

CUET UG History Sample Paper - 1

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 Civilization' and served as the Director-General of ASI during the discovery of Harappa and Mohenjodaro?

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

Q2. With reference to Harappan town planning, consider the following statements regarding the 'Citadel': I. It was smaller in area but higher in elevation. II. It was always located to the east of the Lower Town. III. It contained structures probably used for special public purposes. Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (A) I and II only
- (B) II and III only
- (C) I and III only
- (D) I, II and III

Q3. The 'Dholavira' site is unique among Harappan cities because:



- (A) It was divided into two parts: Citadel and Lower Town.
- (B) It was entirely built of raw mud bricks without stone.
- (C) It was divided into three parts: Citadel, Middle Town, and Lower Town.
- (D) It lacked any form of fortification or defensive walls.

Q4. James Prinsep's contribution to Indian epigraphy was the decipherment of:

- (A) Harappan Script
- (B) Brahmi and Kharosthi scripts
- (C) Greek and Aramaic scripts
- (D) Devanagari script

Q5. In the context of Mauryan administration, the term 'Samaharta' referred to:

- (A) The Chief Custodian of the State Treasury.
- (B) The Collector-General of Revenue.
- (C) The Commander-in-Chief of the Army.
- (D) The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

Q6. Which of the following Mahajanapadas was initially a confederacy of eight clans, including the Videhas and the Lichchhavis?

- (A) Magadha
- (B) Vatsa
- (C) Vajji
- (D) Avanti

Q7. Under the leadership of V.S. Sukthankar, a team of scholars prepared the Critical Edition of the Mahabharata. Which of the following was a key feature of this project?



- (A) It relied solely on the Persian translation 'Razmnama'.
- (B) It ignored regional variations to create a single uniform text.
- (C) It compared Sanskrit manuscripts from across the subcontinent to find common verses.
- (D) It was completed within a period of five years.

Q8. According to the Brahmanical practice of 'Gotra', which of the following rules was expected to be followed?

- (A) Women retained their father's gotra after marriage.
- (B) Members of the same gotra could marry each other.
- (C) Women were expected to give up their father's gotra and adopt their husband's.
- (D) Gotra names were derived from the names of the mothers.

Q9. The architectural feature of a Stupa known as the 'Harmika' represents:

- (A) The massive hemispherical mound of earth.
- (B) The balcony-like structure that served as the abode of the gods.
- (C) The central pillar supporting the three umbrellas.
- (D) The gateway decorated with sculptures of the Jataka tales.

Q10. Who among the following Begums of Bhopal provided significant funding for the preservation of the Sanchi Stupa and the establishment of a museum there?

- (A) Shahjehan Begum and Sultan Jehan Begum
- (B) Raziya Sultan and Gulbadan Begum
- (C) Jahanara and Roshanara
- (D) Nur Jahan and Mumtaz Mahal

Q11. Al-Biruni, in his work 'Kitab-ul-Hind', identifies which of the following as a major barrier to understanding Indian society?



- (A) The lack of written records in India.
- (B) The linguistic difference between Sanskrit and Arabic/Persian.
- (C) The absence of religious diversity in the subcontinent.
- (D) The excessive interference of the state in religious matters.

Q12. Ibn Battuta describes the 'Uluq' in his travelogue 'Rihla'. What does this term refer to?

- (A) The foot post system of communication.
- (B) The horse post system of communication.
- (C) The special tax levied on foreign merchants.
- (D) The royal judicial court of the Delhi Sultanate.

Q13. Francois Bernier's perception of 'crown ownership of land' in the Mughal Empire led him to conclude that:

- (A) It encouraged the peasantry to improve the land.
- (B) It led to the growth of a strong middle class.
- (C) It prevented the emergence of private property and led to impoverishment.
- (D) It was the most efficient system of revenue collection in the world.

Q14. The Nayanars were a group of Bhakti saints devoted to:

- (A) Lord Vishnu
- (B) Lord Shiva
- (C) Goddess Shakti
- (D) Lord Brahma

Q15. The 'Ziyarat' in the context of Sufism refers to:

- (A) The practice of fasting during Ramadan.



- (B) The pilgrimage to the tombs of Sufi saints.
- (C) The musical sessions held in Khanqahs.
- (D) The initiation ceremony of a new disciple.

Q16. The 'Amara-nayaka' system was a major political innovation of the Vijayanagara Empire. These 'nayakas' were:

- (A) Temple priests who managed the Brahmadeya lands.
- (B) Military commanders who were given territories to govern by the Raya.
- (C) Foreign merchants who controlled the horse trade.
- (D) Revenue officials responsible for collecting the Jizya tax.

Q17. Which Vijayanagara ruler is credited with building the suburban township of Nagalapuram and writing the 'Amuktamalyada' in Telugu?

- (A) Harihara I
- (B) Deva Raya II
- (C) Krishnadeva Raya
- (D) Rama Raya

Q18. The ruins at Hampi were brought to light in 1800 by which engineer and antiquarian of the East India Company?

- (A) Colin Mackenzie
- (B) Alexander Cunningham
- (C) James Prinsep
- (D) Mortimer Wheeler

Q19. In the Mughal land revenue system described in the 'Ain-i-Akbari', land that was annually cultivated for each crop in succession and was never allowed to lie fallow was called:



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

Q20. The 'Paharias' of the Rajmahal hills were primarily associated with which of the following practices?

- (A) Settled agriculture using the plough.
- (B) Shifting cultivation and gathering forest produce.
- (C) Large scale silk weaving for export.
- (D) Indigo plantation under the 'Ryoti' system.

Q21. The Permanent Settlement was introduced in Bengal in 1793 by:

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

Q22. Under the 'Jotedar' system in Bengal, the Jotedars were:

- (A) Peasant cultivators with small holdings.
- (B) Wealthy peasants who often controlled local trade and moneylending.
- (C) British officials in charge of revenue collection.
- (D) Artisans who lived in the 'Black Town' of Calcutta.

Q23. The Santhal Rebellion (1855-56) was led by which two brothers against the Zamindars and the British colonial state?

- (A) Birsa Munda and Komaram Bheem



- (B) Sidhu and Kanhu Majhi
- (C) Shah Mal and Devi Singh
- (D) Alluri Sitarama Raju and Birsa Munda

Q24. During the Revolt of 1857, which leader is correctly matched with their center of rebellion?

