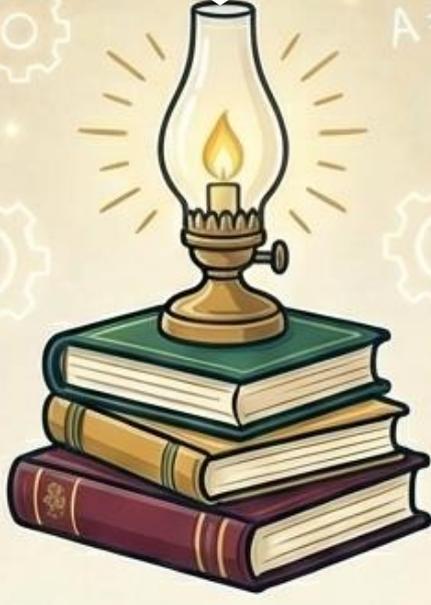




$$A = \frac{m}{(m^2 + c)^2}$$



NIOS PYQ's SOLUTIONS

$$fa = bc^2$$

$$\sqrt{h-x^2}$$

PREVIOUS YEARS' QUESTIONS & ANSWERS



APRIL-2024

Your Path to Success

SECTION - A

Q1. On the basis of archaeological findings, the Harappan Civilization has been dated between which of the following periods?

- (A) 2600 BC-1900 BC (B) 3600 BC-2700 BC
(C) 3700 BC-2800 BC (D) 4500 BC-4000 BC

Answer - (A) 2600 BC–1900 BC

Q2. What is the approximate number of signs found in the Harappan script?

- (A) 200 (B) 400 (C) 500 (D) 600

Answer - (B) 400

OR

What was the main occupation of the early Vedic Aryans?

- (A) Pastoralism (B) Agriculture
(C) Trading (D) Marketing

Answer - (A) Pastoralism

Q3. Who was the most famous Shaka ruler?

- (A) Vikramaditya (B) Rudradaman
(C) Rajaraja Chola (D) Krishnadeva Raya

Answer - (B) Rudradaman

Q4. Who is known as the father of Ayurveda?

- (A) Charaka (B) Kanishka
(C) Chanakya (D) Harishena

Answer - (A) Charaka



OR

Who was the ruler from Deccan who defeated the Mughal forces during the time of Jahangir?

- (A) Malik Kafur (B) Malik Ambar
(C) Bairam Khan (D) Krishnadeva Raya

Answer - (B) Malik Ambar

Q8. Who, out of the following, used to head Diwan-i-Arz during the Sultanate period?

- (A) Ariz-i-Mumalik (B) Mushrif-i-Mumalik
(C) Mustaufi-i-Mumalik (D) Diwan-i-Waqoof

Answer - (A) Ariz--Mumalik

OR

The headman of village under the Mughals was known as

- (A) Shiqdar (B) Muqaddam
(C) Faujdar (D) Amalguzar

Answer - (B) Muqaddam

Q9. In the 13th century, the Chishti order was established in the Deccan by whom?

- (A) Shaikh Burhanuddin Gharib (B) Shaikh Moinuddin Chishti
(C) Shihabuddin Suhrawardi (D) Baba Fariduddin

Answer - (A) Shaikh Burhanuddin Gharib

OR

Out of the following, who was the earliest and the most influential Nirguna Bhakti Saint in North India?

- (A) Kabir (B) Chaitanya
(C) Tulsidas (D) Tukaram

Answer - (A) Kabir



Q10. The credit for the creation of which musical instrument, out of the following, goes to Amir Khusrau?

- (A) Guitar (B) Sitar
(C) Harmonium (D) Flute

Answer - (B) Sitar

Q11. James Augustus Hicky published the first newspaper in India in 1780 by which of the following names?

- (A) The Times of India (B) Bengal Gazette
(C) The Hindu (D) Navbharat Times

Answer - (B) Bengal Gazette

Q12. The novel Anand Math was written by whom of the following?

