it provided the highest revenue to the Mughal treasury.

Final Answer: Polaj was land that was cultivated every year.

Answer: (B)

Q31.

Solution**Concept:**

The Mughal administration managed its vast empire through a complex system of land assignments known as the 'Jagirdari' system.

While some lands were held directly by the crown (Khalisa), others were assigned to officials (Mansabdars) in lieu of cash salaries.

However, the transition of land from one official to another required a specific administrative category.

Solution:

1. In the Mughal revenue system, not all land was permanently assigned as a Jagir or kept as Khalisa.
2. When a Jagirdar was transferred or died, the land he held reverted to the central administration for a temporary period.
3. This land, which was in transition and "reserved for future assignment" as a Jagir to another official, was called 'Paibaqi' or 'Zamin-i-Paibaqi'.
4. The revenue from these lands during the interim period was typically collected by the central treasury.
5. This ensured that the Emperor maintained control over the distribution of resources and could reward loyalty by re-assigning these high-yield lands.

Final Answer: The term meant land reserved for assignment as Jagir.

Answer: (B)



Q32.

Solution**Concept:**

Emperor Akbar is renowned for his policy of 'Sulh-i-Kul' (absolute peace) and his efforts to create a religiously inclusive state.

One of the most significant steps he took in this direction was the removal of discriminatory taxes that had been imposed on non-Muslim subjects by previous rulers.

Solution:

1. 'Jizya' was a per capita tax historically levied on non-Muslim subjects (Dhimmis) in a state governed by Islamic law.
2. Akbar, seeking to win the loyalty of his Rajput allies and the general Hindu population, decided to integrate his subjects regardless of their faith.
3. In 1563, he first abolished the tax on pilgrims (Pilgrim Tax) at holy places like Mathura and Banaras.
4. Following this, in 1564, he took the radical step of abolishing the Jizya tax entirely across the Mughal Empire.
5. Although Jizya was later briefly re-introduced by Aurangzeb in the 17th century, Akbar's initial abolition remained a symbol of his secular and liberal governance.

Final Answer: Emperor Akbar abolished the Jizya tax in 1564.

Answer: (B)

Q33.

Solution**Concept:**

The Permanent Settlement, also known as the Zamindari System, was a major land revenue experiment introduced by the British East India Company.

It aimed to create a class of loyal Indian landlords and ensure a fixed, stable income for the Company.

Solution:

1. The British found that the fluctuating land revenue in Bengal made financial planning difficult for the Company.
2. In 1793, Lord Cornwallis, the Governor-General of India, introduced the Permanent Settlement in Bengal and Bihar.
3. Under this system, the 'Zamindars' were recognized as the owners of the land, provided they paid a fixed amount of revenue to the British.
4. The amount was fixed "in perpetuity," meaning it would never be increased in the future, regardless of how much production increased.
5. However, the system led to great hardship for the actual cultivators (ryots) and the eventual downfall of many old Zamindari families who failed to meet the strict "sunset laws."

Final Answer: The Permanent Settlement was introduced by Lord Cornwallis.

Answer: (B)



Q34.

Solution**Concept:**

The Santhal Rebellion (Hul) of 1855–56 was one of the most fierce tribal uprisings against British colonial rule and the exploitative socio-economic system it introduced.

The Santhals, a peaceful tribal community, were driven to violence by the loss of their lands and the weight of debt.

Solution:

1. The British had settled the Santhals in the Rajmahal hills (Damin-i-Koh) to clear forests and practice settled agriculture.
2. However, the heavy revenue demands of the Company and the high interest rates charged by moneylenders led to widespread dispossession of Santhal land.
3. The Santhals referred to these outsiders—the British officials, the moneylenders, and the traders—as 'Dikus'.
4. Led by the brothers Sidhu and Kanhu, the Santhals revolted to drive out the Dikus and the British to establish their own autonomous state.
5. Although the rebellion was brutally suppressed by the British army, it led to the creation of the 'Santhal Parganas', where special laws were enacted to protect tribal land.

Final Answer: The rebellion was directed against the British and the Dikus.

Answer: (A)

Q35.

Solution**Concept:**

The 'Fifth Report' is a critical document in colonial history, reflecting the internal debates in Britain regarding the administration of the East India Company (EIC).

It was part of a series of reports produced by a select committee of the British House of Commons to monitor the Company's activities in India.

Solution:

1. By the early 19th century, many groups in Britain were critical of the EIC's monopoly on trade and its style of governance in India.
2. The Fifth Report, submitted to the British Parliament in 1813, ran into 1002 pages and was primarily about the administration of the EIC in India.
3. It contained petitions from Zamindars and Ryots, reports from collectors, and statistical tables regarding revenue and judicial administration in Bengal and Madras.
4. The report highlighted the mismanagement and the collapse of the traditional Zamindari system under the Permanent Settlement.
5. It was used by critics of the Company in Britain to argue for greater parliamentary control over Indian affairs, leading to the Charter Act of 1813.

