



CBSE

ADDITIONAL PRACTICE QUESTIONS HISTORY (027) Class XII | 2023–24

Time allowed: 3 Hours

Maximum marks: 80

General Instructions:

1. Question paper comprises five Sections – **A, B, C, D and E**. There are 34 questions in the question paper. All questions are compulsory.
2. **Section A** – Question 1 to 21 are MCQs of 1 mark each.
3. **Section B** – Question no. 22 to 27 are Short Answer Type Questions, carrying 3 marks each. Answer to each question should not exceed 60-80 words.
4. **Section C** - Question no 28 to 30 are Long Answer Type Questions, carrying 8 marks each. Answer to each question should not exceed 300-350 words
5. **Section D** – Question no.31 to 33 are Source based questions with three sub questions and are of 4 marks each
6. **Section-E** - Question no. 34 is Map based, carrying 5 marks that includes the identification and location of significant test items. Attach the map with the answer book.
7. There is no overall choice in the question paper. However, an internal choice has been provided in few questions. Only one of the choices in such questions have to be attempted.
8. In addition to this, separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary.

SECTION A

1X21

OBJECTIVE TYPE QUESTIONS

1. Suppose Lalit is one of the key leaders of the Non-Cooperation Movement (1920-22). A temporary setback has occurred on account of some other leaders being arrested by the police. As a practitioner of Gandhi's philosophy, what is the BEST way for Lalit to keep the movement alive in the leaders' absence?
 - (a) appoint interim leaders to take charge and continue organising protests and demonstrations
 - (b) initiate violent actions against the government to secure the release of the arrested leaders
 - (c) disband the movement permanently and seek alternative methods to address the issues
 - (d) encourage peaceful boycotts of public gatherings until leaders are released
2. There are two statements given below, marked as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct option.

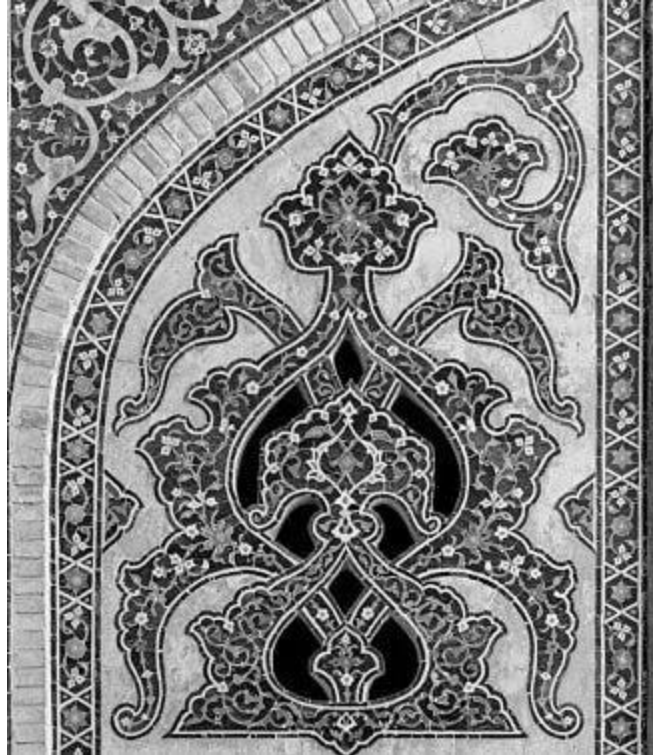
Assertion (A): The Revolt of 1857 in India was a spontaneous uprising with no clear leadership or organised strategy.

Reason (R): The participants came from diverse backgrounds and regions and lacked centralised coordination.

- (a) A is true but R is false.
(b) A is false but R is true.
(c) Both A and R are true and R explains A.
(d) Both A and R are true but R does not explain A.

