

HISTORY PAPER - II
HISTORY OF INDIA UPTO POST MAURYA PERIOD
MCQ FOR UNIVERSITY QUESTIONS - 2020 (SAMPLE QUESTIONS)

FROM UNITS - I, III, & V.

1. Literary sources include
 - a. architectural remains
 - b. material remains
 - c. coins and oral tradition
 - d. texts - written and oral**

2. Proto-history refers to people or civilization
 - a. that were not familiar with the art of writing
 - b. whose script has remained undeciphered so far**
 - c. who used sign language instead of script
 - d. with developed stone tools

3. The oldest surviving texts in India are
 - a. the Puranas
 - b. the Dharmashastras
 - c. the Vedas**
 - d. the Tipitakas/Tripitakas

4. What are the two Sanskrit epics?
 - a. the Mahabharata and Ramayana**
 - b. the Puranas and Dharmashastra
 - c. the Vedas and Smritis
 - d. the Aryankas and Upanishads

5. The most common language used in ancient literary sources is
 - a. Sanskrit**
 - b. Pali
 - c. Tamil
 - d. Persian

6. The Tipitaka/Tripitaka was written in
 - a. Pali**
 - b. Sanskrit
 - c. Prakrit
 - d. Persian

7. Early Jaina literature were written in
 - a. Sanskrit
 - b. Pali
 - c. Tamil
 - d. Prakrit**

8. The earliest deciphered epigraphy in India is
- Brahmi script**
 - Indus script
 - Kharosthi script
 - Tamil script
9. Archaeological sources which have writing on them are
- literary sources
 - archaeological sources
 - both literary and archaeological sources**
 - none of the above
10. Archaeology is the study of human past through
- remains of dead organism
 - skeletal remains
 - ancient texts
 - material remains**
11. Numismatic is the study of
- inscriptions
 - coins**
 - archaeological remains
 - artifacts
12. Archaeology is often described as
- the brother of history
 - the mother of history
 - the handmaid of history**
 - the sister of history
13. The study of inscription is called
- palaeography
 - historiography
 - epigraphy**
 - numismatic
14. Which of the following is not included as part of archaeology?
- marine archaeology
 - assemblage
 - pot sherd
 - painting**
15. The study of scripts is called
- palaeography**
 - historiography
 - epigraphy
 - numismatic

16. The study of behaviour and practices of living communities to interpret past communities is called
- Palaeo-pathology
 - New Archaeology
 - Ethno-archaeology**
 - Archaeometry
17. In 1920, the excavation of Harappa was started by
- Daya Ram Sahni**
 - Mortimer Wheeler
 - Sir John Marshall
 - R. D. Banerji
18. The Harappan Civilization belongs to the
- Mesolithic Age
 - Paleolithic Age
 - Chalcolithic Age**
 - Neolithic Age
19. Most scholars date Mature Harappa
- c.3000 – 2500 BCE
 - c 2600 – 1900 BCE**
 - c.2500 – 1500 BCE
 - c.2300 – 1500 BCE
20. The most important animal worshipped by the Indus Valley people was
- tiger
 - cow
 - humped bull**
 - deer
21. The least depicted animal on Harappan seals is
- horse**
 - bull
 - rhinoceros
 - humped bull
22. The metal which was not used by the Harrapan people was
- gold
 - silver
 - iron**
 - bronze
23. Which of the following was not true of the drainage system?
- Every house had its own courtyard and bathroom
 - All the houses in all the cities had wells**
 - Water flowed from the house to the streets which had drains
 - Drains were covered with bricks and sometimes with stone slabs

