

CUET UG History Sample Paper - 19

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 recognize that it was necessary to follow the stratigraphy of the mound rather than dig mechanically along uniform horizontal lines at Harappan sites?

- (A) John Marshall
- (B) R.E.M. Wheeler
- (C) Daya Ram Sahni
- (D) S.R. Rao

Q2. In the context of the Mauryan administration, the term 'Samaharta' referred to which of the following officials?

- (A) Chief of the Military
- (B) Chief Collector of Revenue
- (C) Royal Treasurer
- (D) Chief Justice

Q3. Arrange the following in the correct chronological order of their composition/project commencement: I. V.S. Sukthankar's Critical Edition of the Mahabharata. II. Compilation of the Puranas. III. Composition of the Manusmriti. IV. Writing of the Dharmasutras.



- (A) IV, III, II, I
- (B) III, IV, I, II
- (C) IV, II, III, I
- (D) I, II, III, IV

Q4. With reference to the structure of a Stupa, the balcony-like structure that represented the abode of the gods is known as:

- (A) Yashti
- (B) Anda
- (C) Harmika
- (D) Chhatri

Q5. Al-Biruni's famous work 'Kitab-ul-Hind' was written in which of the following languages?

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

Q6. Identify the correct statement regarding the Alvars and Nayanars of Tamil Nadu:

- (A) Alvars were devotees of Shiva, and Nayanars were devotees of Vishnu.
- (B) They initiated a movement of protest against the caste system and the dominance of Brahmanas.
- (C) They composed their hymns in Sanskrit to reach the elite.
- (D) Women were strictly prohibited from joining these Bhakti movements.

Q7. The 'Amara-nayaka' system was a major political innovation of which Indian Empire?



- (A) Mughal Empire
- (B) Vijayanagara Empire
- (C) Maratha Empire
- (D) Chola Empire

Q8. Under the Mughal land classification mentioned in 'Ain-i-Akbari', the land which was annually cultivated for each crop in succession and never allowed to lie fallow was known as:

- (A) Parauti
- (B) Chachar
- (C) Banjar
- (D) Polaj

Q9. Who among the following introduced the Permanent Settlement of Bengal in 1793?

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

Q10. Match the following leaders of the 1857 Revolt with their respective centers:

List I	Leader	List II	Center
(i)	Shah Mal	(a)	Kanpur
(ii)	Nana Sahib	(b)	Barout
(iii)	Birjis Qadr	(c)	Arrah
(iv)	Kunwar Singh	(d)	Lucknow

- (A) (i)-b, (ii)-a, (iii)-d, (iv)-c



- (B) (i)-a, (ii)-b, (iii)-c, (iv)-d
- (C) (i)-c, (ii)-d, (iii)-a, (iv)-b
- (D) (i)-d, (ii)-c, (iii)-b, (iv)-a

Q11. At which of the following venues did Mahatma Gandhi make his first major public appearance after returning from South Africa in 1915?

- (A) Champaran
- (B) Sabarmati Ashram
- (C) Banaras Hindu University
- (D) Dandi

Q12. The 'Objectives Resolution', which outlined the defining ideals of the Constitution of Independent India, was moved in the Constituent Assembly by:

- (A) B.R. Ambedkar
- (B) Rajendra Prasad
- (C) Jawaharlal Nehru
- (D) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

Q13. In the context of the Harappan civilization, the site of Dholavira is located in which modern-day Indian state?

- (A) Rajasthan
- (B) Punjab
- (C) Gujarat
- (D) Haryana

Q14. Who was the primary epigraphist who first deciphered Ashokan Brahmi in 1837?

- (A) Alexander Cunningham
- (B) James Prinsep



- (C) Mortimer Wheeler
- (D) Colin Mackenzie

Q15. The marriage of a woman within her own unit (caste, kin group, or locality) is technically referred to as:

- (A) Exogamy
- (B) Endogamy
- (C) Polygyny
- (D) Polyandry

Q16. Which of the following travelers compared the Mughal Empire with contemporary Europe and described the Mughal state as a "Land of the Crown", where the king owned all the land?

- (A) Ibn Battuta
- (B) Francois Bernier
- (C) Al-Biruni
- (D) Duarte Barbosa

Q17. The 12th-century Lingayat movement in Karnataka, which challenged the idea of caste and the theory of rebirth, was led by:

- (A) Basavanna
- (B) Ramanuja
- (C) Shankaracharya
- (D) Kabir

Q18. The Mahanavami Dibba in the Royal Center of Vijayanagara was a massive platform primarily used for:

- (A) Military drill and parade



- (B) Religious rituals and state ceremonies during the Navaratri festival
- (C) Daily administrative meetings of the Amara-nayakas
- (D) Residential quarters for the Royal family

Q19. Which Mughal Emperor commissioned the translation of the Mahabharata into Persian as the 'Razmnama'?

- (A) Babur
- (B) Humayun
- (C) Akbar
- (D) Aurangzeb

Q20. The 'Fifth Report', submitted to the British Parliament in 1813, primarily dealt with:

- (A) The education policy in India
- (B) The administration and activities of the East India Company in India
- (C) The condition of the textile industry in Manchester
- (D) The judicial reforms of Lord Cornwallis

Q21. Identify the correct statement regarding the Santhal Rebellion (1855-56):

- (A) It was a peaceful protest against the British forest laws.
- (B) It was led by Sidhu and Kanhu against the oppression of Zamindars and moneylenders.
- (C) The rebellion was supported by the local Rajas of Bengal.
- (D) It resulted in the immediate withdrawal of the Permanent Settlement.

Q22. The famous painting 'Relief of Lucknow', which celebrated the British suppression of the 1857 Revolt, was painted by:

- (A) Thomas Jones Barker



- (B) Felice Beato
- (C) Joseph Noel Paton
- (D) Charles Ball

Q23. In which year did the Non-Cooperation Movement officially begin after being approved at the Nagpur session of the Congress?

