



# Delhi Public School, Howrah

PERIODIC TEST –I (2025-2026)

Class-XII

Care must be taken not to write anything on the question paper. All the questions must be attempted in the correct sequence.

SUBJECT: HISTORY (CODE- 027)

Time: -3 Hours

F.M.-80

## General Instructions:

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

| Q NO. | SECTION A<br>MCQs (21 Marks)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |   |
|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| 1     | Identify the best reason for considering King Ashoka as 'Devanampiya' or 'Piyadassi' by his subjects.<br>(A) Ashoka commissioned the edicts himself.<br>(B) He adopted the title of 'Devaputra'.<br>(C) Epigraphists have concluded him Devanampiya. as<br>(D) He worked for the well being of society through Dhamma. | 1 |
| 2     | Read the following statements and identify the character of Mahabharata.<br>(i)She declared her love for Bhima.<br>(ii)She told Kunti that she liked her tiger like son.<br>(iii)She gave birth to a Rakshas boy.<br>(A) Draupadi<br>(B) Subhadra<br>(C) Hidimba<br>(D) Gandhari                                       | 1 |
| 3     | Arrange the following dynasties in chronological order:<br>I. Nandas<br>II. Shungas<br>III. Mauryas<br>IV. Guptas<br>(A) IV, II, III and I<br>(B) II, I, IV and III<br>(C) I, III, II and IV<br>(D) III, I, IV and II                                                                                                  | 1 |
|       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |   |

4

Where has this serpent sculpture been excavated?

- (A) Amravati
- (B) Sanchi
- (C) Barhut
- (D) Magadha



5

Ibn Battuta made the following observations about Indian cities. Which of the following statement is **not** true?

- (A) Indian cities were densely populated and very prosperous.
- (B) Markets had a large variety of goods.
- (C) Some of them had spaces marked for public performances.
- (D) They had either a mosque or a temple.

1

6

Identify the European traveller who has given a detailed description of the practice of Sati.

- (A) Jean Baptiste Tavernier
- (B) Manucci
- (C) Francois Bernier
- (D) Roberto Nobili

1

7

"Be lamps unto yourselves as all of you must work out your own liberation." Identify the essence of the words of Buddha from the options given below.

- (A) One should connect to inner being.
- (B) One should live life of brahmacharya.
- (C) One should focus and express feelings.
- (D) One should spread religion everywhere.

1

8



Examine the coins from the Kushana Empire. What does the coins tell us about portrayal of kings?

- (A) They claimed high status and having divine origin.
- (B) Coins issued were uniform in weight.
- (C) Coins show trade transactions carried out in the empire was significant.
- (D) Accounts for prosperity of the empire and its rulers.

1

9

Match List 1 with List 2 and select the correct pair from the options given below:

| LIST 1 (Sites)  | LIST 2 (Evidence)     |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Dholavira    | (a) Great Bath        |
| 2. Mohenjo Daro | (b) Terracotta Plough |
| 3. Kalibangan   | (c) Plough Field      |
| 4. Cholistan    | (d) Reservoir         |

