

CBSE Class 12 History 2025 - Set 61/2/1

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. Which one of the following is a correct statement regarding the codes of social behaviour as laid down in Dharmasutras and Dharmashastras during the period of Mahabharata ?

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|---|--|
| (A) These norms were to be followed by the Brahmins only. | (B) These norms were being followed universally. |
| (C) These norms were not followed universally. | (D) Only the rulers followed these norms. |

2. Which one of the following dynasties did Queen Prabhavati belong to ?

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|--------------|------------|
| (A) Kanvas | (B) Shakas |
| (C) Vakataka | (D) Maurya |

3. Two statements are given below as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read them carefully and choose correct option.

Assertion (A) : Harappa was a well-planned city.
Reason (R) : It had a well-planned drainage system.

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|---|---|
| (A) Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is the correct reasoning of (A). | (B) Both (A) and (R) are correct but (R) is not the correct reasoning of (A). |
| (C) (A) is correct but (R) is not correct. | (D) (A) is not correct but (R) is correct. |

4. Which one of the following was a distinctive feature of Harappan architecture ?

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|-------------------|-------------------|
| (A) Use of Wood | (B) Use of Iron |
| (C) Use of Bricks | (D) Use of Marble |

5. Match Column-I with Column-II and choose the correct option :

Column-I (Sculpture of Sanchi)	Column-II (Symbolic Importance)
a. Empty seat	i. Indicator of Mahaparinibbana
b. Gajlakshmi	ii. Indicator of good fortune
c. Wheel	iii. Indicator of auspicious
d. Shalbhanjika	iv. Indicator of first sermon of Buddha

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

6. Identify the ruler from Indian history with following information :

- Ruler of Bhopal
- Ruled from 1868 to 1901 CE
- Helped in preserving the Sanchi Stupa

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| (A) Jehanara Begum | (B) Shahjehan Begum |
| (C) Gulbadan Begum | (D) Rukhsaar Begum |

7. The given sculpture from the fifth century Devgarh temple depicts which of the following deities ?



- | | |
|-----------|------------|
| (A) Indra | (B) Shiva |
| (C) Rudra | (D) Vishnu |

8. Which one of the following statements is correct regarding Virashaiva or Lingayat tradition ?

- (A) They emphasize Brahman as the supreme entity. (B) They do not bury their dead persons.
(C) They believe that on death they will be united with Shiva. (D) They are the followers of Vishnu.

9. Arrange the following in chronological order and choose the correct option :

- I. Battle of Talikota
II. Establishment of Nagalpuram
III. Formation of Kamalpuram Tank
IV. Emergence of the Sultanate of Golconda

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

10. Match Column-I with Column-II and choose the correct option :

Column-I (Temple)	Column-II (Location)
a. Brihadeswara temple	1. Vijayanagara
b. Chennakeshava temple	2. Tamil Nadu
c. Hazara Ram temple	3. Belur
d. Chidambaram temple	4. Tanjavur

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

11. Identify the ruler of India from the sixteenth century with the following information and choose the correct option :

- He went on a pilgrimage to Ajmer fourteen times.
– He sought blessings for new conquests and the birth of sons from Ajmer Sharif.

- (A) Sultan Ghias-ud-din Khalji (B) Shah-Jehan
(C) Akbar (D) Muhammad Bin Tughlaq

12. Who among the following included the composition of Guru Tegh Bahadur ji in the Guru Granth Sahib ?

- (A) Guru Hargobind Sahibji (B) Guru Gobind Singhji
(C) Guru Arjan Devji (D) Guru Harkrishan Sahibji

13. Which of the following statements is true regarding the land revenue system of the Mughals ?

- (A) The revenue collectors collected tax of land in cash only. (B) The cultivated lands were taxed without any measurement.
(C) Revenue from the land was the economic mainstay of the empire. (D) The tax collectors used to collect taxes with the help of Sahukars.

14. Identify the correct statement from the following regarding the role of women in agrarian society of the Mughal State.

- (A) Only artisanal work were done by women. (B) Women worked in the fields with men.
(C) Remarriage were not allowed for divorced women. (D) Women were totally independent.