Final Answer: The report was about the administration of the East India Company.

Answer: (B)



Q36.

Solution**Concept:**

The agrarian crisis in the Bombay Deccan during the 19th century was caused by the heavy revenue demands of the Ryotwari system and the crash in cotton prices after the American Civil War.

This led to large-scale indebtedness among the farmers, resulting in a violent uprising against the local moneylenders (Sahukars).

Solution:

1. In 1875, the peasants of Supa, a village in Poona district, attacked the houses and shops of moneylenders, burning their account books and debt bonds.
2. The revolt spread rapidly across several districts in the Deccan region.
3. Worried by the scale of the violence and the possibility of another 1857-style uprising, the Government of Bombay was pressured by the Government of India to investigate the matter.
4. The Deccan Riots Commission was set up in 1875 to look into the causes of the agrarian unrest.
5. The commission presented its report in 1878, which served as the basis for the Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Act of 1879, intended to protect farmers from being imprisoned for debt.

Final Answer: The commission was set up in 1875.

Answer: (B)

Q37.

Solution**Concept:**

The Revolt of 1857 was characterized by the emergence of local leaders in different regions who challenged British authority.

In many cases, these leaders were former rulers or their descendants who had been displaced by British policies like the Doctrine of Lapse.

Solution:

1. Kanpur was a major center of the rebellion. The leadership was provided by Nana Sahib, the adopted son of the last Maratha Peshwa, Baji Rao II.
2. Nana Sahib had been living in Bithur and was denied his father's pension and title by the British.
3. When the revolt broke out, he led the sepoys and the local population to drive the British out of Kanpur and declared himself the Peshwa.
4. He was supported by his loyal commanders, Taty Tope and Azimullah Khan.
5. Begum Hazrat Mahal led the revolt in Lucknow, Kunwar Singh in Arrah (Bihar), and Rani Laxmibai in Jhansi.

Final Answer: The leader in Kanpur was Nana Sahib.

Answer: (A)



Q38.

Solution**Concept:**

The British military response to the 1857 revolt involved several high-ranking officers who were tasked with recapturing key cities.

The siege and fall of Jhansi was one of the most difficult and famous episodes of the counter-insurgency campaign.

Solution:

1. Rani Laxmibai of Jhansi rose in rebellion after her adopted son was refused recognition as the heir to the throne under the Doctrine of Lapse.
2. In early 1858, Sir Hugh Rose led the Central India Field Force to suppress the rebellion in the Bundelkhand region.
3. He laid siege to the fort of Jhansi in March 1858. Despite a heroic defense by the Rani and her forces, the city was eventually taken.
4. Hugh Rose later faced the Rani again in the battle of Gwalior, where she died fighting.
5. Hugh Rose famously described the Rani of Jhansi as "the most dangerous of all rebel leaders" and "the only man among the rebels."

Final Answer: The officer was Sir Hugh Rose.

Answer: (C)

Q39.

Solution**Concept:**

Visual representations such as paintings, sketches, and cartoons played a vital role in shaping public opinion in Britain during and after the Revolt of 1857.

These images often portrayed British subjects as victims and the Indian rebels as barbaric, justifying the brutal retaliation by the British army.

Solution:

1. The painting 'In Memoriam' was created by the British artist Joseph Noel Paton in 1858.
2. It depicts a group of English women and children huddled together in a room, presumably during the siege of Cawnpore (Kanpur), awaiting their fate.
3. The painting was designed to evoke a sense of helplessness, vulnerability, and innocence among the British public.
4. It did not show the actual violence but suggested the "dishonor" and slaughter that were believed to follow at the hands of the "savage" rebels.
5. Such art pieces were powerful tools of colonial propaganda that fueled the demand for "vengeance" in Britain.

Final Answer: The artist was Joseph Noel Paton.

Answer: (A)



Q40.

Solution**Concept:**

While the 1857 revolt had deep-seated political, economic, and social causes, a specific incident acted as the 'immediate cause' or the trigger that sparked the actual outbreak of violence among the sepoys.

Solution:

1. In early 1857, the British introduced the new Enfield rifle to the Indian Army.
2. To load the rifle, the sepoys had to bite off the ends of the cartridges, which were rumored to be greased with the fat of cows and pigs.
3. This was deeply offensive to both Hindu sepoys (to whom the cow is sacred) and Muslim sepoys (to whom the pig is taboo).
4. The sepoys believed this was a deliberate attempt by the British to destroy their religion and convert them to Christianity.
5. The refusal to use these cartridges led to the first act of defiance by Mangal Pandey in Barrackpore and the subsequent mutiny in Meerut on May 10, 1857.