1

|    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |   |
|----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
|    | Choose the correct option:<br>(A) 1-a, 2-c,3-d, 4-b<br>(B) 1-d, 2-a, 3-c,4-b<br>(C) 1-b,2-d,3-c,4-a<br>(D) 1-c,2-b,3-a,4-d                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |   |
| 10 | <p>Given below are two statements, one-labelled as Assertion (A) and the other Reason (R). Consider the statements and choose the correct options</p> <p>Assertion (A): One of the strategies to identify social differences during Indus valley civilization is to study artefacts.</p> <p>Reason (R): Archaeologists assume objects were luxuries if they were rare or made from costly, non-local materials or with complicated technologies.</p> <p>(A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.<br/>(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.<br/>(C) A is true but R is false.<br/>(D) A is false but R is true.</p> | 1 |
| 11 | <p>"The domestic architecture of Mohenjodaro along the ground level meant privacy of the residents." Identify which of the following statements prove it.</p> <p>(i) Houses were centred on a courtyard.<br/>(ii) There were no windows in the walls<br/>(iii) The main entrance did not give a direct view.<br/>(iv) Many houses had wells often in room for passers by.</p> <p>(A) i and ii<br/>(B) ii and iii<br/>(C) iii and iv<br/>(D) i and iv</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1 |
| 12 | <p>'The Mahabharata is said to be a dynamic text'. In the given context which of the following statements is incorrect?</p> <p>(A) The central story of the epic has been retold in different ways.<br/>(B) The epic has provided themes for plays and story telling.<br/>(C) Many episodes of the Mahabharata were depicted in paintings and sculpture.<br/>(D) The growth of the Mahabharata has stopped with the Sanskrit version.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1 |
| 13 | <p>Which of the following best describes the significance of traveller's accounts in understanding medieval Indian history?</p> <p>(A) They provide a comprehensive and unbiased view of Indian society.<br/>(B) They offer insights into the cultural, social, and economic conditions of the time.<br/>(C) They are the primary source of information for medieval Indian history.<br/>(D) They are irrelevant to the study of Indian history.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1 |
| 14 | <p>Who were termed as Nishads?</p> <p>(A) People engaged in making gold ornaments.<br/>(B) People living in forests.<br/>(C) People engaged in warfare.<br/>(D) People engaged in trade.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1 |
| 15 | <p>Which of the following are the major literary sources to reconstruct the history of the Mauryan Empire?</p> <p>(i) Work of Megasthenes, a Greek ambassador.<br/>(ii) Arthshastra of Kautilya<br/>(iii) Buddhist, Jaina and Pauranic literature.<br/>(iv) Meghaduta of Kalidasa.</p> <p>Choose the correct option from following:</p> <p>(A) i, ii and iv<br/>(B) ii, iii and iv<br/>(C) i, ii and iii<br/>(D) i, iii and iv</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1 |

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|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| 16                                                     | Which of the following dynasty Queen Prabhavati belonged to?<br>(A) Gupta<br>(B) Vakataka<br>(C) Kushana<br>(D) Maurya                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1                |
| 17                                                     | <b>Statement I:</b> Al-Biruni wrote a voluminous text, Kitab-ul-Hind in Arabic which was divided into 80 chapters<br><b>Statement II:</b> Al-Biruni wrote this book from his mathematical orientation with precision and predictability<br>(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct.<br>(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are incorrect.<br>(C) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect.<br>(D) Statement I is incorrect and Statement II is correct. | 1                |
| 18                                                     | Land Grants during the rule of Chandragupta II provide some insights into the relationship between which of the following pairs?<br>(A) Artisans and hunter-gatherers<br>(B) Fishermen and Samantas<br>(C) Pastoralists and officials<br>(D) The state and cultivators                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                  |
| 19                                                     | What is the primary reason for the chandalas being considered untouchables and forced to live outside the city?<br>(A) their religious customs<br>(B) their occupation<br>(C) their food habits<br>(D) their skin colour                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                  |
| 20                                                     | The presence of Harappan seals in Mesopotamia suggests:<br>(A) A direct trade route between the Indus Valley and Mesopotamia.<br>(B) Cultural exchange between the two civilizations.<br>(C) A conflict between the two civilizations.<br>(D) Both A and B.                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1                |
| 21                                                     | What was one of the significant consequences of the expansion of trade and commerce in ancient India?<br>(A) Decline of urban centers<br>(B) Increased economic self sufficiency<br>(C) Growth of cities and towns<br>(D) Reduced cultural exchange                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1                |
| <b>SECTION B</b><br><b>SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | (3X<br>6=<br>18) |
| 22                                                     | A) Elaborate on archeological evidence that gives an insight on the agricultural practices of the Harrapan Civilization .<br><br>OR<br>B) How can one establish long distance trade in Harapan civilization through archeological evidence?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 3                |
| 23                                                     | A) 'Historians have used a variety of sources to reconstruct the history of the Mauryan Empire.' In the given context elaborate on the different sources used by historians to reconstruct Mauryan Empire.<br>OR<br>B) 'Between the sixth and the fourth centuries BCE, Magadha (in present-day Bihar) became the most powerful <i>mahajanapada</i> .' In the given context explain the causes of rise of Magadha as the most powerful Mahajanpada.                             | 3                |
| 24                                                     | A) What information do the Dharmasutra and Dharmashastras provide on caste based occupations?<br>OR<br>B) What were means of reinforcement of caste occupations in ancient India?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 3                |

