CBSE EXAMINATION PAPER-2025

HISTORY

(Solved)

Time allowed : 3 hours | Maximum Marks : 94

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions carefully and follow them :

i. This question paper contains **40 questions.** All questions are **compulsory.**

ii. This question paper is divided into **4 sections.**

iii. **Section A** – questions number **1 to 4** are case based questions

iv. **Section B** – questions number **5 to 26** are multiple choice questions

v. **Section C** – questions number **27 to 34** are short answer

vi. **Section D** – questions number **35 to 40** are long answer

vii. There is no overall choice given in the question paper. However, an internal choice has been provided in few questions.

viii. Use of calculator is NOT allowed.

Section A

Question 1.

The most ancient system yet discovered

About the drains, Mackay noted: "It is certainly the most complete ancient system as yet discovered." Every house was connected to the street drains. The main channels were made of bricks set in mortar and were covered with loose bricks that could be removed for cleaning. In some cases, limestone was used for the covers. House drains first emptied into a sump or cesspit into which solid matter settled while waste water flowed out into the street drains. Very long drainage channels were provided at intervals with sumps for cleaning. It is a wonder of archaeology that "little heaps of material, mostly

sand, have frequently been found lying alongside drainage channels, which shows... that the debris was not always carted away when the drain was cleared". From Ernest Mackay, Early Indus Civilisation, 1948. Drainage systems were not unique to the larger cities, but were found in smaller settlements as well. At Lothal for example, while houses were built of mud bricks, drains were made of burnt bricks.

(1) Assess the impact of Harappan drainage system.

[2 Marks]

(2) Analyse the possible reason behind the uniformity in the drainage systems across the Harappan cities.

[1 Marks]

(3) Analyse the implications of finding little heaps of material, mostly sand, alongside drainage channels.

[1 Marks]

Question 2.

A warning for Europe

Bernier warned that if European kings followed the Mughal model: Their kingdoms would be very far from being well-cultivated and peopled, so well built, so rich, so polite and flourishing as we see them. Our kings are otherwise rich and powerful; and we must avow that they are much better and more royally served. They would soon be kings of deserts and solitudes, of beggars and barbarians, such as those are whom I have been representing. (the Mughals) ... We should find the great Cities and the great Burroughs (boroughs) rendered uninhabitable because of ill air, and to fall to ruine (ruin) without anybodies (anybody) taking care of repairing them; the hillocks abandon'd, and the fields overspread with bushes, or fill'd with pestilential marishes (marshes), as hath been already intimated.

(1) Mention any one prominent contribution of Bernier.

[1 Marks]

(2) How did Bernier describe the difference between European kingdom and the Mughal territories?

[1 Marks]

(3) Explain Bernier's views on the socio-economic status of people under Mughal rule.

[2 Marks]

Question 3.

On clearance and settled cultivation

Passing through one village in the lower Rajmahal hills, Buchanan wrote: The view of the country is exceedingly fine, the cultivation, especially the narrow valleys of rice winding in all directions, the cleared lands with scattered trees, and the rocky hills are in perfection; all that is wanted is some appearance of progress in the area and a vastly extended and improved cultivation, of which the country is highly susceptible. Plantations of Asan and Palas, for Tessar (Tassar silk worms) and Lac, should occupy the place of woods to as great an extent as the demand will admit; the remainder might be all cleared, and the greater part cultivated, while what is not fit for the purpose, might rear Plamira (palmyra) and Mowa (mahua).

(1) Why did Buchanan believe that the area had high potential for improved cultivation?

[1 Marks]

(2) How did Buchanan describe the view of the lower Rajmahal hills?

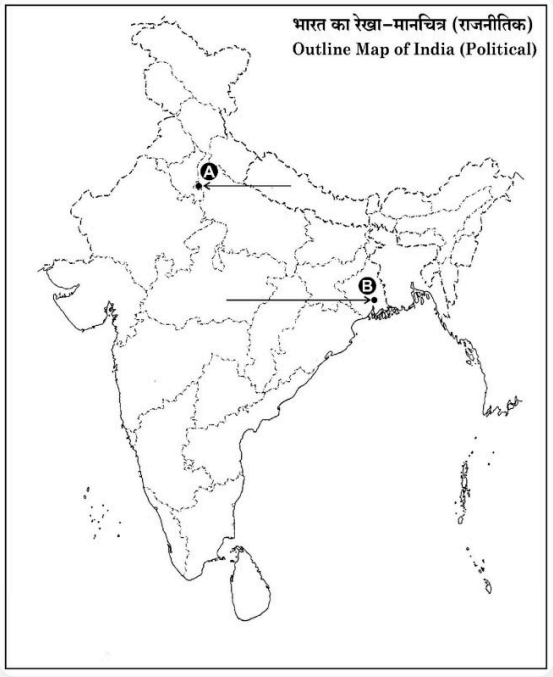
[1 Marks]

