

CBSE Class 12 History 2023 - Set 61/4/1

Question Paper

Conducted by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)



Time Allowed: 3 Hours

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions

- (i) This question paper contains 34 questions. All questions are compulsory.
- (ii) Attempt one alternative where internal choice is provided. Follow the instructions and word limits within each question.
- (iii) Attach the map with the answer-book.

Section A

1. Banawali, an ancient site of Harappan culture, is located in which of the following modern Indian state ?

- (A) Punjab (B) Haryana
(C) Himachal Pradesh (D) Uttarakhand

2. Who among the following was the first Director General of Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) ?

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

3. Identify the character of the Mahabharata for the following information :

Was a nishad

Considered Dronacharya as his Guru

Gave his right thumb to Dronacharya as Guru dakshina

- (A) Ghatotkatch (B) Eklavya
(C) Nakul (D) Sahdeva

4. Who among the following is believed to have spoken these words ? "Be lamps unto yourselves as all of you must work out your own liberation."

- (A) Mahavira (B) Buddha
(C) Sigala (D) Ananda

5. Which of the following statements is correct about Prabhavati Gupta ?

- (A) She was a Gupta Queen. (B) She had no access to resources.
(C) She donated land to elites. (D) She was the daughter of Chandragupta II.

6. Which of the following statements are true regarding Buddha ?

- (i) Buddha was the son of a chief of Sakya clan.
(ii) He had a sheltered upbringing within the Sangha.
(iii) He was informed of the harsh realities of life.
(iv) He was deeply anguished when he saw an old man and a sick man. Choose the correct option :

- (A) (i) and (ii) (B) (ii) and (iii)
(C) (i) and (iv) (D) (ii) and (iv)

7. Who among the following founded the Mauryan Empire ?

- (A) Ashoka (B) Kautilya
(C) Chandragupta Maurya (D) Vikramaditya

8. Match List I with List II :

List I (Saints)	List II (Traditions)
i. Andal	1. Sufi
ii. Basavanna	2. Lingayat
iii. Karaikkal Ammaiyar	3. Alvar
iv. Baba Farid	4. Nayanar

- (A) i – 1, ii – 3, iii – 2, iv – 4 (B) i – 2, ii – 4, iii – 1, iv – 3
(C) i – 3, ii – 2, iii – 4, iv – 1 (D) i – 4, ii – 1, iii – 3, iv – 2

9. Who among the following travellers belonged to Portugal ?

- (A) Ibn Battuta (B) Marco Polo
(C) Duarte Barbosa (D) Al-Biruni

10. Which of the following statements regarding Francois Bernier are correct ?

- (i) He was a doctor, philosopher and historian.
 - (ii) He came to the Mughal Empire in search of opportunities.
 - (iii) He became physician to Prince Dara Shikoh.
 - (iv) Bernier's works were published in Spain.
- Choose the correct option :

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

11. Fill in the blank : The Mughal administrative system had an apex, a military cum bureaucratic apparatus _____ which looked after civil and military affairs.

- (A) Iqta system (B) Mansabdari system
(C) Amara-nayaka system (D) Ijaredari system

12. Rearrange the following in chronological order and select the correct option from the following :

- (i) The Saluva military commanders were replaced by the Tuluvas.
 - (ii) Rulers of Orissa were subdued by Krishnadeva Raya.
 - (iii) The Battle of Talikota routed out the Vijayanagara Empire.
 - (iv) Harihara and Bukka founded the Vijayanagara Empire.
- Choose the correct option :

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

13. In which of the following places is the Brihadishvara temple situated ?

- (A) Bijapur (B) Belur
(C) Vijayanagara (D) Thanjavur

14. Two statements as Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are given below. Read them carefully and select the correct option :

Assertion (A) : Our major source to know agrarian history of 16th and 17th centuries is the chronicle known as Ain-i-Akbari.

Reason (R) : This text meticulously recorded the arrangements made by the state to ensure cultivation, collect revenue and relations between state and zamindars.