|                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| 25                                                    | 'There is evidence that by c. 1800 BCE most of the Mature Harappan sites in regions such as Cholistan had been abandoned the rural way of life'. In the given context elucidate on the signs that showed Urban culture had come to an end in the Indus Valley Civilization.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 3                |
| 26                                                    | Analyze the basic teachings of Jainism in the context of the importance of Ahimsa.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 3                |
| 27                                                    | Examine why Bernier was against crown ownership of land?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 3                |
| <b>SECTION C</b><br><b>LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | (8X<br>3=<br>24) |
| 28                                                    | A. 'Perhaps the most unique feature of the Harappan Civilization was the development of urban centers'. Illustrate with examples.<br><br>OR<br>B. What information have the archeologists gathered on the central authority of the Harappan civilization?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 8                |
| 29                                                    | A. Elucidate how gender and caste factors influenced access to economic resources in ancient India?<br><br>OR<br>B. Analyze the institution of untouchability as it existed in ancient India.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 8                |
| 30                                                    | A. Analyze the role of the Buddhist Sangha and the diversity of its followers in the growth and spread of Buddhism in ancient India.<br><br>Or<br>B. Amravati was discovered before Sanchi yet it has lost its glory and was an insignificant little mound. In the light of the above statement justify why Sanchi survived and Amravati did not?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 8                |
| <b>SECTION D</b><br><b>SOURCE BASED QUESTIONS</b>     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | (4X<br>3=<br>12) |
| 31                                                    | <b>Read the passage given below and answer the following questions:</b><br>Processing of food required grinding equipment as well as vessels for mixing, blending and cooking. These were made of stone, metal and terracotta. This is an excerpt from one of the earliest reports on excavations at Mohenjodaro, the best-known Harappan site:<br>Saddle querns ... are found in considerable numbers ... and they seem to have been the only means in use for grinding cereals. As a rule, they were roughly made of hard, gritty, igneous rock or sandstone and mostly show signs of hard usage. As their bases are usually convex, they must have been set in the earth or in mud to prevent their rocking.<br><br>A. Which two types of saddle querns were found?<br>B. What do we know about the dietary practices of Harappans in the context of the equipment found?<br>C. Comment on the similarities of the food habits of the Harappans to that of contemporary India. | 1<br>1<br>2      |



na, a Brahmana who taught archery to the Kuru princes, was approached by Ekalavya, a  
 selling nishada (a hunting community). When Drona, who knew the dharma, refused to have  
 s pupil, Ekalavya returned to the forest, prepared an image of Drona out of clay, and treating  
 teacher, began to practise on his own. In due course, he acquired great skill in archery. When the  
 princes went hunting and their dog, wandering in the woods, came upon Ekalavya. When the  
 dog returned to the Pandavas, his body caked with dirt, it began to bark.  
 The dark nishada wrapped in black deer skin. When the dog returned to the Pandavas,  
 Ekalavya shot seven arrows into its mouth. When the dog returned to the Pandavas,  
 amazed at this superb display of archery. They tracked down Ekalavya, who introduced

1  
2  
1



## DELHI PUBLIC SCHOOL, HOWRAH

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