- (A) Nana Sahib — Jhansi
- (B) Begum Hazrat Mahal — Lucknow
- (C) Kunwar Singh — Kanpur
- (D) Rani Laxmibai — Arrah

Q25. The 'Deccan Riots Commission' was set up to investigate the causes of agricultural unrest in 1875 in which region?

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

Q26. Mahatma Gandhi's first major public appearance in India after returning from South Africa was at:

- (A) The Champaran Satyagraha (1917).
- (B) The opening of the Banaras Hindu University (1916).
- (C) The Lucknow Session of the Congress (1916).
- (D) The Ahmedabad Mill Strike (1918).

Q27. The 'Dandi March' initiated by Mahatma Gandhi in 1930 was a protest against:

- (A) The Simon Commission.



- (B) The high land revenue in Gujarat.
- (C) The state monopoly on the manufacture and sale of salt.
- (D) The communal award.

Q28. In the context of the Quit India Movement (1942), Mahatma Gandhi gave the famous slogan:

- (A) Jai Hind
- (B) Do or Die
- (C) Inquilab Zindabad
- (D) Swaraj is my birthright

Q29. Who moved the 'Objectives Resolution' in the Constituent Assembly on December 13, 1946?

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

Q30. In the Constituent Assembly debates, who among the following made a strong plea for the protection of 'tribal' rights and was known for saying 'I am not a proponent of separate electorates but we need protection'?

- (A) Jaipal Singh
- (B) N.G. Ranga
- (C) B. Pocker Bahadur
- (D) Dakshayani Velayudhan

Q31. The book 'Travels in the Mughal Empire' was written by which of the following travelers?



- (A) Duarte Barbosa
- (B) Francois Bernier
- (C) Jean-Baptiste Tavernier
- (D) Niccolao Manucci

Q32. The 'Mahanavami Dibba' in the Royal Centre of Vijayanagara was associated with:

- (A) The residence of the chief queen.
- (B) A ritual platform for celebrating the ten-day Hindu festival.
- (C) The treasury where the king stored gold and gems.
- (D) A military watchtower to observe movements in the city.

Q33. Which Mughal chronicle was commissioned by Akbar and written by Abu'l Fazl to provide a detailed history of his reign?

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

Q34. The 1857 painting 'In Memoriam', which depicted the vulnerability of British women and children during the revolt, was painted by:

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

Q35. Which of the following was a result of the Simon Commission's report?



- (A) The Gandhi-Irwin Pact.
- (B) The Government of India Act, 1935.
- (C) The Partition of Bengal.
- (D) The Rowlatt Act.

Q36. The 'Subsidiary Alliance' system, which played a key role in British expansion in India, was devised by:

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

Q37. Who was the first President of the Constituent Assembly of India (Temporary)?

- (A) Dr. Rajendra Prasad
- (B) Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha
- (C) H.C. Mukherjee
- (D) B.N. Rau

Q38. The term 'Khalisa' in Mughal administration referred to:

- (A) Land whose revenue went directly to the royal treasury.
- (B) Land granted to religious scholars and saints.
- (C) Land given to military officers in lieu of salary.
- (D) Land that was uncultivable and waste.

Q39. The 'Lotus Mahal' found in Hampi is a prime example of:

- (A) Pure Dravidian temple architecture.
- (B) Indo-Islamic architectural fusion.



- (C) European Baroque style.
- (D) Buddhist Stupa influence.

Q40. Which of the following events took place on August 16, 1946, as called for by the Muslim League?

- (A) The Interim Government formation.
- (B) Direct Action Day.
- (C) The Mountbatten Plan announcement.
- (D) The Shimla Conference.

Q41. The 'Saptarishi' concept in ancient Indian polity and the study of the 'Arthashastra' is primarily attributed to:

- (A) Banabhatta
- (B) Kautilya
- (C) Megasthenes
- (D) Ashoka

Q42. Which of the following describes the 'Ryotwari' system correctly?

- (A) Revenue was settled with the village community as a whole.
- (B) Revenue was settled directly with the individual cultivator.
- (C) The Zamindar acted as an intermediary between the state and the farmer.
- (D) Land was owned collectively by the clan.

Q43. The 'Arambagh' or the 'Garden of Eight Paradises' (Hasht-Bihisht) layout was introduced in India by:

- (A) Babur
- (B) Humayun



- (C) Akbar
- (D) Jahangir

Q44. In 1928, the Bardoli Satyagraha was led by:

- (A) Mahatma Gandhi
- (B) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
- (C) Mahadev Desai
- (D) Vithalbhai Patel

Q45. The 'Shramana' tradition in ancient India was characterized by:

- (A) Strict adherence to the authority of the Vedas.
- (B) Asceticism and the rejection of the Brahmanical sacrificial system.
- (C) The worship of only Vishnu and Shiva.
- (D) The establishment of the hereditary caste system.

Q46. Who was the leader of the 'Self-Respect Movement' in South India?

- (A) E.V. Ramaswamy 'Periyar'
- (B) C.N. Annadurai
- (C) P. Tyagaraya Chetty
- (D) Jyotiba Phule

Q47. The 'Mountbatten Plan' of June 3, 1947, primarily dealt with:

- (A) The integration of Princely States.
- (B) The procedure for the Partition of India.
- (C) The formation of the Interim Government.
- (D) The framing of the Indian Constitution.



- Q48.** The 'Buland Darwaza' at Fatehpur Sikri was built by Akbar to commemorate his victory over:
- (A) Bengal
 - (B) Gujarat
 - (C) Mewar
 - (D) Deccan
- Q49.** Which session of the Indian National Congress passed the famous 'Purna Swaraj' (Complete Independence) resolution in 1929?
- (A) Karachi Session
 - (B) Lahore Session
 - (C) Belgaum Session
 - (D) Calcutta Session
- Q50.** The term 'Dharma-mahamattas' refers to officials appointed by Ashoka to:
- (A) Collect taxes from the merchants.
 - (B) Lead the Mauryan army in the Kalinga war.
 - (C) Spread the message of Dhamma and look after the welfare of the people.
 - (D) Supervise the construction of irrigation canals.



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

The Harappan civilization, also known as the Indus Valley Civilization, was brought to world attention through the efforts of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI). While several individuals played roles in its excavation, the formal recognition and naming of the civilization as a distinct entity in world history were done by the administrative head of the ASI at the time of the major Mohenjodaro excavations.