- (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of the Assertion (A). (B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of the Assertion (A).
(C) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false. (D) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

15. Who among the following was the Emperor at Delhi during the 1857 Revolt ?

- (A) Birjis Qadr (B) Aurangzeb
(C) Bahadur Shah (D) Farukh Siyar

16. Match the following events :

List I (Event)	List II (Correlation)
i. Fifth Report	1. Zamindari system
ii. Deccan Riot Commission	2. Santhal's land
iii. Damin-i-koh	3. Cotton boom
iv. American Civil War	4. Ryotwari system

- (A) i – 2, ii – 1, iii – 3, iv – 4 (B) i – 3, ii – 2, iii – 1, iv – 4
 (C) i – 1, ii – 4, iii – 2, iv – 3 (D) i – 4, ii – 3, iii – 1, iv – 2

17. Who among the following was considered as a political mentor by Gandhiji ?

- (A) Dadabhai Naoroji (B) Lala Lajpat Rai
 (C) Gopal Krishna Gokhale (D) Bal Gangadhar Tilak

18. Arrange the following in sequence :

- (i) Gandhiji's call for Non-Cooperation
 (ii) Gandhiji's Kheda Satyagraha
 (iii) Gandhiji's Champaran Satyagraha
 (iv) Gandhiji's speech in Banaras Hindu University

Choose the correct option :

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

19. Who among the following served as Chairman of the Drafting Committee of the Indian Constitution ?

- (A) K.M. Munshi (B) B.N. Rao
 (C) B.R. Ambedkar (D) S.N. Mukherjee

20. Which one of the following languages was emphasized by Gandhiji for the status of national language ?

- (A) Hindi (B) Hindustani
 (C) Sanskrit (D) English

21. Who among the following assumed leadership of the Revolt of 1857 from Arrah, Bihar ?

- (A) Kunwar Singh (B) Nana Saheb
 (C) Tatya Tope (D) Shah Mal

Section B

22. Describe the distinct views of archaeologists on the Central authority of Harappa.

23(a). Why is the mid-first millennium BCE often considered as the turning point in world history ? Explain.

OR

23(b). Why was Buddha considered as one of the most influential teachers of his time ? Explain.

24. “The very choice of the site of Vijayanagara was inspired by the existence of the shrines of Virupaksha and Pampadevi.” Justify the statement.

25(a). Explain the views of Ibn Battuta on Indian cities.

OR

25(b). Explain how Bernier found the crown ownership of land as being harmful for both the state and its people in the Mughal Empire.

26. How did the Britishers suppress the Revolt of 1857 ? Explain with examples.

27. “‘The Salt March’ was a notable event in the Indian freedom movement.” Examine the statement.

Section C

28(a). “According to Brahmanical theory, only Kshatriyas could be kings in the early states, however several other ruling lineages probably had different origins.” Explain the statement with examples from ancient India.

OR

28(b). “Given the diversity of the sub-continent, there have been populations in early states, whose social practices were not influenced by the Brahmanical ideas.” Explain the statement.

29(a). Explain the philosophy and teachings of Guru Nanak Dev.

OR

29(b). Explain the beliefs and practices of Sufism.

30(a). Examine how jotedars became a powerful figure in rural areas of Bengal during the end of the 18th century.

OR

30(b). Examine the causes for the failure of zamindars to pay the revenue demand during the last decades of the 18th century.

31. Read the given source carefully and answer the questions that follow :

What the king's officials did

Here is an excerpt from the account of Megasthenes :

Of the great officers of state, some ... superintend the rivers, measure the land, as is done in Egypt, and inspect the sluices by which water is let out from the main canals into their branches, so that every one may have an equal supply of it. The same persons have charge also of the huntsmen, and are entrusted with the powers of rewarding or punishing them according to their deserts. They collect the taxes, and superintend the occupations connected with land; as those of the woodcutters, the carpenters, the blacksmiths, and the miners.