15. Find the odd one out regarding the revolt of 1857 from the following :

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|--------------------------|---|
| (A) Arrah : Kunwar Singh | (B) Barout : Shah Mal |
| (C) Singhbhum : Gonu | (D) Hyderabad : Maulavi Ahmadullah Shah |

16. Fill in the blank with the suitable option given below :

The Revolt of 1857 marked the end of the _____ dynasty in India.

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| (A) Maratha | (B) Rajput |
| (C) Scindhia | (D) Mughal |

17. Which of the following statements best describes the effect of the Permanent Settlement on zamindars ?

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|--------------------------------------|--|
| (A) They become landless labourers. | (B) They all were replaced by Jotedars. |
| (C) They sold their land to British. | (D) They gained significant control over land. |

18. How was the Constituent Assembly influenced by public opinion ? Choose the correct option.

- I. People aired their views outside the Parliament House.
II. People gave their reactions through the press.
III. The members of Constituent Assembly used to discuss with the public.
IV. Public expressed their views in the Constituent Assembly.

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

19. Identify the person from the given information :

1. He was the head of Advisory Committee of the Constituent Assembly.
2. He was against the separate electorate.
3. He was the first home minister of free India.

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|-------------------------|-------------------|
| (A) Gobind Ballabh Pant | (B) R.V. Dhulekar |
| (C) Vallabhbhai Patel | (D) Pandit Nehru |

20. On whose of the following advice Gandhiji spent a year in travelling around British India for getting to know the land and its people before entering into politics ?

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|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| (A) Bal Gangadhar Tilak | (B) Gopal Krishna Gokhale |
| (C) Lala Lajpat Rai | (D) Bipin Chandra Pal |

21. Why did Gandhi call for a nationwide campaign against the 'Rowlatt Act' ? Choose the appropriate option from the following :

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|---|--|
| (A) The British Government closed all the schools and colleges. | (B) The first World War came to an end. |
| (C) British Govt. permitted detention without trial. | (D) People expected independence from the British. |

Section B

22(a). Why were the seals and sealings used by the Harappans to facilitate long distance communication ? Explain with examples.

OR

22(b). “There were different views of archaeologists on the administration of Harappa.” Explain the statement with examples.

23. Explain any three sources to know about Maurya Empire.

24(a). Analyse the role of Amara-nayakas in the Vijayanagara empire.

OR

24(b). Analyse the factors that led the rulers of the Vijayanagara empire to choose the site of Vijayanagara as their capital.

25. Describe the role of Panchayats in the Mughal era.

26. Analyse the policies adopted by William Bentinck to reform Indian society.

27. “During the debates in Constituent Assembly, B.R. Ambedkar told that he wanted a strong centre, much stronger than the centre we had created under the Act of 1935.” Analyse the statement.

Section C

28(a). Examine the nature and characteristics of the land grants in ancient Indian society.

OR

28(b). Examine the various strategies used to enhance agricultural output from the sixth BCE onwards.

29(a). 'Francois Bernier contrasted what he saw in India with the situation in Europe.' Explain the statement with examples.

OR

29(b). 'Ibn-Battuta has written extensively about his experience in India.' Explain the statement with examples.

30(a). Imagine you are leading a historical research team. How would you explain the role of Ryotwari System in fostering rural indebtedness and its long-term consequences on Bombay-Deccan peasantry ? Explain.

OR

30(b). You are asked to prepare a report on how the end of the American Civil War affected the cotton boom in the Indian Deccan. How would you assess the changes ? Explain.

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

Verses from the Upanishads

Here are two verses from the Chhandogya Upanishad, a text composed in Sanskrit c. sixth century BCE :

The Nature of the Self

This self of mine within the heart, is smaller than paddy or barley or mustard or millet or the kernel of a seed of millet. This self of mine within the heart is greater than the earth, greater than the intermediate space, greater than heaven, greater than these worlds.

The True Sacrifice

This one (the wind) that blows, this is surely a sacrifice ... While moving, it sanctifies all this; therefore it is indeed a sacrifice.

