

Directorate of Education, GNCT of Delhi
Annual Examination
Practice Paper
Session: 2025-26
Class XII History (Code: 027)

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 (LA) 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)

21 x 1 = 21

1. Identify the character of the Mahabharata from the following information:
 - Was a Nishad
 - Considered Dronacharya as his Guru
 - Gave his right thumb to Dronacharya as Guru Dakshina

(a) Ghatotkatch (b) Eklavya (c) Nakul (d) Sahdeva
2. Who among the following is believed to have spoken these words:
“Work out your own salvation with diligence.”

(a) Mahavira (b) Buddha (c) Sigala (d) Ananda
3. Which of the following statements is correct about Prabhavati Gupta?

(a) She was a Gupta Queen.
(b) She had no access to resources.
(c) She donated land to elites.
(d) She was the daughter of Chandragupta II.

4. Which of the following statements are true regarding Buddha?
- (i) Buddha was the son of a chief of the Sakya clan.
 - (ii) He had a sheltered upbringing within the Sangha.
 - (iii) He was informed of the harsh realities of life.
 - (iv) He was deeply anguished when he saw an old man and a sick man.

Choose the correct option:

- (a) (i) and (ii) (b) (ii) and (iii) (c) (i) and (iv) (d) (ii) and (iv)

5. Banawali, an ancient site of Harappan culture, is located in which of the following modern Indian state?
- (a) Punjab (b) Haryana (c) Himachal Pradesh (d) Uttarakhand
6. Who among the following was the first Director General of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)?
- (a) R.E.M. Wheeler (b) John Marshall (c) Daya Ram Sahni (d) Alexander Cunningham
7. Who among the following was able to decipher the Brahmi script?
- (a) Harisena (b) Megasthenes (c) James Prinsep (d) Kautilya
8. Fill in the blank:

The Mughal administrative system had an apex, a military-cum-bureaucratic apparatus

_____ which looked after civil and military affairs.

- (a) Iqta system (b) Mansabdari system (c) Amara-nayaka system
(d) Ijaredari system

9. Who among the following travellers never returned to Europe and settled in India?
- (a) Bernier (b) Manucci (c) Duarte Barbosa (d) Roberto Nobili

10. Rearrange the following in chronological order and select the correct option:

- (i) The Saluva military commanders were replaced by the Tuluvas.
- (ii) Rulers of Orissa were subdued by Krishnadeva Raya.
- (iii) The Battle of Talikota routed out the Vijayanagara Empire.
- (iv) Harihara and Bukka founded the Vijayanagara Empire.

Choose the correct option:

- (a) (iv), (i), (iii), (ii)
(b) (iv), (i), (ii), (iii)
(c) (iv), (iii), (ii), (i)
(d) (iv), (ii), (i), (iii)

11. In which of the following places is the Brihadishvara Temple situated?

- (a) Bijapur (b) Belur (c) Vijayanagara (d) Thanjavur

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

Assertion (A): Our major source to know the agrarian history of the 16th–17th centuries is the chronicle known as Ain-i-Akbari.

Reason (R): This text meticulously recorded the arrangements made by the state to ensure cultivation, collect revenue, and describe relations between the state and zamindars.

Options:

(a) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(b) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(c) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.

(d) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

13. Who among the following was the leader in Lucknow during the Revolt of 1857?

(a) Birjis Qadr (b) Aurangzeb (c) Bahadur Shah Jafar (d) Nana Sahab

14. Match the following events:

List I (Event)

List II (Correlation)

(i) Fifth Report

1. Zamindari system

(ii) Deccan Riot Commission

2. Ryotwari system

(iii) Damin-i-koh

3. Santhal settlement

(iv) American Civil War

4. Cotton boom

Choose the correct option:

(a) i–2, ii–1, iii–3, iv–4

(b) i–3, ii–2, iii–1, iv–4

(c) i–1, ii–4, iii–2, iv–3

(d) i–4, ii–3, iii–1, iv–2

15. Who among the following was considered as a political mentor by Gandhiji?

(a) Dadabhai Naoroji (b) Lala Lajpat Rai (c) Gopal Krishna Gokhale (d) Bal Gangadhar Tilak

16. Who among the following introduced the ‘Objective Resolution’ in the Constituent Assembly?

(A) W.C. Bannerjee (B) G.B. Pant (C) K.M. Munshi (D) Jawaharlal Nehru

17. Fill in the blank with the appropriate option:

On the advice of _____, Gandhiji spent a year travelling around British India, getting to know the land and its peoples.

(A) Bal Gangadhar Tilak (B) Bipin Chandra Pal (C) Lala Lajpat Rai (D) Gopal Krishna Gokhale

18. Why was the Charkha chosen as a national symbol by Gandhiji? Choose the most suitable option from the following:

- (A) Gandhiji saw the Charkha as a symbol of truth.
- (B) Gandhiji saw the Charkha as a symbol of the poor.
- (C) Gandhiji saw the Charkha as a symbol of human society.
- (D) Gandhiji saw the Charkha as a symbol of self-reliance.

19. Identify the leader of the Revolt of 1857 with the help of the following information:

- Was the ruler of Delhi
- Was the last Mughal ruler
- Gave legitimacy to the rebels of 1857 against the British

(a) Bahadur Shah Zafar (b) Shah Alam (c) Muhammad Shah (d) Wajid Ali Shah

20. Who among the following was the Chairman of the Drafting Committee of the Constituent Assembly?

Options:

(a) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar (b) Mahatma Gandhi (c) Sardar Patel (d) Dr. Rajendra Prasad

21. Identify the image correctly from the given options:



- (a) Reservoir at Dholavira
- (b) Reservoir at Lothal
- (c) Reservoir at Harappa
- (d) Reservoir at Balakot

SECTION B

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

3 X 6 = 18

22. Describe any three sources to know about Harappan Civilization.

OR

Describe any three features of the Harappan drainage system.

23. "Magadha was the most powerful Mahajanapada." Examine the statement.

24. Analyze the concept of the Asiatic Mode of Production as stated by Karl Marx.

25. Describe the features of water resources of the Vijayanagar Empire.

26. "The power of the Jotedars was more effective than that of the Zamindars." Justify the statement with suitable arguments.

27. "Art and literature helped in keeping alive the memory of 1857." Explain with examples from the Indian perspective.

OR

"Rumours and prophecies played an important role in the Revolt of 1857." Explain the statement with examples.

SECTION C

LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

3 × 8 = 24

28. The Mahabharata is an invaluable source available to historians to study social practices and norms in early societies. Justify the statement.

OR

Mahabharata is considered one of the richest texts of the Indian subcontinent in this context. What elements do historians consider when they analyse texts? Explain this with reference to the text of Mahabharata.

29. Examine the evidence that suggests land revenue was important for the Mughal fiscal system.

OR

Explain the condition of Zamindars in Mughal agrarian society.

30. "The Quit India Movement was genuinely a mass movement." Justify the statement.

OR

Examine the different kinds of sources from which the political career of Gandhiji and the history of the National Movement could be reconstructed.

SECTION D
(Source-Based Questions)

3X4=12

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

Why kinfolk quarrelled

This is an excerpt from the *Adi Parvan* (literally, the first section) of the Sanskrit *Mahabharata*, describing why conflicts arose amongst the Kauravas and Pandavas:

The Kauravas were the ... sons of Dhritarashtra, and the Pandavas ... were their cousins. Since Dhritarashtra was blind, his younger brother Pandu ascended the throne of Hastinapura (see Map 1) ... However, after the premature death of Pandu, Dhritarashtra became king, as the royal princes were still very young. As the princes grew up together, the citizens of Hastinapura began to express their preference for the Pandavas, for they were more capable and virtuous than the Kauravas. This made Duryodhana, the eldest of the Kauravas, jealous. He approached his father and said, "You yourself did not receive the throne, although it fell to you, because of your defect. If the Pandava receives the patrimony from Pandu, his son will surely inherit it in turn, and so will his son, and his. We ourselves with our sons shall be excluded from the royal succession and become of slight regard in the eyes of the world, lord of the earth!"