Solution:

1. Alexander Cunningham was the first Director-General of the ASI, but he failed to recognize the antiquity of the Harappan seals. 2. R.E.M. Wheeler was a later Director-General (1944) who introduced military precision and stratigraphy to Indian archaeology. 3. Daya Ram Sahni was the first to discover seals at Harappa in 1921, working under the ASI. 4. John Marshall was the Director-General of the ASI from 1902 to 1928. In 1924, he announced the discovery of a new civilization in the Indus Valley to the world. He was the first professional archaeologist to work in India and the first to use the term 'Indus Civilization'.

Final Answer: John Marshall was the Director-General who announced the discovery and used the term.

Answer: (B)**Q2.****Solution****Concept:**

Harappan cities were generally divided into two distinct sections: the Citadel and the Lower Town. This division reflects social hierarchies and functional differences in the use of space.

Solution:

1. **Statement I is correct:** The Citadel was built on a raised mud-brick platform, making it smaller in area but higher in elevation than the rest of the city. 2. **Statement II is incorrect:** Usually, the Citadel was located to the west of the city, while the Lower Town (larger but lower) was located to the east. 3. **Statement III is correct:** The Citadel contained large-scale structures such as the Warehouse and the Great Bath, which were likely used for administrative or ritualistic public purposes. 4. Since Statements I and III are correct and II is false, the correct option is I and III only.

Final Answer: The Citadel was higher, smaller, and used for public purposes.

Answer: (C)

Q3.

Solution**Concept:**

While most Harappan sites followed a binary division (Citadel and Lower Town), excavations at certain sites revealed more complex urban planning.

Solution:

1. Most Harappan sites like Mohenjodaro and Harappa were divided into two parts. 2. Dholavira, located in Khadir Beyt in the Rann of Kutch, Gujarat, is unique because the entire settlement was fortified and it was divided into **three** distinct parts: the Citadel (or Castle), the Middle Town, and the Lower Town. 3. This tripartite division is a hallmark of Dholavira's advanced planning, which also included an elaborate water management system with stone-cut reservoirs.

Final Answer: Dholavira is unique due to its division into three parts.

Answer: (C)

Q4.

Solution**Concept:**

The early 19th century was a turning point in Indian epigraphy. For centuries, the inscriptions of Emperor Ashoka remained unreadable until a breakthrough by an official of the East India Company.

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 1838, he succeeded in deciphering the Brahmi and Kharosthi scripts, which were used in the earliest inscriptions and coins. 3. This decipherment allowed historians to identify 'Piyadassi' with Emperor Ashoka, thereby opening up the study of Mauryan history.

Final Answer: James Prinsep deciphered Brahmi and Kharosthi.

Answer: (B)



Q5.

Solution**Concept:**

The Mauryan Empire had a highly centralized and sophisticated administrative structure. Officials were appointed to oversee various departments ranging from trade to tax collection.

Solution:

1. The Mauryan state required a massive bureaucracy to manage its vast resources. 2. The **Sannidhata** was the Chief Custodian of the State Treasury (Treasurer). 3. The **Samaharta** was the official responsible for the assessment and collection of revenue from the entire empire (Collector-General). 4. This role was crucial for maintaining the Mauryan army and the centralized state apparatus.

Final Answer: The Samaharta was the Collector-General of Revenue.

Answer: (B)

Q6.

Solution**Concept:**

The Mahajanapadas were the sixteen powerful kingdoms and oligarchies that existed in ancient India during the second urbanization. While many were monarchies, some were 'Ganas' or 'Sanghas' (oligarchies) where power was shared by a group of rajas.

Solution:

1. Magadha, Vatsa, and Avanti were powerful monarchies governed by individual kings. 2. The Vajji Mahajanapada, with its capital at Vaishali, was a Gana-Sangha. 3. It was not ruled by a single monarch but was a confederacy of eight clans (Athakula), the most prominent being the Videhas, the Lichchhavis, and the Jnatrikas. 4. Decisions in the Vajji confederacy were made through collective discussion in assemblies, a practice that continued for centuries until its conquest by Ajatashatru.

Final Answer: Vajji was the confederacy of eight clans including the Videhas and Lichchhavis.

Answer: (C)



Q7.

Solution**Concept:**

The Mahabharata is a dynamic text with numerous versions across the Indian subcontinent. To understand the "original" core and its variations, a massive philological project was undertaken in the 20th century.

Solution:

1. The project began in 1919 under the leadership of the noted Sanskritist V.S. Sukthankar. 2. The team collected Sanskrit manuscripts of the epic written in various scripts (Sarada, Devanagari, Telugu, Malayalam, etc.) from different parts of the country. 3. They compared the verses and selected those that were common to all versions for the main text, while regional variations were documented in extensive footnotes and appendices. 4. This process revealed that while there was a common core, the epic had been molded by regional socio-cultural contexts over centuries.

Final Answer: The project involved comparing Sanskrit manuscripts to identify common verses.

Answer: (C)

Q8.

Solution**Concept:**

The Brahmanical system of classification involved 'Gotras', named after Vedic seers. This system regulated marriage and identity among the upper castes (varnas) to maintain lineage purity.

Solution:

1. Each gotra was named after a rishi, and all those who belonged to the same gotra were regarded as his descendants. 2. Two main rules were significant: a) Members of the same gotra could not marry (Exogamy). b) 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 Satavahanas, shows that these rules were occasionally ignored (some Satavahana queens retained their father's gotras), but the Brahmanical norm remained as stated in option C.

Final Answer: Women were expected to adopt their husband's gotra after marriage.

Answer: (C)



Q9.

Solution**Concept:**

The Stupa is a symbolic representation of the universe and the Buddha's enlightenment. Its architectural components are strictly defined and carry specific spiritual meanings.

Solution:

1. The **Anda** is the semi-circular mound representing the earth. 2. Above the Anda is the **Harmika**, a balcony-like structure that symbolizes the "abode of the gods" (Devas). 3. Arising from the Harmika is a mast called the **Yashti**, which is often surmounted by a **Chhatri** (umbrella). 4. The railings and gateways (Toranas) surround the structure, but the Harmika specifically marks the sacred space at the top of the mound.

Final Answer: The Harmika represents the balcony-like abode of the gods.

Answer: (B)

Q10.

Solution**Concept:**

The survival of the Sanchi Stupa, unlike many other ancient monuments that fell into ruin or were looted, is largely due to the proactive role of local rulers and colonial officials in the 19th and 20th centuries.