31.1. Who was Megasthenes ?

31.2. How were the roles of supervisory officers important ?

31.3. How is Megasthenes' description helpful in understanding the administrative role of the king ?

32. Read the given source carefully and answer the questions that follow :

Peasants on the move

This was a feature of agrarian society which struck a keen observer like Babur, the first Mughal emperor, forcefully enough for him to write about it in the Babur Nama, his memoirs:

In Hindustan hamlets and villages, towns indeed, are depopulated and set up in a moment! If the people of a large town, one inhabited for years even, flee from it, they do it in such a way that not a sign or trace of them remains in a day and a half. On the other hand, if they fix their eyes on a place to settle, they need not dig water courses because their crops are all rain-grown, and as the population of Hindustan is unlimited it swarms in. They make a tank or a well; they need not build houses or set up walls ... khas-grass abounds, wood is unlimited, huts are made, and straightaway there is a village or a town!

32.1. What is Babur Nama ?

32.2. How did the peasants meet the needs of water ?

32.3. Explain the distinctive features of agrarian society.

33. Read the given source carefully and answer the questions that follow :

“We are not going just to copy”

This is what Jawaharlal Nehru said in his famous speech of 13 December, 1946 :

My mind goes back to the various Constituent Assemblies that have gone before and of what took place at the making of the great American nation when the fathers of that nation met and fashioned out a Constitution which has stood the test of so many years, more than a century and a half, and of the great nation which has resulted, which has been built up on the basis of that Constitution. My mind goes back to that mighty revolution which took place also over 150 years ago and to that Constituent Assembly that met in that gracious and lovely city of Paris which has fought so many battles for freedom, to the difficulties that the Constituent Assembly had and to how the King and other authorities came in its way, and still it continued. The House will remember that when these difficulties came and even the room for a meeting was denied to the then Constituent Assembly, they betook themselves to an open tennis court and met there and took the oath, which is called the Oath of the Tennis Court, that they continued meeting in spite of Kings, in spite of the others, and did not disperse till they had finished the task they had undertaken. Well, I trust that it is in the solemn spirit that we too are meeting here and that we, too, whether we meet in this chamber or other chambers, or in the fields or in the market-place, will go on meeting and continue our work till we have finished it.

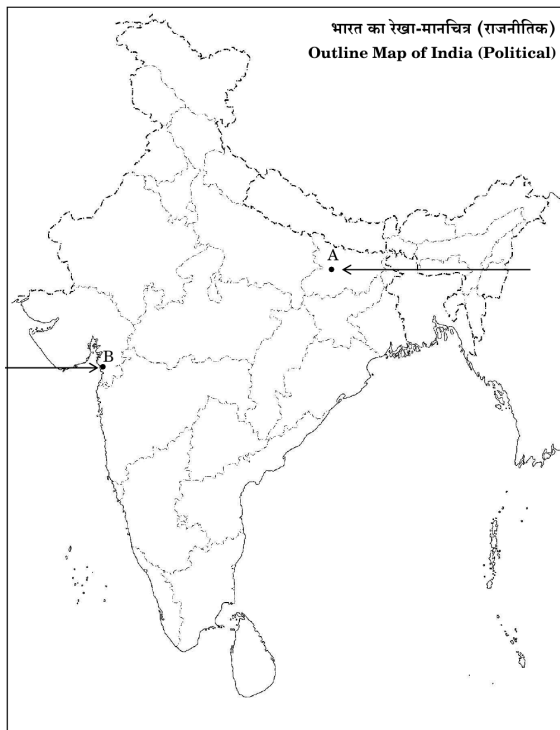
33.1. Which was the revolution discussed by Nehru in the passage ?

33.2. Which qualities of the American Constitution are highlighted by Nehru ?

33.3. What was the ‘Oath of the Tennis Court’ ?

Section E

34. On the given political outline map of India, locate and label the following with appropriate symbols :



34.1(i). Kalibangan – a mature Harappan site

34.1(ii). Bharhut – an important Buddhist site

34.1(iii)(a). Ajmer – a territory under Akbar

OR

34.1(iii)(b). Vijayanagara – Capital of Krishnadeva Raya's empire

34.2. On the same political outline map of India, two places related to British control in 1857 are marked as A and B. Identify them and write their names on the lines drawn near them.

- End of Question Paper -