3. The Satavahana Dynasty was characterised by its patronage of art and architecture, and the commissioning of grand structures that reflected their religious devotion and artistic taste. In this context, which of the following architectural styles was predominantly associated with the Satavahana Dynasty?

(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)



NOTE- The following question is for the visually impaired candidates in lieu of Question number 3.

A research scholar is planning to first visit Great Stupa in Sanchi, followed by the Taj Mahal in Agra. In comparing the architectural designs of the two, which specific element will she identify a difference in?

- (a) pillars
- (b) domes
- (c) minarets
- (d) gateways

4. There are two statements given below. Read the statements and choose the correct option.

X: Varna system has usually been a subject of controversy and criticism due to its rigid and discriminatory nature.

Y: People from the 'lower-castes' often face economic limitations, making them susceptible to exploitation and being trapped in poverty.

- (a) X contradicts Y
- (b) Y is a solution to X
- (c) X and Y are unrelated
- (d) Y is a consequence of X



5. With respect to Buddhism, which of the following is/are CORRECT?
P: Buddhist written texts limit themselves to the teachings of Buddha
Q: Gautam Buddha's discourses were attended by women and children as well
R: Buddhist texts such as Dipavamsa originated on account of Buddhism spreading abroad
- (a) Only Q
(b) Only R
(c) Only P and Q
(d) Only Q and R

6. The Harappan Civilisation had trade contacts with distant lands as well.
Source: NCERT

- In this respect, which of the following statements is CORRECT?
- (a) Trade contacts were established with the Mediterranean region through Suez Canal.
(b) Metal currency was the primary medium of trade exchange with distant lands.
(c) Texts from Mesopotamia mention Harappan links with modern day Bahrain.
(d) Most Harappan crops were obtained through trade with distant lands.

7. The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) discovered a 900-year-old Buddhist monastery in Hazaribagh, Jharkhand and an ancient Buddhist shrine, buried under a similar mound, barely 100 metres away.

Source: Indianexpress, (dated: 26 Feb, 2021)

Find the appropriate steps that should have been taken in the process of finding such historical places.

- (a) excavation, interpretation, documentation, preservation
(b) excavation, preservation, interpretation, documentation
(c) preservation, monitoring, documentation, restoration
(d) restoration, preservation, excavation, discovery

8. Given below are some mature Harappan sites.

Which of the following have been CORRECTLY matched with their present-day states?

	Harappan Site	Present State
A	Rakhigarhi	Rajasthan
B	Kalibangan	Uttar Pradesh
C	Rangpur	Gujarat
D	Banawali	Haryana

- (a) A and B
(b) B and C
(c) C and D
(d) D and A

9. Which of the following is CORRECT with respect to Ibn Battuta?

- (a) His travel in India was free of theft and other challenges.
(b) Born in the 14th century, he wrote extensive works in Persian.
(c) His works give great insights about how the Mughal Empire ruled India.
(d) Future travellers read 'Rihla' written by him to gain insights about India.

10. Most of the Mahajanapadas were located in and around the plains of the river Ganga.



Accordingly, which of the following statements describes the primary reason for the Mahajanapadas to flourish in this area?"

- (a) river Ganga served as a natural barrier which provided protection from invasions
- (b) area was recognised as a low-risk natural disaster zone, ensuring safety
- (c) presence of dense forests in the region supported hunting and gathering
- (d) river Ganga provided an abundant source of fresh water for irrigation

11. Faizal wanted to become a follower of Sufism. Identify from the given traits the one which aligns with the principles of Sufism that Faizal is expected to embody.

P: compassion for fellow beings

Q: a desire for more power

R: urge to live an extravagant life

S: non-attachment from worldly affairs

- (a) P and Q
- (b) Q and R
- (c) R and S
- (d) P and S

12. The statements given below are with reference to nineteenth-century India. Identify who are being described based on the description given.

- 1. They acquired many acres of land by the early nineteenth century.
- 2. They were primarily located in villages and exercised power there.
- 3. They were also active moneylenders and were dominant in parts of Bengal.