Solution:

1. In the 19th century, Europeans (French and English) were keen on taking the eastern gateway of Sanchi to museums in Europe. 2. The rulers of Bhopal, specifically Shahjehan Begum and her successor Sultan Jehan Begum, provided significant financial support to keep the monument in situ. 3. They funded the preservation of the site, provided money for the museum built there, and sponsored the publication of volumes written by John Marshall about the site. 4. Because of their patronage, the Stupa stands today as one of the best-preserved early Buddhist monuments.

Final Answer: Shahjehan Begum and Sultan Jehan Begum provided the funding for preservation.

Answer: (A)



Q11.

Solution**Concept:**

Al-Biruni was a 11th-century scholar who traveled to India and wrote 'Kitab-ul-Hind'. He was a meticulous observer who tried to explain Indian society to a Persian-speaking audience, but he noted several "barriers" that made this translation of culture difficult.

Solution:

1. Al-Biruni discussed several barriers that obstructed understanding. The first was language; he noted that Sanskrit was so different from Arabic and Persian that it was difficult to translate ideas accurately. 2. The second barrier was the difference in religious beliefs and practices, which he found fundamentally different from the Islamic world. 3. The third barrier was 'insularity' or the self-absorption of the local population, who, according to him, were unwilling to share knowledge with outsiders. 4. Among the options provided, the linguistic difference between Sanskrit and the languages Al-Biruni was familiar with (Arabic/Persian/Syriac) is the primary barrier he detailed in his writings.

Final Answer: The linguistic difference was a major barrier identified by Al-Biruni.

Answer: (B)

Q12.

Solution**Concept:**

Ibn Battuta, the Moroccan traveler who visited India during the reign of Muhammad bin Tughlaq, was highly impressed by the efficiency of the postal system in the Delhi Sultanate, which allowed news and goods to travel quickly across vast distances.

Solution:

1. Ibn Battuta described two types of postal systems in India. 2. The first was the horse post, called 'Uluq', which was stationed at intervals of four miles. 3. The second was the foot post, called 'Dawa', which had three stations per mile. 4. He noted that the foot post was often quicker than the horse post and was used to transport even perishable goods like fruits from Khorasan for the Sultan.

Final Answer: 'Uluq' refers to the horse post system of communication.

Answer: (B)



Q13.

Solution**Concept:**

Francois Bernier, a French physician and traveler, spent twelve years in India during the Mughal period (1656–1668). His writings frequently compared Mughal India unfavorably with early modern Europe.

Solution:

1. Bernier believed that one of the fundamental differences between India and Europe was the lack of private property in land in the former. 2. He argued that in the Mughal Empire, the king owned all the land and distributed it among his nobles, and this land could not be passed on to their heirs. 3. According to Bernier, this "crown ownership" prevented the emergence of a class of improving landlords. 4. He concluded that because holders could not pass land to their children, they had no interest in its long-term maintenance, leading to the ruin of agriculture and the general impoverishment of society.

Final Answer: Bernier concluded that crown ownership prevented private property and caused impoverishment.

Answer: (C)

Q14.

Solution**Concept:**

The Bhakti movement in South India (starting around the 6th century) was led by two main groups of saints: the Alvars and the Nayanars. They traveled from place to place singing hymns in Tamil.

Solution:

1. The word 'Alvar' literally means those who are "immersed" in devotion to God. They were devoted to Lord Vishnu. 2. The 'Nayanars' were the devotees of Lord Shiva. 3. Both groups protested against the caste system and the dominance of Brahmanas, and they included women saints like Andal (Alvar) and Karaikkal Ammaiyar (Nayanar). 4. Their compositions, such as the Nalayira Divyaprabandham (Alvars) and Tevaram (Nayanars), were considered as sacred as the Vedas.

Final Answer: The Nayanars were devoted to Lord Shiva.

Answer: (B)



Q15.

Solution**Concept:**

Sufism emphasized a personal, mystical connection with God. Central to Sufi practice was the veneration of saints who were believed to possess 'Barakat' (spiritual grace).

Solution:

1. 'Ziyarat' translates to "visitation." In the Sufi context, it refers to the practice of performing a pilgrimage to the tombs (Dargahs) of Sufi saints. 2. This practice became particularly popular on the 'Urs' (death anniversary) of the saint, as it was believed that the saint's soul united with God at death and was more potent in granting blessings. 3. Over time, these Dargahs became centers of devotion for people of all faiths. 4. Other Sufi terms include 'Sama' (musical recitals) and 'Khanqah' (the hospice where Sufis lived), but 'Ziyarat' specifically refers to the pilgrimage.

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

Answer: (B)

Q16.

Solution**Concept:**

The Vijayanagara Empire (1336–1646) introduced several administrative innovations to manage its territory and maintain military readiness. One of the most significant was the Amara-nayaka system, which historians believe was derived from the Icta system of the Delhi Sultanate.

Solution:

1. The 'Amara-nayakas' were military commanders who were given territories (known as 'Amaram') to govern by the Raya (the king). 2. Their primary duty was to collect taxes and other dues from peasants, craftsmen, and traders in the areas assigned to them. 3. They retained a part of the revenue for their personal use and for maintaining a stipulated contingent of horses and elephants. 4. They also provided a military force that the kings utilized during wars. These nayakas sent annual tribute to the king and personally appeared in the royal court with gifts to express their loyalty.

Final Answer: Amara-nayakas were military commanders given territories to govern.

Answer: (B)



Q17.

Solution**Concept:**

Krishnadeva Raya (reigned 1509–1529), belonging to the Tuluva dynasty, is considered the greatest ruler of Vijayanagara. His reign was characterized by expansion, consolidation, and a great flourishing of literature and architecture.

Solution:

1. Krishnadeva Raya was a scholar himself and wrote the 'Amuktamalyada', a work on statecraft in Telugu. 2. He was a great patron of art and architecture, responsible for adding impressive 'gopurams' to many South Indian temples. 3. He founded a suburban township near Vijayanagara called Nagalapuram, named after his mother, Nagala Devi. 4. He also expanded the empire by defeating the Gajapatis of Odisha and the Sultan of Bijapur.

Final Answer: Krishnadeva Raya founded Nagalapuram and wrote Amuktamalyada.

Answer: (C)

Q18.

Solution**Concept:**

The ruins of Hampi (the capital of Vijayanagara) were lost to the jungle for centuries after the battle of Talikota in 1565. The scientific rediscovery and mapping of the site began in the early 19th century.