- (A) 1919
- (B) 1920
- (C) 1921
- (D) 1922

Q24. During the Constituent Assembly debates, who made a powerful plea for the protection of 'depressed castes', stating that 'We were suppressed for thousands of years'?

- (A) B.R. Ambedkar
- (B) J. Nagappa
- (C) K. Santhanam
- (D) Dakshayani Velayudhan

Q25. The 'Saptasindhu' region in the Rigveda refers to the land of:

- (A) Five Rivers
- (B) Seven Rivers
- (C) Three Rivers
- (D) Nine Rivers

Q26. Which of the following Harappan sites has provided evidence of a ploughed field?

- (A) Kalibangan



- (B) Lothal
- (C) Banawali
- (D) Rakhigarhi

Q27. The Persian translation of the Upanishads, titled 'Sirr-i-Akbar', was completed by:

- (A) Abul Fazl
- (B) Dara Shukoh
- (C) Faizi
- (D) Badauni

Q28. The 'Damin-i-Koh' was a land area specifically demarcated by the British for the settlement of which community?

- (A) Paharias
- (B) Santhals
- (C) Mundas
- (D) Bhils

Q29. The 'A-in-i-Akbari' is the third book of which larger historical work?

- (A) Baburnama
- (B) Akbarnama
- (C) Humayunnama
- (D) Muntakhab-ut-Tawarikh

Q30. Who among the following was the political mentor of Mahatma Gandhi?

- (A) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- (B) Gopal Krishna Gokhale



- (C) Dadabhai Naoroji
- (D) Rabindranath Tagore

Q31. The 'Lucknow Pact' of 1916 was significant because it represented an agreement between:

- (A) The Congress and the British Government
- (B) The Moderates and the Extremists within the Congress
- (C) The Congress and the Muslim League
- (D) The Revolutionaries and the Congress

Q32. The term 'Kutagarasala' mentioned in Buddhist texts literally means:

- (A) A place where the Buddha attained enlightenment
- (B) A hut with a pointed roof where debates took place
- (C) A library for preserving manuscripts
- (D) A dwelling for monks during the rainy season

Q33. The discovery of Hampi as the site of the Vijayanagara Empire was brought to light in 1800 by:

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

Q34. The 'Ryotwari Settlement' was primarily introduced in which part of India?

- (A) Bengal Presidency
- (B) Madras and Bombay Presidencies
- (C) United Provinces



(D) Punjab

Q35. The leader who led the revolt of 1857 in Arrah (Bihar) was:

- (A) Khan Bahadur Khan
- (B) Kunwar Singh
- (C) Shah Mal
- (D) Maulvi Ahmadullah Shah

Q36. The 'Khilafat Movement' was launched to protest against the perceived injustice done to the Caliph of which country?

- (A) Egypt
- (B) Iran
- (C) Turkey
- (D) Saudi Arabia
- (E) Turkey

Q37. Under the Mughal system, the 'Mansab' rank determined:

- (A) Only the military status of the officer
- (B) The official's salary, status, and military responsibilities
- (C) Only the religious seniority of the person
- (D) The land ownership rights of the official

Q38. Which traveler described the postal system in India as being of two types—the horse-post (Uluq) and the foot-post (Dawa)?

- (A) Marco Polo
- (B) Ibn Battuta
- (C) Francois Bernier



(D) Nicolo Conti

Q39. The 'Sepoy Mutiny' at Meerut, which triggered the 1857 Revolt, broke out on:

(A) 10 May 1857

(B) 29 March 1857

(C) 30 June 1857

(D) 15 August 1857

Q40. The most intense debates in the Constituent Assembly regarding the 'National Language' featured strong arguments from which member for the use of Hindi?

(A) R.V. Dhulekar

(B) T.A. Ramalingam Chettiar

(C) G. Durgabai

(D) Frank Anthony

Q41. The 'Sutta Pitaka', one of the three baskets of the Tipitaka, primarily contains:

(A) Rules and regulations for those who joined the sangha

(B) The Buddha's teachings or discourses

(C) Philosophical matters and metaphysics

(D) Biographical accounts of the Ashokan empire

Q42. Which Mughal Queen or Princess played a significant role in the design of the architectural layout of the new capital city, Shahjahanabad, and also controlled the lucrative overseas trade with Surat?

(A) Nur Jahan

(B) Mumtaz Mahal

(C) Jahanara

(D) Roshanara



- Q43.** The 'Deccan Riots Commission', set up in 1875, was tasked with investigating the causes of the uprising of peasants against:
- (A) The British Indigo planters
 - (B) The Sahukars (moneylenders)
 - (C) The Mughal Zamindars
 - (D) The Maratha chieftains
- Q44.** Identify the correct chronological sequence of the following movements led by Mahatma Gandhi: I. Individual Satyagraha II. Quit India Movement III. Salt Satyagraha IV. Ahmedabad Mill Strike
- (A) IV, III, I, II
 - (B) III, IV, II, I
 - (C) IV, I, III, II
 - (D) I, IV, III, II
- Q45.** In the Constituent Assembly, who famously spoke in favor of 'Strong Center' by stating, "The more power you give to the Center, the better it is for the Provinces"?
- (A) K. Santhanam
 - (B) Jawaharlal Nehru
 - (C) B.R. Ambedkar
 - (D) Balkrishna Sharma
- Q46.** The Harappan script is often described as 'enigmatic' because:
- (A) It was written from left to right like modern Hindi.
 - (B) It contains a very small number of signs, making it easy to decode.
 - (C) It remains undeciphered to this day and was written from right to left.



(D) It was only found on large stone inscriptions and never on small seals.

Q47. Which of the following was the first 'capital' of the Magadha Mahajanapada?