24. Harappans built their houses using
- sandstone
 - wood
 - marble
 - baked and unbaked bricks**
25. The Harappans knew many industries except
- dyeing
 - iron smelting**
 - pottery
 - weaving
26. Harappan dockyard was discovered at
- Ropar
 - Kalibangan
 - Lothal**
 - Harappa
27. Late Harappan phase witnessed
- regional variations in the culture
 - urban phase of the culture
 - declining phase of the culture**
 - use of iron by the people
28. Late Harappa saw the shift of people
- to the east and the south**
 - to the west
 - to the north
 - to the west and the north
29. Which of the following was not one of the tools and implements of the Harappan people?
- needles
 - axes
 - sickles
 - fork and spoons**
30. Which of the following were the causes for the decline of the Harappan civilization?
- Aryan invasion
 - religious differences among the priests
 - natural calamities such as deforestation, floods, earthquakes and famines**
 - all of the above
31. Janapada meant
- a region consisting of urban and rural settlements**
 - a region consisting of only tribal settlements
 - a region consisting of big towns and cities
 - a region consisting of only dvijas

32. How many mahajanapadas were there?
- 13
 - 15
 - 16**
 - 1
33. The two kinds of state were
- padas and rajyas
 - ganas and rajyas
 - sanghas and padas
 - ganas and sanghas**
34. Among the 16 Mahajanapadas, the emerged as the most powerful was
- Maghadha**
 - Kosala
 - Kashi
 - Anga
35. The rise of Maghadha to political supremacy began with
- Ajatashatru
 - Bimbisara**
 - Siddhartha
 - Chandragupta
36. The first rulers of Magadha were the
- Nandas
 - Shishunagas
 - Haryankas**
 - Mauryans
37. The early capital of Magadha was
- Rajagriha**
 - Pataliputra
 - Vaishali
 - Kosala
38. Which was not the cause for the rise of religious sects?
- complex rituals and supremacy of the brahmanas
 - rise of untouchability and rigidity of the caste system
 - power struggle between the brahmanas and the kshatriyas
 - spread of Buddhism and Jainism**
39. One of the main reasons for the rise of heterodox sects was
- the introduction of a new agricultural economy based on iron ploughshare**
 - the new teachers gave importance to meditation
 - the new teachers preached equality of all under the guidance of the kshatriyas
 - the importance given Brahmanical rituals

40. The heterodox sects were known as
- varna
 - sapinda
 - shramana**
 - pratiloma
41. The four stages of man's life is known as
- ashramas**
 - brahmachrya
 - grihasta
 - vanaprastha
42. Dhamma is
- a principle of righteousness
 - a religious sect
 - the universal law of righteousness
 - social code of conduct**
43. Gautama Buddha preached his first sermon at
- Lumbini
 - Sarnath**
 - Kapilvastu
 - Kosala
44. The core of Buddha's doctrine is
- Four Noble Truth**
 - Eightfold Path
 - dhamma
 - three Universal truth
45. Jatakas is one of the 15 books of
- Khuddaka Nikaya**
 - Arthasatra
 - Mahabharata
 - Puranas
46. The language that was mostly used to propagate Buddhism was
- Sanskrit
 - Pali
 - Prakrit**
 - Persian
47. According to the Jain beliefs Mahavira was the
- 1st Trithankara
 - 23rd Trithankara
 - 24th Trithankara**
 - 25th Trithankara

48. The Ajivikas were
- religious sect**
 - Buddhist scriptures
 - Jaina monks
 - Untouchables
49. The most direct and apparent impact of Persian invasion in India was the introduction of
- kharosthi script**
 - brahmi script
 - Roman script
 - Latin script
50. The most important leader of the Ajivikas was
- Purana Kassapa
 - Makkhali Gosala**
 - Pakudha Kachchayana
 - Prasenajit
51. The foreigners who extended into India in the 4th century BCE were the
- Romans
 - Greeks**
 - Persians
 - Sumerians
52. Alexander invaded India in
- 326 BCE**
 - 236 BCE
 - 426 BCE
 - 526 BCE
53. The Indian king who opposed Alexander was
- Bimbisara
 - Chandragupta Maurya
 - Ashoka
 - Porus**
54. Alexander's movement beyond the Beas was prevented by
- Chandragupta Maurya
 - his soldiers**
 - the joint force of Indian rulers
 - Porus
55. One of the results of Alexander's invasion was
- the establishment of the Gandhara school of art
 - the rise of Muslims in India
 - the creation of a Seleucid principality along with several Greek settlements**
 - the establishment of Alexander as the new ruler of India