- (a) zamindars
- (b) jotedars
- (c) adhiyars
- (d) ryots

13. Santhals are a tribal group who inhabited forests in Eastern India.

Which of the following statements is applicable to the Santhals during the colonial period?

P: In the early to mid-nineteenth century they were invited to become settled agriculturalists and given land grants.

Q: By the mid-nineteenth century, their population and area under cultivation expanded.

R: They led a non-violent protest against the British who imposed heavy taxes on them.

S: They successfully got the British to fulfil their demands in 1855-56.

- (a) P and Q only
- (b) Q and R only
- (c) R and S only
- (d) P and S only

14. The 2014 excavation in Punjab uncovers a death well which was a mass grave of 200+ individuals. DNA analysis identifies remains of 1857 soldiers, providing insights into the events of 1857.

Source: *The Times Group.com*

What LIKELY conclusion can be drawn solely from this discovery?

- (a) chronology of events which led to the uprising

- (b) religious beliefs of the soldiers who fought in the revolt
- (c) types of weapons used in the first war of Independence
- (d) the political-administrative system that was in place then

15. Which of the following is the reason why travelogues are valuable for historians studying the past?

- (a) They provide a consistent and unanimous interpretation of the events in history.
- (b) They offer subjective experiences that provide a human touch to history.
- (c) They provide a definitive and unquestionable narrative of history.
- (d) They present an idealised and romanticised version of history.

16. What is absent in the provided image of the Virupaksha temple, constructed during the Vijayanagara Empire's era, in terms of its architectural components?



- (a) structure over the inner sanctum
- (b) pillared pavilion for public rituals
- (c) monumental tower at the entrance
- (d) crowning element at the top of the structure

NOTE- The following question is for the visually impaired candidates in lieu of Question number 16.

The Vijayanagara style of architecture incorporates influences from various architectural styles of different regions. Which of the following would have **LIKELY** led to this?

- P: Nurturing indigenous artistic vision
- Q: Extensive overseas trade promotion
- R: Travel and pilgrimage to neighbouring states



- (a) P and Q
- (b) Q and R
- (c) R and P
- (d) all- P, Q and R

17. Given below is an English translation of a few lines from Saint Kabir's couplet.

"Do not ask about the caste of a saint, ask about their knowledge.

Evaluate the worth of a sword, let the scabbard be."

Which of the following ideas did Saint Kabir attempt to emphasise in these lines?

- (a) promoting the use of local and vernacular languages
- (b) ending social discrimination among the people
- (c) eliminating gender and economic inequalities
- (d) opposing idol worship and ritualism

18. Which of the following activities would not have occurred near a temple in the Chola kingdom?

- (a) traders involved in trade activities in the marketplace around
- (b) artists engaged in various forms of music and dance performances
- (c) people involved in devotional singing and chanting of hymns and mantras
- (d) soldiers engaged in military training activities under the guidance of their chief

19. There are two statements given below, marked as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct option.

Assertion(A): The Constituent Assembly comprised of representatives from various religions, regions, and political affiliations.

Reasoning (R): The composition of India's Constituent Assembly was crucial in building the groundwork for a democratic and inclusive country.

- (a) A is true but R is false.
- (b) A is false but R is true.
- (c) Both A and R are true and R explains A.
- (d) Both A and R are true but R does not explain A.

20. Al-Biruni, a Persian scholar who lived during the 11th century, wrote 'Kitab al-Hind,' providing a detailed account of the social, cultural, and scientific aspects of India during his visit.

Based on his observations and research, which of the following instances would he NOT have come across during his time in India?