- (A) Pataliputra
- (B) Rajagaha
- (C) Vaishali
- (D) Varanasi

Q48. The 'Kitab-ur-Rihla' is an account of the travels of:

- (A) Al-Biruni
- (B) Ibn Battuta
- (C) Abdur Razzaq
- (D) Francois Bernier

Q49. The 'Lottery Committee' (1817) in colonial India was primarily involved in:

- (A) Collecting revenue from gambling houses
- (B) Town planning and improvement in Calcutta
- (C) Funding the 1857 war expenses
- (D) Organizing social events for British officials

Q50. Who was the tribal leader from the Chhotanagpur region who famously declared that "The government of the Queen had come to an end and the Munda Raj had begun"?

- (A) Sidhu Murmu
- (B) Birsa Munda
- (C) Alluri Sitarama Raju
- (D) Komaram Bheem



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

The development of archaeology in India saw a shift from mechanical excavation to scientific methods. R.E.M. Wheeler, as Director-General of the ASI in 1944, brought military precision and scientific rigor to Indian archaeology.

Solution:

1. Early excavations, like those under John Marshall, tended to dig along horizontal lines, ignoring the actual layers (stratigraphy) of the soil. 2. R.E.M. Wheeler argued that this method mixed artifacts from different time periods. 3. He introduced the stratigraphic method, which involves digging according to the distinct layers of the earth, ensuring that artifacts are grouped by their specific historical timeline.

Final Answer: The archaeologist was R.E.M. Wheeler.

Answer: (B)

Q2.**Solution****Concept:**

The Mauryan Empire had a highly organized administrative structure as described in Chanakya's Arthashastra. Specific titles were given to officials handling different sectors of governance.

Solution:

1. The Mauryan central administration was divided into various departments. 2. The 'Samaharta' was the official responsible for the assessment and collection of revenue from the entire kingdom. 3. The 'Sannidhata' was the Royal Treasurer. 4. The 'Samaharta' also looked after the preparation of the income and expenditure accounts.

Final Answer: The Samaharta was the Chief Collector of Revenue.

Answer: (B)



Q3.

Solution**Concept:**

Understanding the chronology of ancient Indian texts is crucial for mapping the evolution of social and religious norms.

Solution:

1. The Dharmasutras were composed roughly between 500 BCE and 200 BCE. 2. The Manusmriti was compiled between c. 200 BCE and 200 CE. 3. The Puranas were compiled from c. 200 CE onwards. 4. V.S. Sukthankar began the project of the Critical Edition of the Mahabharata in 1919. 5. Following this sequence (Dharmasutras → Manusmriti → Puranas → Sukthankar), we arrive at the order IV, III, II, I.

Final Answer: The correct chronological order is IV, III, II, I.

Answer: (A)

Q4.

Solution**Concept:**

The Stupa was a symbolic representation of the universe in Buddhist architecture. Each part of the Stupa had a specific religious significance.

Solution:

1. The 'Anda' is the semi-circular mound of earth representing the world. 2. Above the 'Anda' was the 'Harmika', a balcony-like structure that represented the dwelling place of the gods. 3. Arising from the Harmika was a mast called the 'Yashti', often surmounted by a 'Chhatri' or umbrella. 4. The Sanchi Stupa is a prime example of this architectural layout.

Final Answer: The structure is known as Harmika.

Answer: (C)

Q5.

Solution**Concept:**

Al-Biruni was a scholar who came to India from Khwarizm. He wrote to explain Indian culture and religion to people in the Islamic world.

Solution:

1. Al-Biruni was well-versed in several languages including Syriac, Arabic, and Persian. 2. Despite his knowledge of other languages, his masterpiece 'Kitab-ul-Hind' was written in Arabic. 3. The choice of Arabic was likely due to it being the language of science and scholarship in the Islamic world during the 11th century. 4. The book is known for its lucid and simple style.

Final Answer: The book was written in Arabic.

Answer: (C)



Q6.

Solution**Concept:**

The Bhakti movement in South India was led by the Alvars (devotees of Vishnu) and Nayanars (devotees of Shiva). These movements were characterized by their inclusive nature and their challenge to the rigid social hierarchies of the time.

Solution:

1. The Alvars and Nayanars came from diverse social backgrounds, including artisans, cultivators, and even groups considered "untouchable." 2. They traveled from place to place singing hymns in Tamil (not Sanskrit) to ensure the message reached the common masses. 3. One of the most significant aspects of their movement was the protest against the caste system and the dominance of the Brahmanas, seeking a more direct and personal connection with the divine. 4. Contrary to some traditions, women like Andal (an Alvar) and Karaikkal Ammaiyar (a Nayanar) played pivotal roles in these movements.

Final Answer: They initiated a movement of protest against the caste system and the dominance of Brahmanas.

Answer: (B)

Q7.

Solution**Concept:**

The Vijayanagara Empire (1336–1646) developed unique administrative and military systems to maintain control over its vast territories in Southern India.

Solution:

1. The 'Amara-nayaka' system was a focal point of the Vijayanagara polity, likely derived from the 'Iqta' system of the Delhi Sultanate. 2. Under this system, the 'Amara-nayakas' were military commanders who were given territories (called 'amaram') by the Raya (king) to govern. 3. They collected taxes and other dues from peasants, craftspersons, and merchants in their areas. 4. A portion of this revenue was maintained for their personal use and the maintenance of a stipulated contingent of horses and elephants for the King's service.

Final Answer: The 'Amara-nayaka' system belonged to the Vijayanagara Empire.

Answer: (B)



Q8.

Solution**Concept:**

The 'Ain-i-Akbari', authored by Abu'l Fazl, provides a detailed account of the Mughal administration under Akbar, including a sophisticated system of land classification for revenue assessment.

Solution:

1. The Mughal state classified land into four categories based on the frequency of cultivation to determine the tax burden accurately. 2. 'Polaj' was the ideal land which was annually cultivated for each crop in succession and was never allowed to lie fallow. 3. 'Parauti' was land left out of cultivation for a time so that it might recover its strength. 4. 'Chachar' was land that had lain fallow for three or four years, and 'Banjar' was land uncultivated for five years or more.