Solution:

1. In 1800, Colonel Colin Mackenzie, an engineer and surveyor working for the East India Company, visited Hampi. 2. He prepared the first survey map of the site. Much of his initial information was based on the memories of the priests of the Virupaksha temple and the shrine of Pampadevi. 3. Mackenzie was also the first Surveyor General of India. His work laid the foundation for later archaeological excavations by the ASI. 4. Note: James Prinsep is known for Ashokan inscriptions, and Alexander Cunningham for the Harappan seals.

Final Answer: Colin Mackenzie brought the ruins of Hampi to light in 1800.

Answer: (A)



Q19.

Solution**Concept:**

The 'Ain-i-Akbari', written by Abu'l Fazl, provides a detailed account of the Mughal administration under Akbar. It classifies land into four categories based on the frequency of cultivation to determine the revenue demand.

Solution:

1. **Polaj** was land which was annually cultivated for each crop in succession and was never allowed to lie fallow. This was the best quality land. 2. **Parauti** was land left out of cultivation for a time (one or two years) so that it might recover its strength. 3. **Chachar** was land that had lain fallow for three or four years. 4. **Banjar** was land uncultivated for five years or more. 5. The revenue for Polaj and Parauti was collected at the same rate, but for Chachar and Banjar, it was lower to encourage cultivation.

Final Answer: Polaj was the land cultivated annually without being left fallow.

Answer: (D)

Q20.

Solution**Concept:**

The colonial encounter in the Rajmahal hills (present-day Jharkhand) involved a conflict between two groups: the Paharias (the original inhabitants) and the Santhals (who were encouraged to settle there by the British).

Solution:

1. The Paharias lived on the hills and were primarily hunters and shifting cultivators. 2. They practiced 'jhum' (shifting) cultivation by clearing patches of forest with hoes and growing a variety of pulses and millets. 3. They lived under the shade of tamarind trees and gathered forest produce like mahua flowers and silk cocoons for trade. 4. They resisted the British attempt to turn them into settled agriculturists using the plough, leading the British to bring in Santhals to clear the lower slopes.

Final Answer: Paharias were associated with shifting cultivation and forest gathering.

Answer: (B)



Q21.

Solution**Concept:**

The Permanent Settlement, also known as the Zamindari System, was a landmark land revenue policy introduced by the British East India Company to secure a fixed income and create a loyal class of landholders in India.

Solution:

1. Introduced in 1793 in Bengal and Bihar, the Permanent Settlement fixed the land revenue for the state in perpetuity. 2. Under this system, the Zamindars were recognized as the owners of the land, provided they paid the fixed revenue to the Company on time. 3. Lord Cornwallis, who was the Governor-General of India at the time, is the official credited with its implementation. 4. His aim was to encourage Zamindars to invest in agricultural improvement, though in practice, it often led to the oppression of the peasantry and frequent auctions of Zamindari estates when payments failed (the "Sunset Law").

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

Answer: (B)

Q22.

Solution**Concept:**

While the Zamindars were the titular heads of the rural hierarchy under the British, a powerful class of wealthy peasants emerged within the villages of Bengal during the late eighteenth century.

Solution:

1. These rich peasants were known as 'Jotedars'. 2. By the early nineteenth century, Jotedars had acquired vast areas of land, sometimes thousands of acres. 3. They controlled local trade, moneylending, and exercised immense power over the poorer cultivators (ryots) of the region. 4. Unlike the Zamindars, who often lived in cities, Jotedars lived in the villages and were more influential in local affairs. They frequently resisted the authority of the Zamindars and deliberately delayed revenue payments to help buy up Zamindari estates during auctions.

Final Answer: Jotedars were wealthy peasants who controlled local trade and moneylending.

Answer: (B)



Q23.

Solution**Concept:**

The Santhal Rebellion (or Santhal Hool) was one of the most fierce tribal insurgencies against the British colonial administration and the exploitative Zamindari system in the mid-19th century.

Solution:

1. The rebellion took place in 1855-56 in the Rajmahal Hills (present-day Jharkhand). 2. The Santhals felt oppressed by the heavy taxes imposed by the British, the high interest rates of the 'dikus' (outsiders/moneylenders), and the loss of their land to Zamindars. 3. The movement was led by two brothers, Sidhu and Kanhu Majhi, who claimed that Thakur (God) had ordered them to rebel to establish a free Santhal state. 4. Although the rebellion was brutally suppressed by the British army, it led to the creation of the Santhal Parganas, a separate district for the Santhals with special laws.

Final Answer: The rebellion was led by the brothers Sidhu and Kanhu Majhi.

Answer: (B)

Q24.

Solution**Concept:**

The Revolt of 1857 was characterized by localized leadership where various displaced rulers or local heroes took charge of the rebellion in their respective regions against British rule.

Solution:

1. Nana Sahib was the leader in **Kanpur**, not Jhansi. 2. Rani Laxmibai was the leader in **Jhansi**, where she fought heroically against the British forces. 3. Kunwar Singh was a local zamindar who led the revolt in **Arrah** (Jagdishpur, Bihar). 4. Begum Hazrat Mahal was the wife of the deposed Nawab Wajid Ali Shah and she took charge of the uprising in **Lucknow**, making her the correctly matched leader in the options.

Final Answer: Begum Hazrat Mahal is correctly matched with Lucknow.

Answer: (B)



Q25.

Solution**Concept:**

Agricultural distress in the late 19th century often led to violent outbreaks. The Deccan Riots of 1875 were a significant example of peasants rising against the debt-trap and moneylenders.

Solution:

1. The riots broke out in the Bombay Presidency, specifically in the districts of Poona and Ahmednagar. 2. Peasants attacked the shops of moneylenders (Sahukars), burning debt bonds and account books. 3. The underlying cause was the high revenue demand under the Ryotwari system and the subsequent crash in cotton prices after the American Civil War ended. 4. Concerned about the stability of the region, the Government of India established the 'Deccan Riots Commission' to investigate the causes. The commission's report was presented to the British Parliament in 1878.

Final Answer: The Deccan Riots Commission investigated unrest in the Bombay Presidency.

Answer: (C)

Q26.

Solution**Concept:**

When Mahatma Gandhi returned to India from South Africa in 1915, he spent a year traveling the country on the advice of Gopal Krishna Gokhale. His formal introduction to the Indian political elite and the public occurred at a significant institutional event.

