

CBSE Class 12 History 2025 - Set 61/S/1 - Compartment

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) Question paper is divided into five Sections – Sections A, B, C, D and E.
- (iii) Section A – questions number 1 to 21 are Multiple Choice type questions. Each question carries 1 mark.
- (iv) Section B – questions number 22 to 27 are Short Answer type questions. Each question carries 3 marks. Write answer to each question in 60 to 80 words.
- (v) Section C – questions number 28 to 30 are Long Answer (LA) type questions. Each question carries 8 marks. Write answer to each question in 300 to 350 words.
- (vi) Section D – questions number 31 to 33 are Source-based questions having three sub-questions. Each question carries 4 marks.
- (vii) Section E – question number 34 is Map-based question that includes the identification and location of significant test items. This question carries 5 marks. Attach the Map with the answer-book.
- (viii) There is no overall choice. However, an internal choice has been provided in Sections B, C and E of question paper. A candidate has to write answer for only one of the alternatives in such questions.
- (ix) In addition to this, note that a separate question has been provided for Visually Impaired candidates in lieu of questions having visual inputs, Map, etc. Such questions are to be attempted by Visually Impaired candidates only.

Section A

1. Which of the following were the possible causes for the decline of the Indus Valley Civilization ? Choose the correct option :

- I. Change in the course of the river
- II. Climatic changes
- III. A rural way of life
- IV. Decline in crafts and trade

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

2. Imagine you have to write a research report on the Critical Edition of the Mahabharata led by V.S. Sukthankar and his team. Which of the following describes a unique feature of this edition ?

- (A) It focused on the Bhagavad Gita and Krishna. (B) It modernized the language for accessibility.
(C) It researched all regional variations of the text. (D) It added philosophical commentaries with mythology.

3. Which of the following statements are true about Sir John Marshall ?

- I. He was the Director General of the Archaeological Survey of India.
- II. He missed the importance of Harappan seals.
- III. He used stratigraphy in excavations.
- IV. He announced the discovery of Indus Valley Civilization to the whole world.

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

4. Which of the following dynasties were located in 'Tamilakam' ?

- (A) Guptas, Mauryas, Chalukyas (B) Cholas, Cheras, Pandyas
(C) Satavahanas, Shakas, Pandyas (D) Satavahanas, Shakas, Kushanas

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

Column I (Ancient Coins)	Column II (Rulers)
a. Punch-marked coins	i. Yaudheyas
b. First gold coins	ii. Guptas
c. Spectacular gold coins	iii. Kushanas
d. Copper coins	iv. Mauryas

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

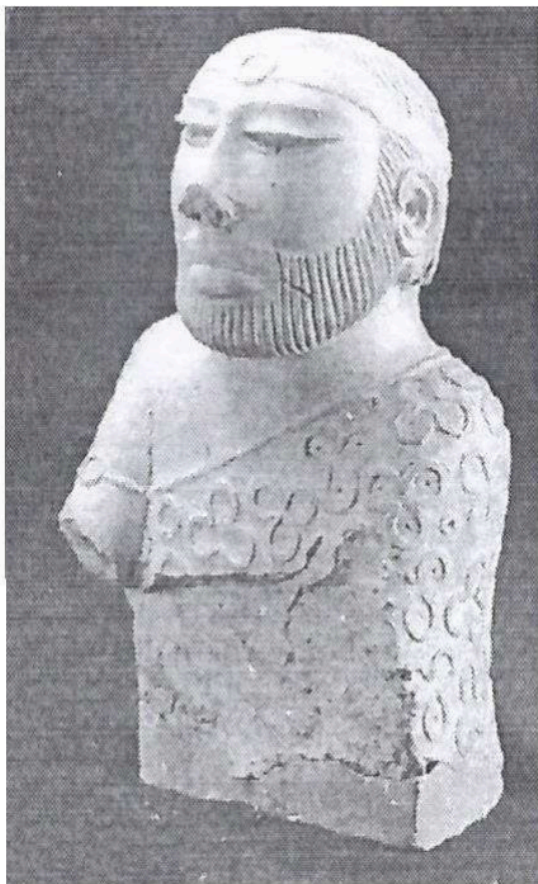
6. Two statements labelled as Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are given below. Read them carefully and select the correct option :

Assertion (A) : The Satavahana rulers often carried matronymic titles.

Reason (R) : The names of the Satavahana rulers were derived from the names of their mothers.