Final Answer: The land never allowed to lie fallow was known as Polaj.

Answer: (D)

Q9.

Solution**Concept:**

The British East India Company experimented with various land revenue systems in India to ensure a stable and predictable income. The Permanent Settlement was the first of these major interventions.

Solution:

1. The Permanent Settlement was introduced in Bengal and Bihar in 1793. 2. It was the brainchild of Lord Cornwallis, who served as the Governor-General of India at the time. 3. Under this system, the Rajas and Taluqdars were recognized as Zamindars. 4. The revenue demand was fixed "permanently," meaning the state could not increase it in the future, regardless of any increase in agricultural production.

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

Answer: (C)



Q10.

Solution**Concept:**

The Revolt of 1857 was a widespread uprising against British rule, characterized by localized leadership across Northern and Central India.

Solution:

1. Shah Mal was a local leader from the Barout pargana in Uttar Pradesh who mobilized the villagers against the British. 2. Nana Sahib, the adopted son of Peshwa Baji Rao II, led the revolt in Kanpur. 3. Birjis Qadr, the young son of Wajid Ali Shah, was proclaimed the Nawab in Lucknow. 4. Kunwar Singh, an elderly zamindar, led the movement in Arrah, Bihar. 5. Matching these pairs: (i)-b, (ii)-a, (iii)-d, (iv)-c.

Final Answer: The correct match is (i)-b, (ii)-a, (iii)-d, (iv)-c.

Answer: (A)

Q11.

Solution**Concept:**

After returning to India from South Africa in January 1915, Mahatma Gandhi spent a year traveling the subcontinent to understand the people and the land. His first major public appearance served as a platform to voice his early philosophy on the Indian nationalist movement.

Solution:

1. In February 1916, the Banaras Hindu University (BHU) was being inaugurated. Gandhi was invited to speak at the opening ceremony. 2. Unlike other speakers who praised the elites and the wealthy donors, Gandhi used the occasion to point out the absence of the "millions of poor Indians" who were the real backbone of the country. 3. He famously remarked that there was no salvation for India unless the rich stripped themselves of their jewelry and held it in trust for their countrymen. 4. This speech marked the beginning of Gandhi's shift from an elite-led movement to a mass-led struggle.

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

Answer: (C)



Q12.

Solution**Concept:**

The Constituent Assembly began its work of drafting the Indian Constitution in December 1946. The ideological framework of the entire Constitution was laid down in a specific resolution.

Solution:

1. On 13 December 1946, Jawaharlal Nehru introduced the 'Objectives Resolution' in the Constituent Assembly. 2. This resolution defined the aims of the Assembly—proclaiming India as an "Independent Sovereign Republic." 3. It guaranteed justice, social, economic, and political equality, and fundamental freedoms to all citizens. 4. The resolution provided the philosophy that eventually shaped the Preamble of the Indian Constitution.

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

Answer: (C)

Q13.

Solution**Concept:**

The Harappan civilization was spread across a vast geographical area. Understanding the location and specific features of major sites is a frequent requirement in the CUET-UG exam.

Solution:

1. Dholavira is located on Khadir Beyt in the Rann of Kutch, which is in the state of Gujarat. 2. It is one of the most remarkable Harappan sites due to its unique water management system, including large stone-cut reservoirs. 3. Unlike many other Harappan cities which were divided into two parts (Citadel and Lower Town), Dholavira was divided into three sections: a Citadel, a Middle Town, and a Lower Town. 4. It also features a unique "signboard" with ten large-sized signs of the Harappan script.

Final Answer: Dholavira is located in Gujarat.

Answer: (C)



Q14.

Solution**Concept:**

The decipherment of ancient scripts was a turning point in reconstructing Indian history. Until the 1830s, the inscriptions of Ashoka remained a mystery.

Solution:

1. James Prinsep was an officer in the mint of the East India Company. 2. In 1837, he successfully deciphered the Brahmi and Kharosthi scripts used in the earliest inscriptions and coins. 3. This led to the discovery that most of these referred to a king named 'Piyadassi' (meaning "pleasant to behold"), whom scholars later identified as the Mauryan Emperor Ashoka through Buddhist texts. 4. This breakthrough allowed for the scientific reconstruction of the political history of the Mauryan Empire.

Final Answer: The script was deciphered by James Prinsep.

Answer: (B)

Q15.

Solution**Concept:**

Social institutions in ancient India were governed by rules of kinship and marriage, as detailed in the Brahmanical texts like the Dharmasutras and Dharmashastras.

Solution:

1. 'Endogamy' refers to the practice of marriage within a unit—this unit could be a kin group, a caste, or a group living in the same locality. 2. In contrast, 'Exogamy' refers to marriage outside the unit (specifically outside the 'Gotra' in the Brahmanical tradition). 3. 'Polygyny' is the practice of a man having several wives, while 'Polyandry' is the practice of a woman having several husbands. 4. The Brahmanical texts generally promoted exogamy regarding the gotra and endogamy regarding the caste.

Final Answer: The practice is known as Endogamy.

Answer: (B)



Q16.

Solution

Concept: Francois Bernier, a French physician and traveler, spent twelve years in India (1656–1668) and closely observed the Mughal socio-economic structure through a European lens.

Solution: 1. Bernier was obsessed with comparing India to Europe, often portraying India as "inferior." 2. He claimed that one of the fundamental differences was the lack of private property in land in Mughal India. 3. According to him, the King owned all the land and distributed it among his nobles, who could not pass it to their heirs. 4. He argued this "Crown Ownership" prevented land improvement and led to the ruin of agriculture. Modern historians, however, have challenged this view using Mughal records.

Final Answer: The traveler was Francois Bernier.

Answer: (B)

Q17.

Solution

Concept: The 12th century witnessed a new religious movement in Karnataka known as the Virashaiva or Lingayat movement, which had deep social implications.