Solution:

1. In February 1916, the Banaras Hindu University (BHU) was opened. Gandhi was invited to speak at the ceremony. 2. Unlike other speakers who praised the British and the wealthy patrons, Gandhi used the platform to criticize the Indian elite for their lack of concern for the poor peasants and laborers. 3. He famously stated that there was no "spirit of self-government" in India if the masses remained neglected. 4. While the Champaran Satyagraha of 1917 was his first regional movement, the BHU speech in 1916 remains his first major public appearance on a national stage.

Final Answer: Gandhi's first major public appearance was at the opening of BHU in 1916.

Answer: (B)



Q27.

Solution**Concept:**

The Civil Disobedience Movement was launched with a symbolic act that challenged the moral authority of British law. Gandhi chose a commodity that was basic to every Indian household regardless of religion or caste.

Solution:

1. Under British law, the state had a monopoly on the manufacture and sale of salt. It also imposed a salt tax, which Gandhi considered deeply unjust as salt is a necessity of life. 2. On March 12, 1930, Gandhi began his march from Sabarmati Ashram towards Dandi, a coastal village in Gujarat. 3. Upon reaching Dandi on April 6, he ceremonially broke the law by picking up a handful of natural salt. 4. This act signaled the start of a nation-wide Civil Disobedience Movement, encouraging people to refuse to pay taxes and boycott British goods.

Final Answer: The Dandi March was a protest against the salt monopoly.

Answer: (C)

Q28.

Solution**Concept:**

The Quit India Movement, launched in August 1942, was the most massive and violent struggle for independence. With major leaders arrested immediately, the movement was driven by the masses under a specific mandate from Gandhi.

Solution:

1. Addressing the Congress delegates at the Gowalia Tank Maidan in Bombay, Gandhi delivered a speech that set the tone for the final struggle. 2. He told the people that he was giving them a short mantra: "Do or Die" (Karo ya Maro). 3. The instruction was that Indians should either free India or die in the attempt; they were no longer to live to see their own slavery. 4. This marked a shift from his previous cautious approach, as he realized the British would not leave without a decisive push during the crisis of World War II.

Final Answer: Mahatma Gandhi gave the slogan "Do or Die" during the Quit India Movement.

Answer: (B)



Q29.

Solution**Concept:**

The Objectives Resolution was a foundational document of the Indian Constitution. It outlined the guiding principles and the philosophy that would govern the framing of the Constitution.

Solution:

1. On December 13, 1946, Jawaharlal Nehru introduced the Objectives Resolution in the Constituent Assembly. 2. It declared India as an "Independent Sovereign Republic" and guaranteed its citizens justice, equality, and freedom. 3. It also emphasized that all power and authority of Independent India would be derived from the people. 4. This resolution eventually took the form of the Preamble to the Constitution of India, reflecting the vision of a democratic and secular state.

Final Answer: Jawaharlal Nehru moved the Objectives Resolution.

Answer: (C)

Q30.

Solution**Concept:**

The Constituent Assembly debates were not just about political structures but also about the rights of marginalized groups. Representatives of "Tribes" (Adivasis) argued for recognition and protection of their unique cultural and land rights.

Solution:

1. Jaipal Singh, a gifted speaker and representative of the Adivasis, spoke eloquently about the history of tribal exploitation. 2. He did not ask for separate electorates (which the Muslim League had championed), as he felt they would isolate the community. 3. Instead, he demanded "protection" through the reservation of seats in legislatures and the administration to ensure that tribal voices were heard. 4. He famously remarked that as an Adivasi, he was not expected to understand the legal intricacies of the Constitution, but he understood the need for his people to be treated as equals.

Final Answer: Jaipal Singh made a strong plea for tribal rights and protection.

Answer: (A)



Q31.

Solution**Concept:**

Francois Bernier was a French physician who spent 12 years in the Mughal Empire. His writings are considered a primary source for understanding the socio-economic conditions of 17th-century India, particularly during the war of succession among Shah Jahan's sons.

Solution:

1. Bernier's work is titled 'Travels in the Mughal Empire'. 2. In this book, he provided a comparative analysis of the Mughal Empire and Europe. 3. He focused heavily on the lack of private property in land, the nature of the Mughal aristocracy, and the condition of the peasantry. 4. While Tavernier was a jeweler and Manucci was a Venetian traveler, it was Bernier who wrote this specific comprehensive account that influenced European perceptions of "Oriental Despotism."

Final Answer: The book 'Travels in the Mughal Empire' was written by Francois Bernier.

Answer: (B)

Q32.

Solution**Concept:**

The architectural layout of Vijayanagara was divided into various zones, including the Sacred Centre and the Royal Centre. The Royal Centre contained over 60 temples and several impressive secular platforms.

Solution:

1. The 'Mahanavami Dibba' is a massive platform located in one of the highest points in the city. 2. It was a ritual structure where the king displayed his prestige, power, and suzerainty. 3. On this platform, ceremonies associated with the ten-day Hindu festival (known as Dussehra, Durga Puja, or Navaratri/Mahanavami) were performed. 4. The rituals included worship of the state horse, sacrifices of buffaloes, and various cultural performances including dances and wrestling matches.

Final Answer: The Mahanavami Dibba was a ritual platform for the ten-day festival.

Answer: (B)



Q33.

Solution**Concept:**

Mughal chronicles were commissioned by the emperors to project a vision of an enlightened kingdom and to provide a permanent record of their rule for future generations.

Solution:

1. The 'Akbarname' is the most famous Mughal chronicle, written by Akbar's close friend and courtier, Abu'l Fazl. 2. It is divided into three books: the first deals with Akbar's ancestors, the second records the events of Akbar's reign up to his 46th regnal year, and the third is the famous 'Ain-i-Akbari'. 3. Abu'l Fazl spent thirteen years working on this manuscript, revising it multiple times. 4. It is written in an ornate Persian style and provides a detailed administrative and historical account of the empire.

Final Answer: Akbarname was the chronicle written by Abu'l Fazl.

Answer: (C)

Q34.

Solution**Concept:**

The Revolt of 1857 inspired many visual representations in Britain, which were used to shape public opinion and provoke feelings of anger or the need for retribution against the Indian rebels.

Solution:

1. 'In Memoriam' was painted by Joseph Noel Paton in 1858. 2. The painting depicts English women and children huddled in a circle, looking helpless and innocent, as mutinous sepoys are seen entering in the background. 3. It was designed to represent the vulnerability of British "civilization" and the "barbarity" of the rebels. 4. Other artists like Thomas Jones Barker painted 'The Relief of Lucknow', which celebrated British heroism and victory.

Final Answer: Joseph Noel Paton painted 'In Memoriam'.