Passages such as these may not have been literally true, but they give us an idea about what those who wrote the text thought. Sometimes, as in this case, they contain conflicting ideas.

31.1 What made Duryodhana jealous of the Pandavas as they grew up together in Hastinapura?

1

31.2 According to Duryodhana, what would happen to him and his descendants if the Pandavas inherited the throne?

1

31.3 What does this excerpt tell us about how the authors of the *Mahabharata* viewed power, inheritance, and jealousy within royal families?

2

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

How tanks were built

About a tank constructed by Krishnadeva Raya, Paes wrote:

The king made a tank ... at the mouth of two hills so that all the water which comes from either one side or the other collects there; and, besides this, water comes to it from more than three leagues (approximately 15 kilometres) by pipes which run along the lower parts of the range outside. This water is brought from a lake which itself overflows into a little river. The tank has three large pillars handsomely carved with figures; these connect above with certain pipes by which they get water when they have to irrigate their gardens and rice-fields. In order to make this tank the said king broke down a hill ... In the tank I saw so many people at work that there must have been fifteen or twenty thousand men, looking like ants ...

32.1 Where did Krishnadeva Raya construct the tank, according to Paes?

1

32.2 From how far was water brought to the tank through pipes?

1

32.3 How many people were involved in the construction of the tank? How did they look like?

2

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

“The real minorities are the masses of this country”

Welcoming the Objectives Resolution introduced by Jawaharlal Nehru, N.G. Ranga said:

Sir, there is a lot of talk about minorities. Who are the real minorities? Not the Hindus in the so-called Pakistan provinces, not the Sikhs, not even the Muslims. No, the real minorities are the masses of this country. These people are so depressed and oppressed and suppressed till now that they are not able to take advantage of the ordinary civil rights. What is the position? You go to the tribal areas. According to law, their own traditional law, their tribal law, their lands cannot be alienated. Yet our merchants go there, and in the so-called free market they are able to snatch their lands. Thus, even though the law goes against this snatching away of their lands, still the merchants are able to turn the tribal people into veritable slaves by various kinds of bonds, and make them hereditary bond-slaves. Let us go to the ordinary villagers. There goes the money-lender with his money and he is able to get the villagers in his pocket. There is the landlord himself, the zamindar, and the *malguzar* and there are the various other people who are able to exploit these poor villagers. There is no elementary education even among these people. These are the real minorities that need protection and assurances of protection. In order to give them the necessary protection, we will need much more than this Resolution ...

CAD, VOL.II

- | | |
|--|---|
| 33.1 According to N.G. Ranga, who were the real minorities in India? | 1 |
| 33.2 According to Ranga, how were ordinary villagers exploited? | 1 |
| 33.3 What did Ranga suggest was needed to protect the real minorities? | 2 |

SECTION E
Map Based Question:

5X1=5

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

- a. Lothal- A Harappan Site
- b. Bodh Gaya- A Buddhist Site
- c. Lucknow- Centre of the Revolt of 1857

Or

Kolkata- Centre of the Revolt of 1857

34.2 On the same outline map, two places have been marked as A and B, which are the centres of Indian National movement. Identify them and write their correct names on the lines drawn near them. 2

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

34.1. (a) Name any two major Buddhist sites. 2

34.2. Name any one Territory under Ashokan empire. 1

34.3. Name any two Mahajanpadas of ancient India. 2

INDIA

OUTLINE MAP WITH STATES
& UNION TERRITORIES