Solution: 1. This movement was led by Basavanna (1106-68), who was initially a minister in the court of a Kalachuri king. 2. His followers were known as Virashaivas (heroes of Shiva) or Lingayats (wearers of the linga). 3. They challenged the Brahmanical ideas of caste and the "pollution" attributed to certain groups. 4. They also questioned the theory of rebirth and encouraged practices like post-puberty marriage and the remarriage of widows, which were not approved in the Dharmashastras.

Final Answer: The movement was led by Basavanna.

Answer: (A)

Q18.

Solution

Concept: The architecture of Vijayanagara reflected the power and ritual life of the Rayas. The Mahanavami Dibba is one of the most prominent structures in the Royal Center.

Solution: 1. The Mahanavami Dibba is a massive platform rising from a base of about 11,000 sq. ft. to a height of 40 ft. 2. It was used as a stage for ceremonies associated with the ten-day Hindu festival known variously as Dussehra, Durga Puja, or Navaratri/Mahanavami. 3. Rituals included the worship of the state horse, sacrifices of buffaloes, and performances like dances and wrestling matches. 4. The festival was a moment for the King to display his prestige and power to his subjects and the Amara-nayakas.

Final Answer: It was used for religious rituals and state ceremonies during the Navaratri festival.

Answer: (B)



Q19.

Solution

Concept: Akbar's reign was marked by a policy of 'Sulh-i-kul' (absolute peace) and a deep interest in the religious and cultural traditions of India.

Solution: 1. Akbar established a translation bureau ('Maktab Khana') at Fatehpur Sikri. 2. He wanted to foster a better understanding between Muslims and Hindus by translating major Sanskrit works into Persian. 3. The Mahabharata was translated into Persian and named the 'Razmnama' (Book of Wars). 4. Detailed illustrations were added to these manuscripts to make the stories visually accessible to the Mughal elite.

Final Answer: The translation was commissioned by Akbar.

Answer: (C)

Q20.

Solution

Concept: As the East India Company (EIC) expanded its control in India, its activities were closely scrutinized by the British Parliament, partly due to lobbying by rival merchant groups in England.

Solution: 1. The 'Fifth Report' was one of a series of reports on the administration and activities of the EIC in India. 2. Submitted in 1813, it ran into 1002 pages, of which over 800 pages were appendices containing petitions of zamindars and ryots, and reports of collectors. 3. It highlighted the perceived failure of the Permanent Settlement and the mismanagement of the Company. 4. It became the basis of many early British histories of colonial administration in India.

Final Answer: It dealt with the administration and activities of the East India Company.

Answer: (B)

Q21.

Solution**Concept:**

The Santhal Rebellion (1855-56) was one of the most powerful tribal uprisings against the British colonial state and the oppressive systems it introduced.

Solution:

1. The Santhals had been settled in the Damin-i-Koh region, but they soon found the state levying high taxes and moneylenders (dikus) charging exorbitant interest rates. 2. The rebellion was led by two brothers, Sidhu and Kanhu, who claimed that Thakur (God) had ordered them to free the country from the oppressors. 3. It was a violent struggle where Santhals attacked the houses of moneylenders and zamindars. 4. Although the British eventually crushed the rebellion with military force, they were forced to create the 'Santhal Pargana' to pacify the community.

Final Answer: It was led by Sidhu and Kanhu against the oppression of Zamindars and moneylenders.

Answer: (B)



Q22.

Solution**Concept:**

Visual representations of the 1857 Revolt were a significant part of how the British public perceived the event. These paintings often glorified British heroism and depicted the rebels as villains.

Solution:

1. 'Relief of Lucknow' was painted by Thomas Jones Barker in 1859. 2. The painting depicts the moment when British forces under Campbell, Havelock, and Outram met inside the Residency. 3. It serves as an example of British propaganda, emphasizing the triumphal entry of British "saviors" while the dead and injured are relegated to the corners of the canvas. 4. This contrasts with other paintings like 'In Memoriam' by Joseph Noel Paton, which focused on the perceived vulnerability of British women and children.

Final Answer: The painting was by Thomas Jones Barker.

Answer: (A)

Q23.

Solution**Concept:**

The Non-Cooperation Movement (NCM) was the first large-scale mass movement led by Mahatma Gandhi, aiming to bring the British administration to a standstill.

Solution:

1. The proposal for Non-Cooperation was initially introduced at the Calcutta session in September 1920. 2. However, it was at the Nagpur session of the Indian National Congress in December 1920 that the program was formally adopted and ratified. 3. The movement actually gained momentum and was launched on the ground in early 1921. 4. It involved the boycott of British courts, schools, and foreign cloth, and the surrender of titles.

Final Answer: The movement was officially approved at the Nagpur session in 1920.

Answer: (B)



Q24.

Solution**Concept:**

The Constituent Assembly debates (1946–1949) covered various issues, including the rights of marginalized sections. While Dr. Ambedkar is the most famous figure, other members also voiced the pain of the 'depressed castes'.

Solution:

1. During the debates on minority rights and reservations, J. Nagappa, a representative from Madras, made a very emotional and powerful speech. 2. He argued that the depressed castes had been suppressed for thousands of years and that their "backwardness" was a result of social exclusion and lack of opportunity. 3. He pointed out that while they constituted the majority of the labor force, they were kept out of the corridors of power. 4. This led to the eventual inclusion of reservations for Scheduled Castes in the Constitution.

Final Answer: The statement was made by J. Nagappa.

Answer: (B)

Q25.

Solution**Concept:**

Geography in the early Vedic period was centered around the North-Western part of the Indian subcontinent. The Rigveda mentions several rivers that help us identify this region.

Solution:

1. The term 'Saptasindhu' literally translates to 'The Land of the Seven Rivers'. 2. In the Rigvedic context, these seven rivers generally include the Indus (Sindhu) and its five main tributaries: Vitasta (Jhelum), Asikni (Chenab), Parushni (Ravi), Vipas (Beas), and Sutudri (Sutlej). 3. The seventh river is usually considered to be the Saraswati. 4. This region was the heartland of the early Aryan settlements in India.