31.1. Mention the main theme of the verse.

31.2. Mention the relationship between the self and the wind in the context of these verses.

31.3. How does this source reflect the philosophical ideas of the Upanishads ?

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

Amir Khusrau and the Qaul

Amir Khusrau (1253-1325), the great poet, musician and disciple of Shaikh Nizamuddin Auliya, gave a unique form to the Chishti 'sama' by introducing the qaul (Arabic word meaning "saying"), a hymn sung at the opening or closing of qawwali. This was followed by sufi poetry in Persian, Hindavi or Urdu, and sometimes using words from all of these languages. Qawwals (those who sing these songs) at the shrine of Shaikh Nizamuddin Auliya always start their recital with the qaul. Today qawwali is performed in shrines all over the subcontinent.

32.1. What unique form did Amir Khusrau introduce to the Chishti 'sama' ?

32.2. How did the Chishti-sufi traditions shape Amir Khusrau's understanding of spirituality ?

32.3. Analyse the significance of the Sufism in the qawwali performances.

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

Why the Salt Satyagraha ?

Why was salt the symbol of protest ? This is what Mahatma Gandhi wrote :

The volume of information being gained daily shows how wickedly the salt tax has been designed. In order to prevent the use of salt that has not paid the tax which is at times even fourteen times its value, the Government destroys the salt it cannot sell profitably. Thus it taxes the nation's vital necessity ; it prevents the public from manufacturing it and destroys what nature manufactures without effort. No adjective is strong enough for characterizing this wicked dog-in-the-manger policy. From various sources, I hear tales of such wanton destruction of the nation's property in all parts of India. Maunds if not tons of salt are said to be destroyed on the Konkan coast. The same tale comes from Dandi. Wherever there is likelihood of natural salt being taken away by the people living in the neighbourhood of such areas for their personal use, salt officers are posted for the sole purpose of carrying on destruction. Thus valuable national property is destroyed at national expense and salt taken out of the mouths of the people.

The salt monopoly is thus a fourfold curse. It deprives the people of a valuable easy village industry, involves wanton destruction of property that nature produces in abundance, the destruction itself means more national expenditure and fourthly, to crown this folly, an unheard of tax of more than 1,000 per cent is exacted from a starving people.

This tax has remained so long because of the apathy of the general public. Now that it is sufficiently roused, the tax has to go. How soon it will be abolished depends upon the strength the people.

The Collected Works of Mahatma Gandhi (CWMG), Vol. 49

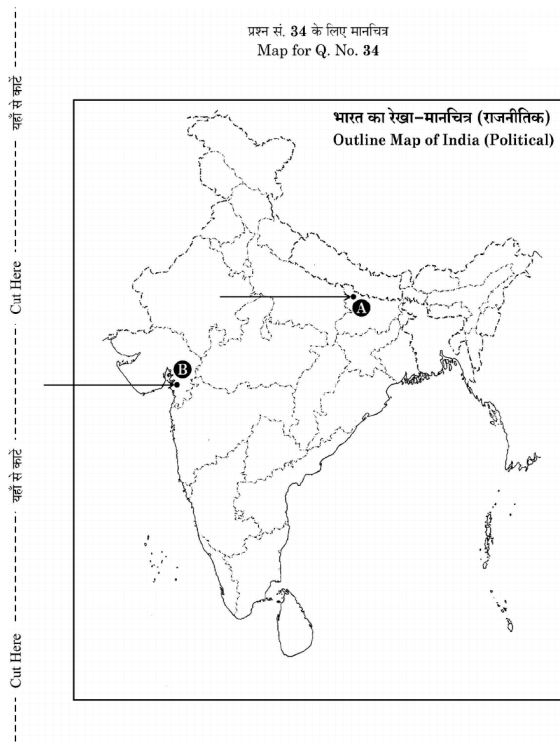
33.1. Why was salt law disliked by the masses ?

33.2. Why were salt officers appointed by the British Government ?

33.3. Why did Lord Irwin fail to understand the significance of Salt March ?

Section E

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



34.1(i). Rakhigarhi – a mature Harappan site

34.1(ii). Ajanta – a Buddhist site

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

OR

34.1(iii)(b). Agra – a territory under Mughals

34.2. On the same map two places have been marked as A and B as the centres of Indian National movement. Identify them and write their names on the lines drawn near them.

- End of Question Paper -