Answer: (B)



Q35.

Solution**Concept:**

The Simon Commission (1927) was sent to India to review the constitutional progress and suggest further reforms. However, its all-white composition led to massive protests.

Solution:

1. Despite the boycotts (slogan: "Simon Go Back"), the commission submitted its report. 2. The recommendations of the report, along with the discussions at the three Round Table Conferences and the White Paper of 1933, formed the basis for future legislation. 3. This culminated in the passing of the Government of India Act, 1935. 4. This Act introduced provincial autonomy and proposed a federal structure for India, many parts of which were later adopted by the Indian Constitution.

Final Answer: The Simon Commission report led to the Government of India Act, 1935.

Answer: (B)

Q36.

Solution**Concept:**

The British East India Company used various diplomatic and military strategies to expand its control over Indian states. The 'Subsidiary Alliance' was one of the most effective non-combat tools used to bring Indian rulers under British suzerainty.

Solution:

1. The Subsidiary Alliance system was devised by Lord Wellesley, who served as Governor-General from 1798 to 1805. 2. Under this system, the Indian ruler had to accept a British resident at their court and maintain a British standing army at their own expense. 3. In return, the British promised to protect the state from external attacks and internal rebellion. 4. However, the ruler could not employ any other Europeans or enter into alliances with other powers without British permission. This effectively turned the independent state into a protected protectorate.

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

Answer: (B)



Q37.

Solution**Concept:**

The Constituent Assembly of India held its first meeting in December 1946. According to parliamentary tradition (following the French practice), the oldest member was elected to preside over the initial sessions before a permanent President was chosen.

Solution:

1. The first meeting of the Constituent Assembly took place on December 9, 1946. 2. Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha, being the oldest member of the Assembly, was elected as the temporary/acting President. 3. Two days later, on December 11, 1946, Dr. Rajendra Prasad was elected as the permanent President of the Constituent Assembly. 4. B.N. Rau served as the Constitutional Advisor, and H.C. Mukherjee was the Vice-President.

Final Answer: Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha was the first (temporary) President.

Answer: (B)

Q38.

Solution**Concept:**

The Mughal revenue system involved various categories of land based on how the revenue was managed and where it was deposited. This was essential for maintaining the massive imperial bureaucracy and army.

Solution:

1. **Khalisa** land was the crown land. The entire revenue collected from these areas went directly into the imperial treasury (Khazana-i-Amira) to meet the Emperor's personal expenses and the cost of the central army. 2. **Jagir** land was land assigned to Mansabdars (officials) in lieu of their cash salaries. 3. **Inam** or **Madad-i-Maash** were lands granted to religious scholars, saints, or charitable institutions as tax-free grants. 4. The proportion of Khalisa land varied under different emperors but was strictly monitored by the Diwan-i-Ala.

Final Answer: Khalisa referred to land whose revenue went directly to the royal treasury.

Answer: (A)



Q39.

Solution**Concept:**

Architecture in the Vijayanagara Empire often reflected the cultural synthesis that occurred due to its interactions with the neighboring Deccan Sultanates.

Solution:

1. The 'Lotus Mahal' is one of the most famous structures in the Royal Centre of Hampi. 2. Its name was given by British travelers in the 19th century due to its lotus-like carved dome. 3. While it uses traditional Indian materials, its architectural features—such as the lobed arches and the vaulted ceilings—show a clear and heavy influence of the Indo-Islamic style prevalent in the Sultanates of Bijapur and Golconda. 4. It is considered a secular building, likely used as a council chamber where the King met his advisers.

Final Answer: The Lotus Mahal is a prime example of Indo-Islamic architectural fusion.

Answer: (B)

Q40.

Solution**Concept:**

As the negotiations for Indian independence reached a stalemate between the Indian National Congress and the Muslim League, the League decided to take the struggle to the streets to demand the creation of Pakistan.

Solution:

1. After the Cabinet Mission Plan failed to reach a consensus, the Muslim League withdrew its acceptance of the plan. 2. Muhammad Ali Jinnah announced August 16, 1946, as 'Direct Action Day' to press the demand for a separate state. 3. He called on Muslims across India to suspend all business. Unfortunately, this led to large-scale communal violence, starting in Calcutta (the Great Calcutta Killings) and spreading to other parts of the country. 4. This event made the partition of India appear almost inevitable to many political leaders of the time.

Final Answer: August 16, 1946, was observed as Direct Action Day.

Answer: (B)



Q41.

Solution**Concept:**

The ancient Indian political philosophy is deeply rooted in the 'Saptanga' theory (the seven limbs of the state). The most comprehensive treatise on this subject is the 'Arthashastra', which serves as a manual for statecraft, economic policy, and military strategy.

Solution:

1. The 'Arthashastra' is traditionally attributed to Kautilya (also known as Chanakya or Vishnugupta), who was the Prime Minister and mentor to Chandragupta Maurya. 2. The 'Saptanga' theory mentioned in the text defines the state as an organic whole consisting of seven parts: Swami (King), Amatya (Ministers), Janapada (Territory/Population), Durga (Fort), Kosha (Treasury), Danda (Army), and Mitra (Ally). 3. Banabhatta was the court poet of Harshavardhana and wrote the 'Harshacharita'. 4. Megasthenes was a Greek ambassador to the Mauryan court who wrote 'Indica', while Ashoka is known for his edicts and the policy of 'Dhamma'.

Final Answer: The Arthashastra and its political concepts are attributed to Kautilya.

Answer: (B)

Q42.

Solution**Concept:**

The British colonial administration experimented with various land revenue systems to maximize income. After the Permanent Settlement in Bengal, they sought a system that would allow them to bypass intermediaries in Southern and Western India.

Solution:

1. The Ryotwari system was primarily introduced by Thomas Munro and Alexander Read in the Madras and Bombay Presidencies. 2. Unlike the Zamindari system (where the landlord was the intermediary) or the Mahalwari system (where the village headman or community was responsible), the Ryotwari system established a direct relationship between the Government and the 'Ryot' (cultivator). 3. The revenue was not fixed permanently but was revised every 20 to 30 years after a fresh survey of the land. 4. While it aimed to protect the peasant from the oppression of Zamindars, the high revenue rates often led to the peasants falling into the hands of moneylenders.

Final Answer: In the Ryotwari system, revenue was settled directly with the individual cultivator.

Answer: (B)



Q43.