Final Answer: Saptasindhu refers to the land of Seven Rivers.

Answer: (B)



Q26.

Solution**Concept:**

Agriculture was the backbone of the Harappan economy. While most sites were located in semi-arid lands where irrigation was probably required for agriculture, archaeologists have found direct physical evidence of agricultural practices.

Solution:

1. At the site of Kalibangan (located in present-day Rajasthan), archaeologists found evidence of a ploughed field. 2. This field had two sets of furrows at right angles to each other, suggesting that two different crops were grown together. 3. This is one of the earliest examples of a ploughed field in the world. 4. While terracotta models of the plough have been found at sites like Banawali (Haryana) and Cholistan, the actual field evidence remains unique to Kalibangan.

Final Answer: Evidence of a ploughed field was found at Kalibangan.

Answer: (A)

Q27.

Solution**Concept:**

The Mughal era saw a significant interest in the cross-cultural exchange of philosophical ideas. Dara Shukoh, the eldest son of Shah Jahan, was a renowned scholar of Sufism and Vedanta.

Solution:

1. Dara Shukoh believed that the 'Upanishads' contained the "Great Secret" ('Sirr-i-Akbar') mentioned in the Quran. 2. In 1657, he translated 50 Upanishads from Sanskrit into Persian with the help of Pandits from Banaras. 3. His goal was to find a common ground between Islamic mysticism and Hindu philosophy. 4. This translation later reached Europe and played a crucial role in introducing Western scholars to Indian philosophy.

Final Answer: The translation was completed by Dara Shukoh.

Answer: (B)



Q28.

Solution**Concept:**

The British policy of "forest clearance" for agriculture led to conflicts with tribal groups. To manage the Santhals, the British created a specific territory for them.

Solution:

1. By the 1830s, the Santhals had moved into the Rajmahal hills, displacing the local Paharias.
2. The British demarcated a large area of land as 'Damin-i-Koh' (Skirt of the Hills) in 1832.
3. This land was declared to be the land of the Santhals; they were to live within it, practice settled agriculture, and become settled peasants.
4. The contract required them to clear at least one-tenth of the area within the first ten years.

Final Answer: Damin-i-Koh was demarcated for the Santhals.

Answer: (B)

Q29.

Solution**Concept:**

The 'Akbarname' is the official chronicle of the reign of Akbar, written by his court historian Abu'l Fazl. It is divided into three volumes (books).

Solution:

1. The first volume deals with Akbar's ancestors and his birth.
2. The second volume records the detailed events of Akbar's reign up to its 46th year.
3. The third volume is the 'Ain-i-Akbari', which provides detailed administrative, cultural, and statistical data about the Mughal Empire.
4. The 'Ain-i-Akbari' itself is further divided into five books ('daftars').

Final Answer: The 'Ain-i-Akbari' is the third book of the Akbarname.

Answer: (B)

Q30.

Solution**Concept:**

When Gandhi returned to India in 1915, he sought guidance on how to navigate the complex political landscape of the Indian National Movement.

Solution:

1. Gopal Krishna Gokhale, a prominent Moderate leader, advised Gandhi to travel around British India for a year to get to know the land and its people.
2. Gandhi viewed Gokhale as his "political guru" because of Gokhale's deep commitment to the country and his balanced approach to politics.
3. Gokhale's emphasis on studying the grassroots reality influenced Gandhi's subsequent campaigns in Champaran, Kheda, and Ahmedabad.

Final Answer: The political mentor of Gandhi was Gopal Krishna Gokhale.

Answer: (B)



Q31.

Solution**Concept:**

The Lucknow Pact of 1916 was a landmark event in the Indian nationalist movement, marking a rare period of cooperation between the two most prominent political organizations in India.

Solution:

1. Since the split in 1907 and the rise of communal politics, the Indian National Congress and the All-India Muslim League had operated on different platforms. 2. In 1916, both organizations held their annual sessions in Lucknow. 3. They signed the Lucknow Pact, agreeing to a common set of demands for constitutional reforms. 4. Under the pact, the Congress accepted the principle of separate electorates for Muslims, while both parties demanded provincial autonomy and a greater share in the government. 5. This unity was further strengthened during the later Khilafat and Non-Cooperation movements.

Final Answer: The Lucknow Pact was an agreement between the Congress and the Muslim League.

Answer: (C)

Q32.

Solution**Concept:**

The Buddha and his followers traveled extensively, engaging in debates and discussions with various thinkers, philosophers, and common people.

Solution:

1. Buddhist texts describe a vibrant atmosphere of philosophical inquiry during the 6th century BCE. 2. Traveling mendicants and teachers would halt at specific places to debate their views on the nature of reality and the soul. 3. One such place was the 'Kutagarasala'—which literally means a "hut with a pointed roof." 4. These were often located in groves where teachers like the Buddha stayed. If a teacher managed to convince a rival in such a debate, the rival and his followers would often become the winner's disciples.

Final Answer: It means a hut with a pointed roof where debates took place.

Answer: (B)



Q33.

Solution**Concept:**

The ruins of Hampi, the capital of the Vijayanagara Empire, were lost to time until the colonial period when British officials and surveyors began documenting the site.

Solution:

1. In 1800, Colonel Colin Mackenzie, an engineer and antiquarian working for the East India Company, brought the remains of Hampi to light. 2. He was the first Surveyor General of India and prepared the first survey map of the site. 3. Much of the information he collected was based on the memories of the priests at the Virupaksha temple and the shrine of Pampadevi. 4. His work laid the foundation for later archaeological and epigraphic studies of the Vijayanagara Empire.

Final Answer: The discovery was brought to light by Colin Mackenzie.

Answer: (B)

Q34.

Solution**Concept:**

Unlike the Permanent Settlement, the Ryotwari system was designed to establish a direct relationship between the colonial state and the actual tillers of the soil.