- (A) Rabindranath Tagore (B) Mahatma Gandhi
(C) G. B. Pant (D) Bankim Chandra Chatterjee

Answer - (D) Bankim Chandra Chatterjee

OR

Where did the initial disturbance of the Revolt of 1857 start?

- (A) Delhi (B) Meerut
(C) Jhansi (D) Barrackpore

Answer - (B) Meerut

Q13. When was the Arya Samaj founded by Dayananda Saraswati?

- (A) 1575 (B) 1675
(C) 1775 (D) 1875

Answer - (D) 1875



Q14. How did the emergence of nationalism take place in Europe?

- (A) War between USA and Russia (B) Due to emergence of nations and nation-states
(C) Use of weapons (D) War between Germany and France

Answer - (B) Due to emergence of nations and nation-states

Q15. The custom of Sati was formally abolished in which year?

- (A) 1728 (B) 1828
(C) 1829 (D) 1830

Answer - (C) 1829

OR

Which movement was started by Annie Besant?

- (A) Ghadar (B) Satyagraha
(C) Home Rule (D) Kheda

Answer - (C) Home Rule

Q16. Who wrote the famous book, Poverty and Un-British Rule in India?

- (A) Dadabhai Naoroji (B) G. B. Pant
(C) Mahatma Gandhi (D) Bipin Chandra

Answer - (A) Dadabhai Naoroji

Q17. The phase of the Indian National Movement between 1885–1905 is known as

- (A) Extremist (B) Moderate
(C) Socialist (D) Capitalist

Answer - (B) Moderate

OR

When was the Partition of Bengal announced by Lord Curzon?

- (A) 1905 (B) 1907
(C) 1908 (D) 1909

Answer - (A) 1905



Q24. The forces of Babur and Rana Sanga met at _____, a place near _____ in 1527.

Answer - Khanwa, Agra

Q25. The founder of the second Afghan Empire, Sher Khan, was a great _____ and an able _____.

Answer - War and Administrator

Q26. Complete the following sentences (any two) :

(a) In June 1763, under Major Adams, the British Army defeated _____, the Nawab of Bengal.

Answer - Mir Qasim

(b) Most serious restriction on the growth of Indian language newspapers was Lord Lytton's _____ Act of 1878.

Answer - Vernacular Press

(c) The devastating Bengal famine of _____ bore testimony to the devastating effect of British policy over the rural society.

Answer - 1943

(d) By the Royal Proclamation of 1858, India's administration was taken over directly by the _____ abolishing the East India Company's rule.

Answer - British Crown

Q27. The Universities of Calcutta, _____ and _____ were established in 1857.

Answer - Bombay, Madras

Q28. _____ established the Ramakrishna Mission in _____.

Answer - Swami Vivekananda, 1 May, 1897

OR

Some women reformers like Pandita Ramabai in the western part, Sister _____ in Madras and _____ in Bengal played a prominent role in social life of the 19th century.

Answer - Sister Subbamma and Begum Rokeya.



Q29. ____ was the most important leader of the ____ Revolution in 1917.

Answer - Vladimir Lenin, Russian

OR

In 1905, Japan defeated Russia in war and took over ____, the Russian sphere of influence, in ____.

Answer - Manchuria and Korea.

Q30. The Cold War was a bipolar confrontation between the ____ and ____.

Answer - USA, USSR

Q31. Complete the following statements (any two) :

(a) The Russian Revolution was louded in all Asian countries and ____ people all over the world.

Answer - inspired

(b) The Turks rose in rebellion against the treaty under the leadership of ____ after the First World War 1.

Answer - Mustafa Kemal Atatürk

(c) The US President Truman formulated his policy to contain communism which is known as ____.

Answer - Truman Doctrine

(d) The famous Irish writer James Joyce introduced the technique of "stream of consciousness" in his work called ____.

Answer - Ulysses

OPTIONAL MODULE – 6A

(Evolution of States in India)

Q32. Complete the following statements (any two) :

(a) The southern trade route was called ____.