(3) How did Buchanan propose utilising the land for economic benefits?

[2 Marks]

Question 4.

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



(1)

Kalibanga - a mature Harappan site

[1 Marks]

(2)

Amravati - a Buddhist site

[1 Marks]

(3)

Amber - a territory under the Mughals

[1 Marks]

(4)

Bijapur – An important town of Medieval India

[2 Marks]

(5)

Mention any one Buddhist site in India

[1 Marks]

(6)

Mention any one mature Harappan site in India

[1 Marks]

(7)

On the same outline map, two places have been marked as A and B,as the centres of revolt of 1857. Identify them and write their nameson the lines drawn near them.

[2 Marks]

(8)

Name any one territory under the Mughals

[1 Marks]

(9)

Write any two important centres of revolt of 1857.

[1 Marks]

(10)

Name the capital of Vijayanagara empire

[1 Marks]

Section B

Question 5. Which of the following is correct regarding Harappan script?

[1 Marks]

(A) It was written from left to right.

(B) This script was alphabetical.

(C) This script has a few signs or symbols.

(D) This script has not been deciphered so far.

Question 6.

In which of the following sites of Harappan civilization, the terracotta models of plough have been discovered?

[1 Marks]

(A) Sanghol and Rakhigarhi

(B) Banawali and Cholistan

(C) Kalibangan and Dholavira

(D) Shortughai and Lothal

Question 7.

Two statements have been given below as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the appropriate answer :

Assertion (A): Buddhism grew rapidly both during the lifetime and after the death of Buddha.

Reason (R): Many people were dissatisfied with existing religious practices and confused by the rapid social changes taking place around them.

[1 Marks]

(A) (A) is true, (R) is untrue.

(B) (A) is untrue, (R) is true.

(C) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct reasoning of (A).

(D) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct reasoning of (A).

Question 8.

Consider the following statements regarding Jainism and choose the correct option:

I. The cycle of birth and rebirth is shaped through Karma.

II. There is a need to renounce the world.

III. Worldly existence is a necessary condition for attaining salvation.

IV. Principle of Ahimsa is important.

[1 Marks]

(A) II, III and IV

(B) I, II and IV

(C) I, II and III

(D) I, III and IV

Question 9. Prabhavati Gupta is best known for which of the following roles?

[1 Marks]

(A) Wife of Ashoka and Promoter of Buddhist Sangha

(B) Queen of Mauryan Empire and Promoter of Buddhism

(C) Wife of Samudragupta and Poet of the Gupta Era

(D) Daughter of Chandragupta-II and Wife of Vakataka King

Question 10.

Match Column-I with Column-II and choose the correct option from the following :

[1 Marks]

Column-I (Ancient Mahajanpadas)	Column-II (Present Region)
a. Magadh	I. Qandhar (Eastern Afghanistan)
b. Avanti	II. Ayodhya (Uttar Pradesh)
c. Gandhara	III. Patna (Bihar)
d. Koshala	IV. Ujjain (Madhya Pradesh)