- (a) unique Indian cuisines and culinary practices
- (b) Indian systems of trade and commerce during that time
- (c) influence of European colonial powers in certain regions
- (d) traditional Indian art forms and their significance in local culture

21. Read the lines given below from Gandhi's Speech at Benaras Hindu University, 1916.

I compare with the richly bedecked noblemen and the millions of the poor. And I feel like saying to these noble men, "There is no salvation for India unless you strip yourselves of this jewellery and hold it in trust for your countrymen in India."

Source: *Gandhi Sevagram Ashram*



What message was conveyed by Gandhiji through this statement?

- (a) adopting a capitalist economic system in India to spur economic growth and development
- (b) advocating for the complete abolition of the caste system in India to achieve social equality
- (c) calling for Indians to boycott all foreign goods to promote self-reliance and support local industries
- (d) promoting collective responsibility and urging the rich to use their resources for India's greater good

SECTION A

3X6

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

22. What are the three key points that a student of archaeology can include in her research paper regarding the possible uses of ancient seals by the Harappan civilization? 3

OR

The Harappans employed a wide range of materials for making crafts such as vessels, seals, and tools among others. Name any three such materials and the locations from where they were sourced.

23. List the challenges historians face in interpreting and analysing the limited literary sources of ancient and medieval India. 3

24. The writings of European travellers helped produce an image of India for Europeans through the printing and circulation of their books. Later, after 1750, when Indians like Shaikh Itisamuddin and Mirza Abu Talib visited Europe and confronted this image that Europeans had of their society, they tried to influence it by producing their own version of matters.

Source: NCERT

Analyse the possible reasons for the skewed understanding of India by the Europeans. 3

25. The characteristic features of the Vijayanagar Kingdom can be discovered from the temples constructed during that time. Substantiate with examples. 3

26. Assess the impact of the British-introduced Permanent Settlement of 1793 on the powers of zamindars and the emergence of the jotedars. 3

27. "The Azamgarh Proclamation not only sheds light on the politics of the time but also shows that the struggle for freedom in India transcended religion." Comment. 3

Source: Indian Culture Portal

OR

During the 1857 rebellion, gender barriers dissolved alongside religious ones. Hundreds of women fought the British and many were even in commanding roles.

Source: timesofindia.com

Comment on the different roles that women took on during the 1857 rebellion.

SECTION C

3 x 8 = 24

LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

28. Studying how families were connected in early societies is essential for understanding how they lived together, who was related to whom, and how they organised their daily lives. Justify the statement. 8

OR



How did differences in resource access affect the social status and roles of men and women in early Indian societies?

29. Explain the effectiveness of the Panchayat system during the Mughal era and how it contributed to governance and administration during that time. 8

OR

Outline four policies of the Mughal empire that contributed to the growth of agriculture.

30. What were the unique characteristics or circumstances that made the Quit India Movement more intense and impactful than the preceding movements for independence in India? 8

OR

Discuss the factors that led to salt becoming a unifying symbol during India's struggle for independence.

SECTION D

3 x 4 = 12

SOURCE BASED QUESTIONS

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

The Buddhist Stupa is an architectural structure characterised by a solid, hemispherical dome that cannot be entered. Initially serving as a memorial mound for holy individuals, Emperor Ashoka commissioned the construction of stupas throughout his empire to pay homage to Lord Buddha. These stupas were built to enshrine relics such as bones, teeth, and hair. Originally made of bricks and surrounded by wooden railings, the stupas eventually transitioned to stone enclosures.

In addition to the dome, the stupa evolved to include a base, which could be circular or square, as well as a circumambulatory path and a stone railing with elegantly carved gateways in the four cardinal directions. At the top of the dome, the wooden umbrella that symbolised the presence of the Lord or his disciples' remains was replaced by the Harmika. The Harmika consists of a square Buddhist railing from which a shaft rises, supporting an imperial umbrella. Over time, the number of umbrellas increased, with each one decreasing in size as they ascended.