Solution**Concept:**

Mughal architecture was characterized by the introduction of the 'Charbagh' (four-garden) style, which represented the Islamic vision of paradise as described in the Quran.

Solution:

1. Babur, the founder of the Mughal Empire, was deeply fond of nature and formal gardens. He found the Indian landscape lacking in the organized gardens he loved in Central Asia. 2. He introduced the 'Charbagh' layout, where a rectangular garden is divided into four equal parts by artificial water channels. 3. The 'Arambagh' (originally called 'Bagh-i-Gul-Afshan') in Agra is one of the earliest examples of this style in India. 4. This concept of the 'Garden of Eight Paradises' (Hasht-Bihisht) involved a central hall surrounded by eight rooms, a theme that reached its pinnacle in the Taj Mahal.

Final Answer: Babur introduced the Arambagh and formal garden layouts to India.

Answer: (A)

Q44.

Solution**Concept:**

The Bardoli Satyagraha was a major episode of civil disobedience and revolt in the Indian Independence Movement, centered around the refusal of peasants to pay increased land taxes.

Solution:

1. In 1928, the peasants of Bardoli (Gujarat) faced a 22% increase in land revenue imposed by the British government despite a poor harvest. 2. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was invited by the local leaders to lead the movement. 3. He organized the peasants with military-like precision, dividing the taluka into camps and ensuring that no one paid the tax despite the government seizing cattle and land. 4. The success of this movement was so significant that the women of Bardoli bestowed upon him the title of 'Sardar' (Leader).

Final Answer: The Bardoli Satyagraha was led by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

Answer: (B)



Q45.

Solution**Concept:**

The 'Shramana' tradition (meaning 'one who strives') emerged around the 6th century BCE as a challenge to the established Brahmanical order. This tradition included Buddhism, Jainism, and the Ajivikas.

Solution:

1. Unlike the Brahmanical tradition, which was based on the authority of the Vedas and the performance of complex sacrifices (Yajnas), the Shramanas emphasized individual effort and internal spiritual realization. 2. Key characteristics included the practice of asceticism (renunciation of worldly life), the rejection of the caste hierarchy, and a focus on ethical conduct (Dharma/Dhamma). 3. They believed that salvation or liberation could be achieved by anyone through knowledge and meditation, regardless of their birth or varna. 4. This intellectual and spiritual ferment led to the rise of major world religions like Buddhism and Jainism.

Final Answer: The Shramana tradition was characterized by asceticism and the rejection of the Brahmanical sacrificial system.

Answer: (B)

Q46.

Solution**Concept:**

Social reform movements in 20th-century South India often targeted the rigid caste hierarchy and the cultural dominance of the priestly class. The 'Self-Respect Movement' was a radical attempt to create a society where backward castes had equal human rights.

Solution:

1. The movement was started in 1925 by E.V. Ramaswamy, popularly known as 'Periyar' (the Elder). 2. Periyar was a former Congress leader who felt that the party was not doing enough to address caste discrimination. 3. The movement advocated for the rejection of Brahmanical rituals, the promotion of inter-caste marriages, and the use of 'self-respect' weddings without priests. 4. It emphasized the identity of 'Dravidians' as the original inhabitants of the land and strongly criticized the imposition of Northern Indian cultural norms and the Sanskrit language.

Final Answer: E.V. Ramaswamy 'Periyar' was the leader of the Self-Respect Movement.

Answer: (A)



Q47.

Solution**Concept:**

As World War II ended and communal tensions escalated, the British government sought a quick exit from India. The final plan for the transfer of power was announced by the last Viceroy.

Solution:

1. Lord Mountbatten arrived in India in March 1947 with the task of overseeing the British withdrawal. 2. On June 3, 1947, he announced what came to be known as the 'Mountbatten Plan' or the '3rd June Plan'. 3. The plan explicitly accepted the demand for Pakistan and laid out the mechanism for the partition of Punjab and Bengal based on religious majorities. 4. It also advanced the date for the transfer of power from June 1948 to August 15, 1947, and provided for the lapse of British suzerainty over the Princely States.

Final Answer: The Mountbatten Plan primarily dealt with the procedure for the Partition of India.

Answer: (B)

Q48.

Solution**Concept:**

Mughal architecture often served as a medium for royal propaganda, commemorating military triumphs and projecting the strength of the empire through grand monuments.

Solution:

1. The 'Buland Darwaza' (Victory Gate) is the highest gateway in the world and serves as the main entrance to the Jama Masjid at Fatehpur Sikri. 2. It was commissioned by Emperor Akbar in 1601. 3. The structure was built to celebrate Akbar's successful military campaign and conquest of Gujarat in 1572-73. 4. The architecture is a blend of Persian and Indian styles, featuring inscriptions from the Quran and red and buff sandstone with white marble inlay.

Final Answer: The Buland Darwaza was built to commemorate the victory over Gujarat.

Answer: (B)



Q49.

Solution**Concept:**

The year 1929 was a turning point in the Indian national movement. The younger leadership, represented by Jawaharlal Nehru and Subhas Chandra Bose, pushed the Congress toward a more radical stance than 'Dominion Status'.

Solution:

1. The annual session of the Indian National Congress was held in Lahore in December 1929, with Jawaharlal Nehru as the President. 2. In this session, the Congress passed the historic 'Purna Swaraj' (Complete Independence) resolution. 3. On the midnight of December 31, 1929, Nehru hoisted the tricolor flag of India on the banks of the river Ravi. 4. The Congress declared January 26, 1930, as 'Independence Day', and asked the people to take a pledge to struggle for total freedom.

Final Answer: The Lahore Session passed the Purna Swaraj resolution.

Answer: (B)

Q50.

Solution**Concept:**

After the Kalinga War, Ashoka underwent a spiritual transformation and adopted the policy of 'Dhamma-vijaya' (Victory through Dhamma). To ensure this policy was implemented across his vast empire, he created a new class of civil servants.

Solution:

1. The 'Dharma-mahamattas' (or Dhamma-mahamatras) were special officers appointed by Ashoka. 2. Their primary responsibility was to propagate the principles of Dhamma—which included non-violence, respect for elders, and religious tolerance. 3. They were tasked with looking after the welfare and happiness of various groups, including the poor, the elderly, and even those in prison. 4. They traveled throughout the empire to monitor the conduct of local officials and to ensure that the Emperor's ethical code was being followed by all communities.

Final Answer: Dharma-mahamattas were officials appointed to spread the message of Dhamma.

Answer: (C)



Answer Key

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