(A) a III b II c I d IV

(B) a III b IV c I d II

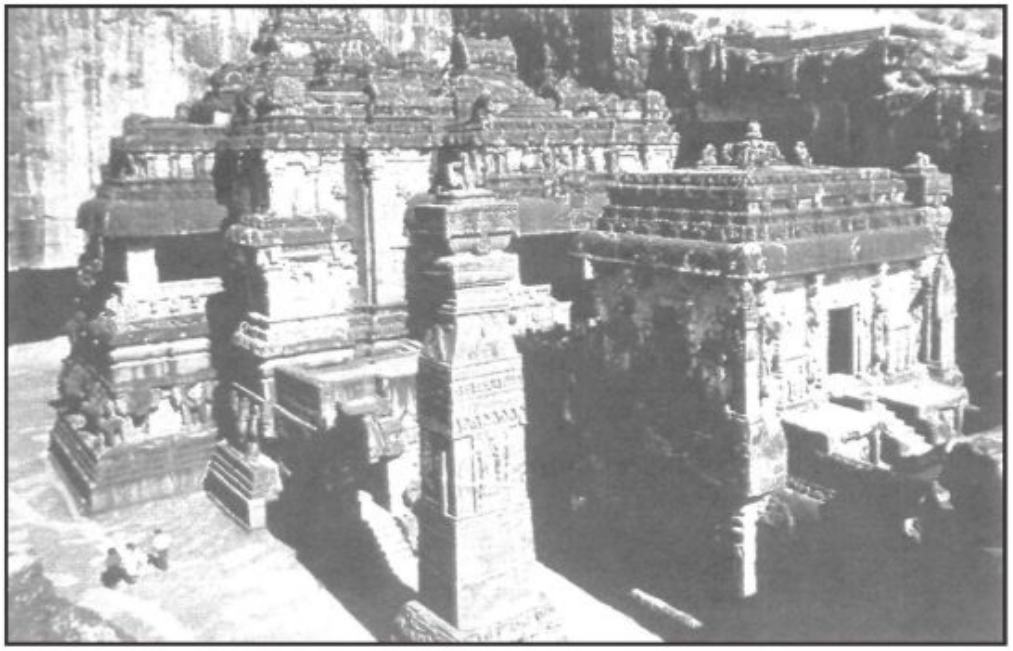
(C) a II b I c III d IV

(D) a IV bII c I dIII

Question 11.

The following picture shows the structure of a temple carved out of single piece of rock. Identify this temple correctly from the given options :

[1 Marks]



(A) Brihideshwara Temple

(B) Mahabalipuram Temple

(C) Kailashnatha Temple

(D) Deogarh Temple

Question 12.

In which of the following states Kailashnatha Temple is located ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Andhra Pradesh

(B) Maharashtra

(C) Tamil Nadu

(D) Uttar Pradesh

Question 13.

Al-Biruni's major work 'Kitab-ul-Hind' is significant for its comprehensive study of India. Which of the following was the primary aim of this work ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Promote Islamic teaching

(B) Critique culture and traditions

(C) Document Indian culture

(D) Map geographical locations

Question 14.

Throughout his extensive travels, Ibn Batuta was able to explore unfamiliar cultures and societies. Which of the following competencies did he most likely develop ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Scientific and Technical expertise

(B) Cultural Competencies and Skills

(C) Knowledge of Administration and Army

(D) Leadership and Judicial Management

Question 15.

Which of the following statements regarding Colonel Colin Mackenzie are correct ? Choose the correct option :

I. The ruins of Hampi were brought to light in 1800 by him.

II. He was an official of East India Company.

III. He prepared the first survey maps of the site.

IV. He received information of Vijayanagara empire from the Duarte Barbosa.

[1 Marks]

(A) I, II and III

(B) I, III and IV

(C) II, III and I

(D) I, III and IV

Question 16.

Match Column-I with Column-II and choose the correct option from the following :

[1 Marks]

Column-I (Foreign Travellers)	Column-II (Countries)
a. Afanasi Nikitin	I. Persia
b. Domingo Paes	II. Russia
c. Abdur-Razzak	III. Portugal
d. Nicolo de Conti	IV. Italy

(A) a II b III c I d IV

(B) a III b IV c I d II

(C) a I b II c IV d III

(D) a II b I c III d IV

Question 17.

Which of the following is a major source to understand agrarian history of 16th and 17th century India ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Relationship between peasants and zamindars

(B) Important chronicle – the Ain-e-Akbari

(C) Types of agricultural crops grown at that time

(D) Revenue records of Agra & Delhi

Question 18.

In a modern city, a group of friends discusses the relevance of Kabir's teachings in today's society. Some believe these are outdated, while others

see their significance in promoting equality and love. Which of the following scenario best reflects Kabir's relevance today ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Seeking simple connection with the divine

(B) A discussion dismissing spirituality irrelevant

(C) Focus on societal norms and traditions only

(D) A debate on Kabir's historical context

Question 19.