Source (edited): ccrt.gov.in

(i) Emperor Ashoka commissioned the construction of stupas throughout his empire to pay homage to Lord Buddha. Explain the significance of this decision in one point. 1

(ii) Describe how the purpose of the Buddhist Stupa evolved from its original purpose over time. 2

(iii) How do Buddhist stupas contribute to the preservation of cultural heritage? 1

32. Read the following excerpt carefully and answer the questions that follow.

'During the Vijayanagara rule between 1350 and 1650, the rulers sought support from Vaishnava sectarian leaders in Tamil Nadu to establish control over the region. Temples played a fundamental role in sustaining kingship, and sectarian leaders acted as intermediaries between kings and temples. While local sectarian groups managed temple affairs, the king had administrative authority to resolve disputes. The rulers supported temple construction through grants and resources, leading to the development of a distinct agrarian economy under their rule, reinforcing their authority.'

Source (edited): egyptankosh.ac.in



- (i) State two reasons for the Vijayanagara ruler to seek the support of Vaishnava sectarian leaders from Tamil Nadu?

2

- (ii) How did temples play a fundamental role in sustaining kingship during the Vijayanagara rule?

2

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

'Gandhi, along with other nationalists, was deeply angered by the Rowlatt Act. In February 1919, he established the Satyagraha Sabha, a group of individuals who pledged to defy the Act and willingly face arrest and imprisonment. While the nationalist movement, led by moderates or extremists, had previously focused on agitation, Satyagraha elevated the struggle to a new and more significant level. It transformed the National Congress into an organisation dedicated to political action. Gandhi urged nationalist activists to engage with rural communities, believing that India's liberation would only be achieved when the masses were awakened from their apathy and actively participated in politics.'

Source (edited): Bipin Chandra, Modern India

- (i) What was the significance of Gandhi's founding of the Satyagraha Sabha in response to the Rowlatt Act in 1919? 1
- (ii) Gandhi believed that India's salvation depended on the active participation of the masses in politics. Explain. 2
- (iii) Compare the approaches of the nationalist movement under moderate and extremist leadership prior to Satyagraha. 1

SECTION E

Marks 5

MAP BASED QUESTION

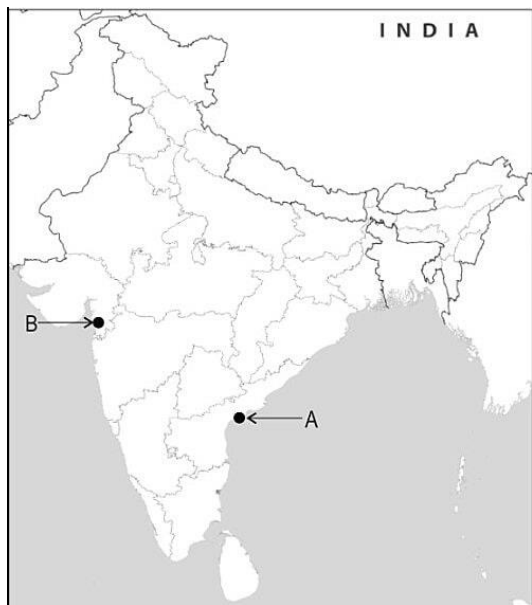
34.1 On the given political map of India, locate and label the following with appropriate symbols: 3

- Kalibangan, a Harappan site
 - Calicut, where Abdur Razzaq was sent as an ambassador by the ruler of Persia
 - Sarnath, where Gautam Buddha taught his first sermon
- OR
- Taxila, an ancient learning centre

34.2 On the same outline map, two places have been marked as A and B, which were Indian territories under British control in 1857.

Identify them and write their correct names on the lines drawn near them.

2



The following questions are for the Visually Impaired Candidates only.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 34.1 (i) Mention any 2 features of Harappan town planning | 1 |
| (ii) Name any one of the sixteen Mahajanapadas. | 1 |
| (iii) Where is Virupaksha temple located? | 1 |
| 34.2 Mention any two centres of the Revolt of 1857. | 2 |