Solution:

1. The Ryotwari system was developed by Alexander Read and Thomas Munro at the end of the 18th century. 2. It was primarily introduced in the Madras and Bombay Presidencies of Southern and Western India. 3. Under this system, the revenue was settled directly with the 'Ryot' (peasant). 4. The land was surveyed and assessed, and the revenue demand was not fixed permanently but was subject to periodic revision (usually every 20 or 30 years). 5. The British believed this system followed the traditional Indian land tenure better than the Zamindari system of the North.

Final Answer: It was primarily introduced in the Madras and Bombay Presidencies.

Answer: (B)



Q35.

Solution**Concept:**

The Revolt of 1857 saw leaders emerging from various social strata—royalty, zamindars, and even commoners—to lead the resistance against the British.

Solution:

1. In Bihar, the rebellion was spearheaded by Kunwar Singh, an elderly zamindar of Jagdishpur near Arrah. 2. Despite being in his 80s, he was a skilled military strategist and led his troops in several successful engagements against British forces across Bihar and parts of Uttar Pradesh. 3. He joined the rebel sepoys when they reached Arrah from Danapur. 4. His name became a symbol of local resistance and bravery in the folk songs of the region.

Final Answer: The leader in Arrah was Kunwar Singh.

Answer: (B)

Q36.

Solution**Concept:**

The Khilafat Movement (1919–1924) was a pan-Islamic political protest campaign launched by Muslims in British India to influence the British government and to protect the Ottoman Empire during the aftermath of World War I.

Solution:

1. The Sultan of Turkey was regarded as the 'Khalifa' (Caliph), the spiritual and temporal head of the global Sunni Muslim community. 2. After the defeat of Turkey in World War I, rumors spread that a harsh peace treaty (Treaty of Sèvres) was going to be imposed on the Turkish Sultan. 3. Indian Muslims, led by the Ali brothers (Muhammad Ali and Shaukat Ali), launched the Khilafat Movement to ensure that the Khalifa retained control over Muslim sacred places in the erstwhile Ottoman Empire. 4. Mahatma Gandhi saw this as an opportunity to unite Hindus and Muslims and merged the Khilafat demand with the Non-Cooperation Movement.

Final Answer: The movement was launched to protest against injustice to the Caliph of Turkey.

Answer: (C)



Q37.

Solution**Concept:**

The 'Mansabdari' system was the administrative system of the Mughal Empire introduced by Akbar. It was a unique way of organizing the civil and military services of the state.

Solution:

1. The term 'Mansab' literally means a rank or position. The holder of a rank was called a 'Mansabdar'. 2. The rank was indicated by two numbers: 'Zat' and 'Sawar'. 3. 'Zat' determined the personal status of the officer and his salary in the imperial hierarchy. 4. 'Sawar' indicated the number of cavalymen (horsemen) the Mansabdar was required to maintain for the Emperor's service. 5. Thus, the rank was not just military; it defined the entire official's salary, social status, and military responsibilities.

Final Answer: The Mansab rank determined the official's salary, status, and military responsibilities.

Answer: (B)

Q38.

Solution**Concept:**

Ibn Battuta, a Moroccan traveler who visited India during the reign of Muhammad bin Tughlaq in the 14th century, was amazed by the efficiency of the communication systems in India.

Solution:

1. Ibn Battuta noted that the state took great care in maintaining a postal system which allowed news and even fruits from distant provinces to reach the Sultan quickly. 2. He described two types of postal systems: - The 'Uluq' (horse-post), which was run by royal horses stationed at intervals of every four miles. - The 'Dawa' (foot-post), which had three stations per mile. 3. He remarked that the foot-post was actually faster than the horse-post and was used to carry essential goods and urgent messages.

Final Answer: The traveler was Ibn Battuta.

Answer: (B)



Q39.

Solution**Concept:**

The Revolt of 1857 did not happen all at once; it was a chain reaction triggered by a specific mutiny in a military cantonment.

Solution:

1. While tensions had been building (e.g., the Mangal Pandey incident in March), the actual large-scale revolt began in Meerut. 2. On the afternoon of 10 May 1857, the sepoys in the cantonment of Meerut broke out in mutiny. 3. They released their imprisoned comrades, killed British officers, and set fire to their bungalows. 4. By the following morning, the rebels had reached Delhi, where they appealed to the aged Mughal Emperor Bahadur Shah Zafar to lead them.

Final Answer: The revolt broke out on 10 May 1857.

Answer: (A)

Q40.

Solution**Concept:**

The issue of the 'National Language' was one of the most heated debates in the Constituent Assembly, as members from different regions had conflicting views on linguistic identity.

Solution:

1. R.V. Dhulekar, a member from the United Provinces, made an aggressive plea for Hindi to be adopted as the language of the Constitution. 2. He famously remarked that "People who are present in this house to fashion a Constitution for India and do not know Hindustani are not worthy to be members of this Assembly." 3. His stance created a lot of friction with members from South India, who feared the imposition of Hindi would lead to the marginalization of their regional languages. 4. This ultimately led to a compromise where Hindi in Devanagari script was declared the 'Official Language' (not National) for a period of 15 years, alongside English.

Final Answer: The member was R.V. Dhulekar.

Answer: (A)



Q41.

Solution**Concept:**

The teachings of the Buddha were compiled by his disciples after his death (Mahaparinibbana) into three main collections known as the 'Tipitaka' (Three Baskets).

Solution:

1. The 'Vinaya Pitaka' includes rules and regulations for those who joined the sangha or monastic order. 2. The 'Sutta Pitaka' contains the Buddha's teachings or discourses. It is often used to reconstruct the Buddha's philosophical and ethical worldview. 3. The 'Abhidhamma Pitaka' deals with more abstract philosophical matters and metaphysics. 4. These texts were originally transmitted orally and later written down in Pali.

Final Answer: The Sutta Pitaka contains the Buddha's teachings or discourses.

Answer: (B)

Q42.

Solution**Concept:**

Mughal women of the imperial household often wielded significant political and economic power, especially during the 17th century.