Which one of the following was the main cause of the Santhal Rebellion of 1855 ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Imposition of the Summary Settlement

(B) Imposition of Western education

(C) Cultural suppression by the British

(D) Heavy taxes and land annexation□□

Question 20.

Find the odd one out regarding the Permanent Settlement of 1793.

[1 Marks]

(A) The Burdwan's Auction

(B) The Sunset law

(C) The Deccan Riots Commission

(D) The Fifth Report

Question 21.

Match the Column-I with Column-II and choose the correct option :

[1 Marks]

Column-I (Leadership of the Revolt of 1857)	Column-II (Regions)
a. Shah Mal	I. Lucknow
b. Kunwar Singh	II. Kanpur
c. Birjis Qadr	III. Baraut
d. Nana Sahib	IV. Arrah

(A) a-II ,b-III ,c-IV, d-I

(B) a-III ,b-II ,c-I, d-IV

(C) a-III ,b-IV ,c-I, d-II

(D) a-IV ,b-II ,c-III, d-I

Question 22.

Which one of the following was a key feature of the ‘Subsidiary Alliance’ introduced by Lord Wellesley in 1798 ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Free Trade Policy brought by British

(B) Imposition of Western Customs by British

(C) Maintenance of native army by British

(D) Protection of native territory by British

Question 23.

Which one of the following pair is correctly matched ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Flag Committee – H.C. Mookerjee

(B) Rules of Procedure Committee – S. Varadachariar

(C) Union Power Committee – Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru

(D) States Committee – J.B. Kripalani

Question 24.

Identify the member of the Constituent Assembly with the help of the following information :

He was the President of the Constituent Assembly.

He was the first President of the Independent India.

[1 Marks]

(A) V.V. Giri

(B) Rajendra Prasad

(C) Zakir Hussain

(D) Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan

Question 25.

Which one of the following statement is most appropriate regarding the zamindars of 16th and 17th century India?

[1 Marks]

(A) The zamindars had small piece of lands for personal use

(B) They always maintained cordial relations with the villagers

(C) The zamindars were the exploitative class for the peasants

(D) The zamindars collected revenue on behalf of the state

Question 26.

Arrange the following historical events in a correct chronological order and choose the correct option

I. Making of the Constituent Assembly

II. Jallianwala Bagh Massacre

III. Quit India Movement

IV. Gandhi-Irwin Pact

[1 Marks]

(A) (C) III, II, I and IV

(B) (D) IV, III, I and II

(C) (B) II, IV, III and I

(D) (A) II, III, I and IV

Section C

Question 27. “Ashokan inscriptions are the most significant sources to understand the administration of Ashoka.” Explain the statement.

[3 Marks]

Question 28. “The history of Mauryan empire has been constructed on the variety of sources.” Explain the statement.

[3 Marks]

Question 29. “The mid-first millennium BCE is considered as a significant turning point in the course of World History.” Justify the statement.

[3 Marks]

Question 30. Analyse the causes that led to the ruin of Vijayanagara empire.

[3 Marks]

Question 31. Analyse why was Amaranayaka system considered as a major political innovation of the Vijayanagara empire.

[3 Marks]

Question 32. Examine the role of Panchayat in advocating for the rights of common people during the Mughal era.

[3 Marks]

Question 33. “The rebellion of 1857 was seen as a war in which both Hindus and Muslims had equally to lose or gain.” Analyse the statement.

[3 Marks]

Question 34. Describe the role of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar in the Constituent Assembly.

[3 Marks]

Section D

Question 35. “There were specific features of the familial relationship during the Mahabharata period.” Explain the statement with examples.

[8 Marks]

Question 36. “The political power or kingship was rarely dependent on birth as Kshatriyas but also open to anyone who could muster support and resources.” Explain the statement with the examples from sixth century BCE onwards.

[8 Marks]

Question 37. Explain the main beliefs and teachings of Guru Nanak Dev.

[8 Marks]

Question 38. Explain the major beliefs and teachings of Chishtis during medieval India.

[8 Marks]

Question 39. Analyse the impact of national movement in India from 1915 to 1931 on the Indian masses.

[8 Marks]

Question 40. Analyse the role of Gandhiji after independence of India.

[8 Marks]