

Directorate of Education, GNCT of Delhi
Mid Term Examination
Practice Paper
Session: 2026-27
Class XI History

Time allowed: 3 hours

Maximum Marks: 80

General Instructions:

Read the following instructions carefully and follow them:

- (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 – question number 1 to 21 are Multiple Choice type questions. Each question carries 1 mark.
- (iv) Section B – question 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 – question number 28 to 30 are Long Answer type questions. Each question carries 8 marks. Write answer to each question in 300 to 350 words.
- (vi) Section D – question 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 D 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
(Multiple Choice Type Questions)

21x1=21

1. Why is Mesopotamia often referred to as the "Land Between Two Rivers"? 1

- A. It lies between the Nile and Euphrates.
- B. It lies between the Tigris and Euphrates.
- C. It lies between the Indus and Ganga.
- D. It lies between the Yellow and Yangtze rivers.

2. What was the primary purpose of the earliest writing in Mesopotamia? 1

- A. Writing poems and epics
- B. Recording trade and administrative transactions

- C. Teaching philosophy
- D. Writing religious hymns

3. Why were temples important in Mesopotamian cities? **1**

- A. They served only as places of worship.
- B. They functioned as religious, economic, and administrative centres.
- C. They were mainly military headquarters.
- D. They were used only for royal ceremonies.

4. Why did long-distance trade become important for Mesopotamian cities? **1**

- A. Mesopotamia had abundant forests and metals.
- B. The region lacked many essential natural resources.
- C. Agriculture was impossible there.
- D. Kings prohibited local trade.

5. Mesopotamia had fertile agricultural land but lacked resources such as timber, copper, and stone. Which of the following is the most logical consequence of this geographical condition?

1

- A. Mesopotamian cities remained isolated from other regions.
- B. People abandoned agriculture and depended only on hunting.
- C. Long-distance trade became essential, contributing to the growth of prosperous urban centres.
- D. The shortage of resources prevented the development of civilisation.

6. A merchant from Egypt transported grain to Rome through the Mediterranean Sea. What does this indicate about the Roman Empire? **1**

- A. Agriculture was confined only to Italy.
- B. The Mediterranean Sea connected different provinces through trade.
- C. Egypt was politically independent of Rome.
- D. Rome discouraged trade among its provinces.

7. Which of the following best explains why the Roman Empire is described as a multi-cultural empire? **1**

- A. It had only one official language.
- B. It included diverse peoples, cultures, and religions across three continents.
- C. Every province had the same customs and traditions.
- D. All people enjoyed equal political rights.

8. Two statements as Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are given below. Read them carefully and answer the questions that follow : **1**

Assertion (A): The Roman Empire depended heavily on taxes collected from its provinces.

Reason (R): Tax revenue was essential for maintaining the army and administrative machinery.

Options:

- A. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are correct and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of the Assertion (A).
- B. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are correct, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of the Assertion (A).
- C. Assertion (A) is correct, but Reason (R) is incorrect.
- D. Assertion (A) is incorrect, but Reason (R) is correct.

9. Which of the following was a major challenge faced by the later Roman Empire? 1

- A. Decline in military expenditure
- B. External invasions and internal political instability
- C. Complete disappearance of trade
- D. Lack of agricultural production from the beginning

10. Marco Polo and other travellers described the Mongol Empire as facilitating movement across Asia. What does this suggest? 1

- A. The empire completely prohibited trade.
- B. Political stability under the Mongols encouraged long-distance trade.
- C. Only soldiers could travel through the empire.
- D. The Silk Route was permanently closed.