56. The Kushanas were
- descendance of Yueh-chi who ruled part of Central Asia and norther Indian subcontinent**
 - descendance of Huing-nu who ruled part of Central Asia and norther Indian subcontinent
 - descendance of Timur who ruled part of Central Asia and norther Indian subcontinent
 - one of the tribes of India who came to power after the fall of the Mauryas
57. The most powerful king of the Kushana Kanishka was a follower of
- Jainism
 - Buddhism**
 - Saivism
 - Ajivikas
58. The Kushana kings used the title
- devanampiya
 - vijigishu
 - devaputra**
 - kshatrapa
59. The Kushanas were the first rulers to issue
- copper-plate inscriptions
 - gold coins on a large scale**
 - land grants
 - paper currency
60. Kanishka was a great patron of
- Brahmanical Hinduism
 - Mahayana Buddhism**
 - Hinayana Buddhism
 - Sufism
61. Who is the founder of the Satavahana dynasty?
- Simuka**
 - Kanha
 - Satakarni
 - Vasishthiputra Pulumayi
62. Who is the greatest of the Satavahana rulers?
- Chanda Satakarni
 - Gautamiputra Satakarni**
 - Pulumavi
 - Vasishthiputra Pulumayi
63. The Satavahanas claimed their descent from
- the Brahmanas**
 - the Kshatriyas
 - Brahma
 - Surya

64. Who were the first to begin feudalism in India?
- The Mauryas
 - The Kushanas
 - The Shungas
 - The Satavahanas**
65. The Satavahana empire was divided into a number of administrative divisions known as
- mansabdaris
 - iqtas
 - aharas**
 - nadus
66. The Gandhara School of Art was influenced by
- Jainism
 - Buddhism**
 - Saivism
 - Ajivikas
67. The Gandhara School of Art developed during the reign of
- Kadphises I
 - Bimbisara
 - Kanishka**
 - Ashoka
68. The Silk Route facilitated the first Buddhist missionaries to reach China during the
- 1st century BCE
 - 1st century CE**
 - 2nd century CE
 - 3rd century CE
69. The shrenis were
- organized guilds of traders**
 - traders
 - money-lenders
 - landlords
70. The Indo-Greek king who was converted to Buddhism after his discussion with Nagasena was
- Menander/Milinda**
 - Magesthenes
 - Porus
 - Selucus
71. In the Post Mauryan period, which people are portrayed as despised people living in separate settlements, whose sight and touch were considered polluting others?
- sudras
 - chandals**
 - vaishyas
 - kshatryas
72. The period c. 200 BCE to 300 CE witnessed some striking developments. One of the most important was the
- emergence of Brahmanical religion
 - development of varna into caste system
 - emergence of Sufism
 - emergence of early Hinduism**

73. The post Mauryan period witnessed
- the distancing of Buddhism from Brahminical religion
 - the clubbing of Buddhism and Jainism into one cult
 - the emergence of multiple interlocking religious practices**
 - the replacing of goddesses for gods
74. The stupa represented many things in the
- Buddhist tradition**
 - Jaina tradition
 - Hindu tradition
 - Puranic tradition
75. Rock-cut Buddhist monasteries in the Western Ghats dated between
- c. 100 BCE and 100 CE
 - c. 100 BCE and 200 CE**
 - c. 100 BCE and 300 CE
 - c. 100 CE and 200 CE
76. Yavana in ancient Indian texts and Sangam poems refer to
- Greeks and Romans
 - all foreigners
 - Greeks and foreigners**
 - Roman and Indian traders of spices
77. The Indian trade with the Roman flourished under
- Satavahanas**
 - Pallavas
 - Cholas
 - Kushanas
78. One of the most important site for India's maritime trade was
- Patan
 - Nagara
 - Arikamedu**
 - Surat
79. The Sangam literature was written in the language of
- Sanskrit
 - Tamil**
 - Telugu
 - Kannada
80. The Sangam corpus includes devotional poetry of the Vaishnava and Shaiva saints respectively known as
- Alvars and Nayanars**
 - Alvars and Lokayata
 - Nayanars and Mahayana
 - Nayanars and LokayataBimbisara