Final Answer: The trigger was the introduction of the Enfield Rifle.

Answer: (B)

Q41.

Solution**Concept:**

Upon returning to India from South Africa in 1915, Mahatma Gandhi spent a year traveling the subcontinent to understand its people.

His first major public appearance was a highly symbolic event where he addressed a distinguished gathering of princes, scholars, and nationalist leaders.

Solution:

1. The occasion was the opening of the Banaras Hindu University (BHU) in February 1916.
2. Compared to the other speakers who praised the British and the university, Gandhi's speech was a wake-up call.
3. He criticized the Indian elite for their lack of concern for the poor and the peasants, famously stating that there was no "salvation for India" unless they stripped themselves of their jewelry and held it in trust for their countrymen.
4. This speech marked the shift of the nationalist movement from an elite-led discussion to one that would eventually involve the masses.
5. While he later led the Champaran Satyagraha in 1917, the BHU speech was his first major platform to present his vision to the Indian public.

Final Answer: His first major public appearance was at Banaras Hindu University.

Answer: (B)



Q42.

Solution**Concept:**

The Non-Cooperation Movement (1920–1922) was the first mass movement led by Mahatma Gandhi.

However, Gandhi's core philosophy was based on 'Ahimsa' (non-violence), and he was prepared to withdraw any movement if it turned violent.

Solution:

1. In February 1922, a group of protestors participating in the Non-Cooperation Movement turned violent in the town of Chauri Chaura, Uttar Pradesh.
2. After being provoked by the police, the mob set fire to a police station, leading to the death of 22 policemen.
3. Gandhi was deeply distressed by this news, believing that the Indian people were not yet ready for a non-violent struggle.
4. He immediately called off the Non-Cooperation Movement, despite opposition from other leaders like C.R. Das and Motilal Nehru who felt the movement was at its peak.
5. This decision emphasized that for Gandhi, the means (non-violence) were just as important as the end (Swaraj).

Final Answer: The movement was called off after the Chauri Chaura incident.

Answer: (B)

Q43.

Solution**Concept:**

The Quit India Movement of 1942 was the most intense phase of the Indian freedom struggle. Launched during the height of World War II, it was a "do or die" call to the British to leave India immediately and to the Indians to take a final stand for independence.

Solution:

1. On August 8, 1942, at the Gowalia Tank Maidan in Bombay, Mahatma Gandhi delivered his famous 'Quit India' speech.
2. He gave the nation a short mantra: "Do or Die" (Karo ya Maro).
3. He explained that Indians should either free the country or die in the attempt, but they should not live to see the perpetuation of slavery.
4. Almost all major leaders were arrested the next morning, which led to a spontaneous and leaderless mass uprising across the country.
5. The slogan galvanized millions of people to sabotage British administration and communications, marking the beginning of the end of colonial rule.

Final Answer: The slogan is associated with the Quit India Movement.

Answer: (C)



Q44.

Solution**Concept:**

The Dandi March, also known as the Salt Satyagraha of 1930, was a masterstroke of political symbolism.

Gandhi chose a common, everyday item—salt—to unify the country against the British government's exploitative monopoly.

Solution:

1. Under the British Salt Act, the state had a monopoly on the manufacture and sale of salt, and it also imposed a tax on it.
2. Gandhi argued that salt was a basic necessity of life for everyone, from the poorest peasant to the richest merchant, and taxing it was an "iniquitous" act.
3. On March 12, 1930, Gandhi started his march from Sabarmati Ashram to the coastal village of Dandi.
4. On April 6, 1930, he reached Dandi and ceremonially broke the law by picking up a handful of natural salt from the shore.
5. This act served as the signal for the start of the Civil Disobedience Movement across India, as people everywhere began to manufacture salt illegally.

Final Answer: The Dandi March was a protest against the Salt Law.

Answer: (B)

Q45.

Solution**Concept:**

The 'Objectives Resolution' was the foundational document of the Indian Constitution.

It laid down the ideals and principles that would guide the Drafting Committee in framing the laws for an independent, sovereign, and democratic republic.

Solution:

1. On December 13, 1946, Jawaharlal Nehru moved the 'Objectives Resolution' in the Constituent Assembly.
2. The resolution defined India as an "Independent Sovereign Republic" and promised justice, equality, and freedom to all its citizens.
3. It also provided for adequate safeguards for minorities, backward and tribal areas, and depressed and other backward classes.
4. Nehru's speech during this session was a visionary statement about India's past and its future role in the world.
5. This resolution later became the basis for the 'Preamble' of the Indian Constitution, reflecting the core values of the freedom struggle.

Final Answer: The Objectives Resolution was moved by Jawaharlal Nehru.

Answer: (B)



Q46.