11. Match the Following 1

List I

List II

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| A. Temujin | 1. Successor of Genghis Khan |
| B. Yasa | 2. Birth name of Genghis Khan |
| C. Ögedei | 3. Code of laws associated with the Mongols |
| D. Silk Route | 4. Major trade route connecting Asia and Europe |

12. Why did the Mongols encourage merchants and travellers to move across their empire? 1

- A. To spread Buddhism only
- B. To increase agricultural production
- C. To promote trade, communication, and political integration
- D. To discourage cultural interaction

13. Which of the following regions was NOT conquered by the Mongols during the lifetime of Genghis Khan? **1**

- A. Central Asia
- B. North China
- C. Parts of Persia

14. A ruler wishes to improve communication and the movement of officials across a vast empire. Which feature of the Mongol Empire would be most useful to adopt? **1**

- A. Permanent settlement of nomadic tribes
- B. Restriction on merchant travel
- C. A well-organised relay postal system
- D. Closure of international trade routes

15. Historians often describe the Mongol Empire as a paradox because it: **1**

- A. Was both a maritime and riverine empire.
- B. Expanded through warfare but also promoted trade and cultural exchanges.
- C. Never maintained diplomatic relations.
- D. Was confined only to Mongolia throughout its history.

16. The term 'Three Orders' in medieval European society refers to: **1**

- A. Kings, merchants and artisans
- B. Priests, merchants and peasants
- C. Clergy, nobility and peasantry
- D. Soldiers, craftsmen and traders

17. Which of the following developments occurred last? **1**

- A. Emergence of the feudal system
- B. Growth of agricultural production
- C. Expansion of towns and trade
- D. Decline of feudalism

18. Match the Following **1**

Match List I with List II.

List I

- A. Clergy
- B. Nobility
- C. Peasants
- D. Guild

List II

- 1. Cultivated the land
- 2. Religious functions
- 3. Military protection
- 4. Association of craftsmen

19. Identify the image from the options given below:

1



- A. Nemours Castle
- B. Salisbury Cathedral
- C. St Michael's Benedictine Abbey
- D. Hever Castle

Note : The following question is for the Visually Impaired Candidates, only in lieu of Q. No. 6
Where is the Hever Castle situated?

- A. France
- B. Germany
- C. Austria
- D. England

20. A medieval artisan wanted to ensure fair prices, maintain quality standards, and protect the interests of fellow craftsmen. Which institution would most likely support these objectives?

1

- A. Manor
- B. Monastery
- C. Parliament
- D. Guild

21. Why did many peasants gradually migrate from villages to towns during the later medieval period? 1

- A. Towns offered greater economic opportunities and personal freedom.
- B. Kings ordered all peasants to leave the countryside.
- C. Agriculture completely disappeared.
- D. The Church prohibited farming.

SECTION B

(Short-Answer Type Questions)

6×3=18

22.A. Evaluate the contribution of archaeological sources in reconstructing the history of Mesopotamian civilisation. Give suitable examples. 3

OR

B. Explain the significance of writing in Mesopotamian civilisation.

23. Describe the geographical extent of the Roman Empire. How did its location contribute to its political and economic strength? 3

24. Examine the contribution of Mongol rule to the revival of the Silk Route. How did it influence economic and cultural interactions across Eurasia? 3

25. Analyse the social structure of the Roman Empire. How did the lives of different social groups vary within the empire? 3

26. A. Analyse the factors that contributed to the growth of agriculture and the expansion of towns in medieval Europe. 3

OR

B. Examine the role of the Church in medieval European society. Why was it considered one of the most powerful institutions of the period?

27. Describe the circumstances that enabled Temujin to emerge as Genghis Khan and unite the Mongol tribes. 3

SECTION C
Long Answer Questions

$3 \times 8 = 24$

28.A. Examine the role of temples in Mesopotamian society. How did they function religious, economic, administrative, and social institutions?

8

OR

28 B. 'Mesopotamia is regarded as the cradle of urban civilisation.' Evaluate this statement in the light of its achievements in agriculture, writing, administration, trade, and city planning.

29.A. Examine the role of the Roman army in the expansion, consolidation, and defence of the Roman Empire.

8

OR

29.B. Analyse the major factors responsible for the decline of the Roman Empire. In your opinion, which factors had the greatest impact? Give reasons to support your answer.

8

30.A Discuss the causes responsible for the growth of towns and trade in medieval Europe. How did these developments contribute to changes in the feudal economy?

8

OR

30.B. Analyse the changing position of peasants and women in medieval European society. To what extent did social and economic changes improve their lives?