- (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.

7. Identify the given image from the Harappan period and choose the correct option :



- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| (A) Proto-Shiva | (B) Rigvedic Rudra |
| (C) Priest-King | (D) Merchant-Ruler |

7-VI. For visually impaired candidates only, in lieu of the corresponding visual question:

In which of the following present countries is the ancient city of Mohenjodaro located ?

- | | |
|-----------|--------------|
| (A) India | (B) Pakistan |
| (C) China | (D) Myanmar |

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

Assertion (A) : Al-Biruni learnt the Sanskrit language.

Reason (R) : He wanted to understand Indian culture and books.

- | | |
|--|---|
| (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. |

9. Which of the following statements are true regarding Ibn-Battuta ?

- I. He was a native of Morocco.
- II. He was a Qazi at the court of Muhammad bin Tughluq.
- III. He gave a detailed description about the Ibrahim Lodhi.
- IV. He provided a vivid account of urban prosperity in the Mughal Empire.

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

10. Which of the following are associated with the Sufi Dargah ?

- I. Silsila between Murids and Murshid
- II. Ziyarat
- III. Qawwali
- IV. Havan

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

11. In which of the following forms are the poetic compositions of Mirabai available ?

- | | |
|--------------|-------------|
| (A) Vachanas | (B) Shabad |
| (C) Bhajans | (D) Abhangs |

12. Fill in the blank with the given option :

The assessed revenue in Mughal revenue administration was known as _____ .

- (A) Hasil (B) Daftar
(C) Polaj (D) Jama

13. Which one of the following pairs is not correctly matched ? (Officer in Mughal Empire) (Role)

- (A) Diwan – Military Bureaucrat (B) Mansabdar – Head of Panchayat
(C) Mandal – Fiscal Supervisor (D) Amin – Imperial Regulator

14. Which one of the following pairs is correctly matched ? (Travellers who visited Vijayanagara) (Their Country /Region)

- (A) Nicolo de Conti – Italy (B) Abdur Razzaq – Qandahar
(C) Afanasii Nikitin – Portugal (D) Domingo Paes – Spain

15. Identify the reason given by the British for the annexation of Awadh from the following options :

- (A) Wajid Ali Shah's misgovernance (B) War and outright defiance
(C) Regulating Act (D) Doctrine of Lapse

16. Arrange the following events in correct sequence and choose the correct option :

- I. Expansion of Santhal settlements
II. Exploitation of Santhals by the British
III. Damin-i-Koh declared Santhal land
IV. Santhal pargana carved from the districts of Birbhum and Bhagalpur

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

17. Who among the following was known as 'Danka Shah' in the Revolt of 1857 ?

- (A) Shah Mal (B) Ahmadullah Shah
(C) Muhammad Shah (D) Firoz Shah

18. Match the members of the Constituent Assembly with the cause they championed :

Column I (Issues)	Column II (Members)
a. Tribal Welfare	i. N.G. Ranga
b. Depressed Classes	ii. J. Nagappa
c. Justice for Women	iii. Jaipal Singh
d. Peasants' welfare	iv. Hansa Mehta

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

19. Who among the following introduced the 'Objectives Resolution' in the Constituent Assembly ?

- (A) Vallabhbhai Patel (B) Rajendra Prasad
(C) Jawaharlal Nehru (D) Bhimrao Ambedkar

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

- I. Champaran Satyagraha
II. Bardoli Satyagraha
III. Kheda Satyagraha
IV. Rowlatt Satyagraha

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

21. Identify the poet with the help of the following information :

- She was a modern poet.
- She wrote extensively on the Indian National Movement.
- 'Khoob lari mardani woh to Jhansi wali rani thi' — these lines have been authored by her.

- (A) Mahadevi Verma (B) Subhadra Kumari Chauhan
(C) Amrita Pritam (D) Sarojini Naidu

Section B

22(a). “Historians considered the Harappan seals as the distinctive artifact.” Examine the statement.

OR

22(b). “The Harappans were known for their advanced urban planning.” Justify the statement with suitable arguments.

23. Assess the significance of the Mahabharata as a source for understanding ancient Indian society.

24. “The Chola rulers extended their support to the Bhakti Movement and the Brahmanical traditions.” Explain the statement.

25(a). Explain how association with the state transformed the lives of the forest dwellers during the Mughal rule.