Solution**Concept:**

The Drafting Committee was the most important of all the committees of the Constituent Assembly. Its task was to prepare a draft of the new Constitution for India based on the reports of other committees and the discussions held in the Assembly.

Solution:

1. The Drafting Committee was set up on August 29, 1947, shortly after India attained independence.
2. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was appointed as the Chairman of this seven-member committee.
3. He is often called the 'Father of the Indian Constitution' for his meticulous work in balancing the diverse needs of the nation and ensuring safeguards for marginalized communities.
4. The committee scrutinized the initial draft prepared by the Constitutional Advisor, B.N. Rau, and presented several revised drafts for public discussion and assembly debate.
5. The final version of the Constitution was the result of over two years of intensive work by this committee and the larger Assembly.

Final Answer: Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was the Chairman of the Drafting Committee.

Answer: (C)

Q47.

Solution**Concept:**

The debates in the Constituent Assembly were often intense, particularly on the issue of how to protect the interests of minorities in a majoritarian democracy.

One of the most controversial topics was the continuation of 'Separate Electorates', a system introduced by the British.

Solution:

1. Separate electorates meant that candidates for certain seats would be elected only by voters of their own religious community.
2. On August 27, 1947, B. Pocker Bahadur from Madras made a powerful plea for the retention of separate electorates for Muslims.
3. He argued that only a member of the community could truly understand and represent its needs, and that without this, minorities would be silenced.
4. His plea was met with strong opposition from leaders like Sardar Patel and Govind Ballabh Pant, who argued that separate electorates had led to the partition of the country and would prevent national integration.
5. Ultimately, the Assembly rejected separate electorates in favor of 'Reserved Seats' within a joint electorate.

Final Answer: B. Pocker Bahadur made the plea for separate electorates.

Answer: (B)



Q48.

Solution**Concept:**

There is a distinction between when the Constitution of India was adopted (completed and signed) and when it officially became the law of the land.

Solution:

1. After nearly three years of deliberation, the Constituent Assembly finished its work and adopted the Constitution on November 26, 1949.
2. However, the leaders chose to wait for a specific historical date to bring it into full effect.
3. January 26 was chosen because it marked the anniversary of the 'Purna Swaraj' (Complete Independence) declaration made by the Indian National Congress in 1930.
4. Therefore, on January 26, 1950, the Constitution of India came into effect, and India officially became a Republic.
5. This day is celebrated every year as Republic Day to honor the document that governs the nation.

Final Answer: The Constitution came into effect on 26 January 1950.

Answer: (C)

Q49.

Solution**Concept:**

Travelers from different parts of the world visited India during the medieval period, each bringing their own cultural perspectives and linguistic backgrounds.

Matching these travelers to their origins is a common way to test the understanding of the global connections of medieval India.

Solution:

1. Al-Biruni (11th Century) came from Khwarizm in modern-day Uzbekistan. He was a polymath who wrote the Kitab-ul-Hind.
2. Ibn Battuta (14th Century) was a globetrotter from Tangier, Morocco. He reached India during the Tughlaq period and wrote the Rihla.
3. Francois Bernier (17th Century) was a French physician who spent twelve years at the Mughal court of Shah Jahan and Aurangzeb.
4. By matching i to B (Uzbekistan), ii to A (Morocco), and iii to C (France), we arrive at the correct combination.

Final Answer: The correct match is i-B, ii-A, iii-C.

Answer: (A)



Q50.

Solution**Concept:**

The British used various diplomatic and military strategies to expand their control over Indian princely states.

The 'Subsidiary Alliance' was a strategic tool that effectively turned Indian rulers into British dependents without the need for direct annexation in every case.

Solution:

1. The Subsidiary Alliance system was devised and perfected by Lord Wellesley, who served as Governor-General from 1798 to 1805.
2. Under this system, the Indian ruler had to disband his own army and accept a British paramilitary force within his territory.
3. The ruler had to pay for the maintenance of this force; failure to pay led to a portion of his territory being taken away by the British.
4. The ruler also had to accept a British official called a 'Resident' at his court and could not enter into alliances with other powers without British consent.
5. The first state to enter such an alliance was Hyderabad, followed by many others including Awadh.

Final Answer: The Subsidiary Alliance was devised by Lord Wellesley.

Answer: (B)



Answer Key

Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans	Q	Ans
1	B	2	D	3	B	4	C	5	C
6	B	7	B	8	B	9	B	10	A
11	C	12	C	13	B	14	C	15	B
16	D	17	B	18	B	19	C	20	C
21	B	22	B	23	B	24	C	25	B
26	C	27	B	28	C	29	B	30	B
31	B	32	B	33	B	34	A	35	B
36	B	37	A	38	C	39	A	40	B
41	B	42	B	43	C	44	B	45	B
46	C	47	B	48	C	49	A	50	B