Solution:

1. Jahanara, the daughter of Shah Jahan, was a highly influential figure in the Mughal court. 2. She was given the responsibility of designing the 'Chandni Chowk' market in the new capital city, Shahjahanabad. 3. Economically, she received revenues from the port city of Surat, which was a major hub for overseas trade. 4. Her control over such a lucrative port gave her independent wealth and significant leverage in administrative affairs.

Final Answer: The princess was Jahanara.

Answer: (C)



Q43.

Solution**Concept:**

The transition to the Ryotwari system in the Deccan led to high revenue demands, which forced peasants into the clutches of moneylenders.

Solution:

1. In 1875, a movement began in Supa (Poona) where peasants attacked the shops and houses of Sahukars (moneylenders). 2. The peasants were angry about the spiraling debt and the high interest rates charged by the Sahukars, often using fraudulent methods. 3. The British government, fearing a repeat of 1857, set up the 'Deccan Riots Commission' to investigate the causes. 4. The report concluded that the high revenue demand and the lack of credit were the primary drivers of the unrest.

Final Answer: The uprising was against the Sahukars (moneylenders).

Answer: (B)

Q44.

Solution**Concept:**

The chronological mapping of the Gandhian era is a core component of the CUET-UG History syllabus.

Solution:

1. The Ahmedabad Mill Strike took place in 1918 (early career). 2. The Salt Satyagraha (Dandi March) occurred in 1930. 3. Individual Satyagraha was launched in 1940 as a protest against India's forced participation in WWII. 4. The Quit India Movement was launched in 1942. 5. Therefore, the correct sequence is IV, III, I, II.

Final Answer: The correct sequence is IV, III, I, II.

Answer: (A)



Q45.

Solution**Concept:**

One of the most intense debates in the Constituent Assembly was the distribution of power between the Union (Center) and the States (Provinces).

Solution:

1. While members like K. Santhanam argued for more provincial autonomy, others believed a strong center was necessary to prevent the disintegration of the country. 2. Balkrishna Sharma, a member from the United Provinces, was a vocal supporter of a strong central government. 3. He argued that only a powerful Center could plan for the well-being of the entire country and mobilize resources effectively. 4. He believed that the strength of the Provinces depended on the strength and stability of the Center.

Final Answer: The member was Balkrishna Sharma.

Answer: (D)

Q46.

Solution**Concept:**

The Harappan script is one of the most significant unsolved mysteries of ancient history. Unlike the contemporary Mesopotamian or Egyptian scripts, it has not been deciphered, which limits our understanding of their literature and specific laws.

Solution:

1. The script is called 'enigmatic' because archaeologists and linguists have been unable to read it. 2. It consists of symbols (signs) rather than an alphabet. The number of signs is quite large, ranging between 375 and 400. 3. Most inscriptions are short, found on seals, copper tools, and jars. 4. A key feature discovered by analyzing the spacing on seals is that the script was written from right to left (the right side often has wider spacing, while the left side is cramped).

Final Answer: The script is enigmatic because it remains undeciphered and was written from right to left.

Answer: (C)



Q47.

Solution**Concept:**

Magadha emerged as the most powerful Mahajanapada between the 6th and 4th centuries BCE. Its strategic location and resources were complemented by the choice of easily defensible capitals.

Solution:

1. The first capital of Magadha was 'Rajagaha' (the Prakrit name for modern-day Rajgir in Bihar).
2. The name 'Rajagaha' literally means "house of the king."
3. It was a fortified settlement located among hills, making it naturally secure from enemy attacks.
4. Later, in the 4th century BCE, the capital was shifted to Pataliputra (modern-day Patna), commanding routes along the Ganga.

Final Answer: The first capital was Rajagaha.

Answer: (B)

Q48.

Solution**Concept:**

Ibn Battuta's 'Rihla' (The Travels) provides an incredibly detailed account of the social and cultural life of the Islamic world and the Indian subcontinent in the 14th century.

Solution:

1. Ibn Battuta was a tireless traveler who spent nearly 30 years on the road.
2. His book, 'Kitab-ur-Rihla', written in Arabic, documents his journey from Morocco to India, China, and Southeast Asia.
3. He arrived in Delhi in 1333 during the reign of Muhammad bin Tughlaq, who appointed him as the 'Qazi' (judge) of Delhi.
4. The Rihla is famous for its descriptions of the coconut, the betel leaf, the Indian postal system, and the bustling cities of Delhi and Daulatabad.

Final Answer: It is an account of the travels of Ibn Battuta.

Answer: (B)



Q49.

Solution**Concept:**

During the early 19th century, the British administration in Calcutta focused on transforming the city's infrastructure and public health through organized committees.

Solution:

1. After the departure of Lord Wellesley, the work of town planning was carried on by the 'Lottery Committee'. 2. It was so named because public lotteries were used to raise funds for town improvement. 3. The committee was responsible for building roads in the Indian part of the city and clearing the city of "encroachments." 4. Their focus was often on improving sanitation and creating open spaces (to clear "noxious exhalations"), reflecting colonial anxieties about disease and order.

Final Answer: It was involved in town planning and improvement in Calcutta.

Answer: (B)

Q50.

Solution**Concept:**

The late 19th century saw several tribal "Ulgulans" (Great Tumults) against the 'dikus' (outsiders) and the British government that disrupted tribal ways of life.

Solution:

1. Birsa Munda led a major messianic movement in the Chhotanagpur region at the end of the 19th century. 2. He urged the Munda people to give up liquor, clean their villages, and believe in witchcraft and sorcery. 3. More importantly, he aimed to restore a "Golden Age"—a Munda Raj—where the tribal people would be free from the oppression of moneylenders, zamindars, and the British. 4. He famously claimed that the authority of the "Queen" (Victoria) had ended, and the land belonged once again to the original inhabitants.

Final Answer: The leader was Birsa Munda.

Answer: (B)



Answer Key

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