SECTION D
(Source-Based Questions)

$4 \times 3 = 12$

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

On the Treatment of Slaves 'Soon afterwards the City Prefect, Lucius Pedanius Secundus, was murdered by one of his slaves. After the murder, ancient custom required that every slave residing under the same roof must be executed. But a crowd gathered, eager to save so many innocent lives; and rioting began. The senate-house was besieged. Inside, there was feeling against excessive severity, but the majority opposed any change (....) [The senators] favouring execution prevailed. However, great crowds ready with stones and torches prevented the order from being carried out. Nero rebuked the population by edict, and lined with troops the whole route along which those condemned were taken for execution.' – Tacitus (55-117), historian of the early empire.

31.1 According to the source, what was the ancient custom followed after the murder of Lucius Pedanius Secundus by his slave?

1

31.2 How did Emperor Nero ensure that the execution order was carried out? 1

31.3 What does this source reveal about Roman society's attitude towards slavery? Give any two points. 2

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

The Seal – An Urban Artefact

In India, early stone seals were stamped. In Mesopotamia until the end of the first millennium BCE, cylindrical stone seals, pierced down the centre, were fitted with a stick and rolled over wet clay so that a continuous picture was created. They were carved by very skilled craftsmen, and sometimes carry writing: the name of the owner, his god, his official position, etc. A seal could be rolled on clay covering the string knot of a cloth package or the mouth of a pot, keeping the contents safe. When rolled on a letter written on a clay tablet, it became a mark of authenticity. So the seal was the mark of a city dweller's role in public life.

32.1 How were Mesopotamian cylindrical seals used to create an impression on clay? 1

32.2 Who carved the cylindrical stone seals in Mesopotamia? 1

32.3 Why are seals considered important archaeological sources for understanding Mesopotamian civilisation? Give any two reasons. 2

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

The Capture of Bukhara

Juwaini, a late-thirteenth-century Persian chronicler of the Mongol rulers of Iran, carried an account of the capture of Bukhara in 1220. After the conquest of the city, Juwaini reported, Genghis Khan went to the festival ground where the rich residents of the city were and addressed them: 'O people know that you have committed great sins, and that the great ones among you have committed these sins. If you ask me what proof I have for these words, I say it is because I am the punishment of God. If you had not committed great sins, God would not have sent a punishment like me upon you'... Now one man had escaped from Bukhara after its capture and had come to Khurasan. He was questioned about the fate of the city and replied: 'They came, they [mined the walls], they burnt, they slew, they plundered and they departed.'

33.1 Who recorded the account of the capture of Bukhara by Genghis Khan? 1

33.2 According to Genghis Khan, why had God sent him to punish the people of Bukhara? 1

33.3 What does this source reveal about Genghis Khan's justification for his military campaigns? Give any two points. 2

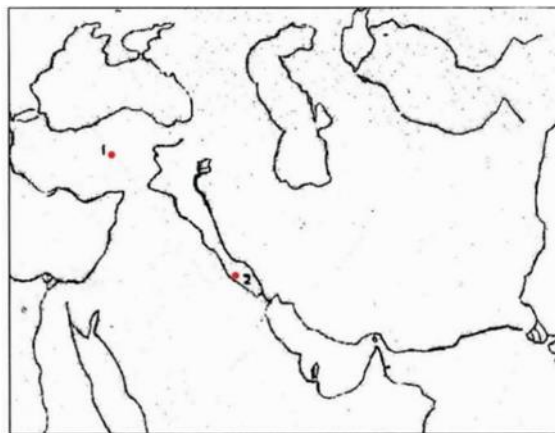
SECTION E (MAP BASED QUESTION)

1x5=5

34.1 On the given outline map of West Asia, locate and label the following with appropriate symbols :
3x1=3

- a. Syria
 - b. Lebanon
 - c. Tigris
- Or
- Euphrates

34.2 On the same outline map, two places have been marked as 1 and 2. Identify them and write their correct names.
2x1=2



Note: The following questions are for the Visually Impaired Candidates only in lieu of Q.No.34
5

34.1 Write the names of any three emperors of the Roman Empire. 3

34.2 Name any two cities of Mesopotamia. 2