OR

25(b). Explain the role of Panchayats in the Mughal empire.

26. Why did the Zamidars default on the payment of dues after the introduction of the Permanent Settlement ? Explain.

27. Imagine you have been tasked with writing a comprehensive history of the Revolt of 1857. What sources would you use for it ? Explain.

Section C

28(a). How did the stupa come to be associated with Buddhist belief and practices ? Explain the structural features of Sanchi Stupa with examples.

OR

28(b). “Buddhist and non-Buddhist elements come together to create a spectacle at Sanchi.” Explain the statement with examples.

29(a). Describe the significance of the Vijayanagara Empire in Indian history.

OR

29(b). Describe the religious architectural traditions of the Vijayanagara Empire.

30(a). “The Non-Cooperation Movement was significant in Gandhian nationalism.” Justify the statement.

OR

30(b). “Gandhiji came to be viewed as a ‘people’s leader’ with deep sympathy for the poor.” Examine the statement.

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

Prabhavati Gupta and the village of Danguna

This is what Prabhavati Gupta states in her inscription :

Prabhavati Gupta ... commands the gramakutumbinas (householders/peasants living in the village), Brahmanas and others living in the village of Danguna ... "Be it known to you that on the twelfth (lunar day) of the bright (fortnight) of Karttika, we have, in order to increase our religious merit, donated this village with the pouring out of water, to the Acharya (teacher) Chanalasvamin ... You should obey all (his) commands ... We confer on (him) the following exemptions typical of an aghara ... (this village is) not to be entered by soldiers and policemen; (it is) exempt from (the obligation to provide) grass, (animal) hides as seats, and charcoal (to touring royal officers); exempt from (the royal prerogative of) purchasing fermenting liquors and digging (salt); exempt from (the right to) mines and khadira trees; exempt from (the obligation to supply) flowers and milk, (it is donated) together with (the right to) hidden treasures and deposits (and) together with major and minor taxes ..."

31.1. To whom was the land grant made by Prabhavati Gupta ?

31.2. What does the source inform us about the ownership of property by women ?

31.3. What were the privileges given to recipients of the land grant ?

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

A warning for Europe

Bernier warned that if European kings followed the Mughal model :

Their kingdoms would be very far from being well-cultivated and peopled, so well built, so rich, so polite and flourishing as we see them. Our kings are otherwise rich and powerful; and we must avow that they are much better and more royally served. They would soon be kings of deserts and solitudes, of beggars and barbarians, such as those are whom I have been representing (the Mughals) ... We should find the great Cities and the great Burroughs (boroughs) rendered uninhabitable because of ill air, and to fall to ruine (ruin) without any bodies (anybody) taking care of repairing them; the hillocks abandon'd, and the fields overspread with bushes, or fill'd with pestilential marishes (marshes), as hath been already intimated.

32.1. What was Bernier's warning to the European kings ?

32.2. How did he compare European kings and the Mughal emperors ?

32.3. How did Bernier describe the Mughal countryside ?

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

“There cannot be any divided loyalty”

Govind Ballabh Pant argued that in order to become loyal citizens people had to stop focusing only on the community and the self :

For the success of democracy one must train himself in the art of self-discipline. In democracies one should care less for himself and more for others. There cannot be any divided loyalty. All loyalties must exclusively be centred round the State. If in a democracy, you create rival loyalties, or you create a system in which any individual or group, instead of suppressing his extravagance, cares nought for larger or other interests, then democracy is doomed.

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33.1. Why did G.B. Pant emphasize the importance of self-discipline in democracies ?

33.2. What does loyalty mean ?

33.3. What according to him is the key to the success of democracy ?

Section E

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



34.1(i). Kalibanga – Harappan site

34.1(ii)(a). Vijayanagara – Capital of Vijayanagara Empire

OR

34.1(ii)(b). Delhi – Territory under the Mughals

34.1(iii). Amaravati – Buddhist site

34.2. On the same political outline map of India, two places have been marked as 'A' and 'B', as the centres of the Revolt of 1857. Identify them and write their correct names on the lines drawn near them.

34-VI. For visually impaired candidates only, in lieu of the corresponding visual question:

(34.1) Name any two matured Harappan sites. 2

(34.2) (a) Name the capital of the Vijayanagara Empire. 1

OR

(34.2) (b) Name any one territory under the Mughal empire. 1

(34.3) Name any two centres of the Indian National Movement. 2

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