Answer - Dakshinapatha



(b) India under the Mughal emperors was governed under Muslim law ____.

Answer - Sharia

(c) Sir William Jones founded the ____ of Bengal in 1785.

Answer - Asiatic Society

Q33. The strength of the British Army was much ____ than that of Mughal India, but it had better training and ____.

Answer - less, weapons.

Q34. Answer any two questions :

(a) Which Buddhist monk traveled in India during Vikramaditya's reign?

Answer - Fa-Hien.

(b) Name the capital city of kingdom of Magadha.

Answer - Pataliputra

(c) Name Chandragupta's minister who wrote Arthashastra

Answer - Chanakya (Kautilya).

Q35. Answer any two questions:

(a) In the Allahabad Pillar Inscription, how is Samudragupta regarded while living on the Earth?

Answer - In the Allahabad Pillar Inscription, Samudragupta is regarded as a **god** while living on the Earth.

(b) What title did the Mughal rulers from Akbar to Aurangzeb hold?

Answer - These Mughal rulers mainly held the title of "Shahenshah" or "Alamgir".

(c) Which system of land revenue measurement was started by Sher Shah Suri and adopted and improved by Akbar?

Answer - The system of land revenue measurement was the 'Zabti' system, which was started by Sher Shah Suri and adopted and improved by Akbar.



OPTIONAL MODULE –

6B (Culture in India)

Q32. Complete the following statements

(a) People have expressed themselves and communicated cultural values through song, dance and ____.

Answer - art

(b) The arts of Ajanta and Ellora were patronized by the ____ and Vakataka rulers.

Answer - Satavahana

(c) Besides Punjabi, another language in the Indian subcontinent which is shared by the people of different countries is ____.

Answer - Bangla (Bengali).

Q33. The Buddhists adopted hundreds of popular folk stories. In the Buddhist tradition, they were known as ____ or previous-birth stories of the ____.

Answer - Jataka, Bodhisattva

Q34. Answer any two questions :

(a) The study of human beings is known as what?

Answer - Anthropology

(b) Which is the best known miniature painting on Jain religion and philosophy?

Answer - Kalpasutra

(c) Which newspaper began to be published by Raja Ram Mohan Roy in 1821?

Answer - Sambad Kaumudi

Q35. Answer any two questions :

(a) Name the woman saint of Lord Shiva of medieval Tamil Nadu whose literary compositions are famous.



Answer - Karaikkal Ammaiyar.

(b) Name any one place where early cave paintings are to be found.

Answer - Bhimbetka (Madhya Pradesh)

(c) In India, from where the earliest example of religious music come?

Answer – Samaveda

SECTION - B

Q36. What are the two dynasties that emerged in North India after the decline of the Guptas?

Answer - After the decline of the Gupta dynasty, several dynasties emerged in North India.

1. The Pushyabhuti dynasty (Thanesar), whose ruler Harshavardhana reorganised North India.
2. The Maukhari dynasty (Kannauj), which was earlier a feudatory of the Guptas and later became an independent and powerful dynasty.

Q37. Mention any two functions of Ulemas under the Delhi Sultanate.

Answer - Under the Delhi Sultanate, the Ulema performed two main functions:

1. **Religious guidance:** They interpreted Islamic laws (Sharia) and advised the Sultan on religious matters.
2. **Justice and education:** They worked as Qazis (judges) and managed the system of education in madrasas.

OR

Mention any two important texts written in Sanskrit during the Sultanate period.

Answer - During the Delhi Sultanate, two important Sanskrit works were:

1. **Rajatarangini** – Written by Kalhana on the history of Kashmir; it was later continued by Jonaraja and Shrivara.
2. **Hammira Mahakavya** – Written by Nayachandra Suri, describing the conflict between King Hammira Deva of Ranthambore and Alauddin Khalji.

Q38. Examine any two functions of Subedar in provincial administration under the Mughals.



Answer - In the Mughal provincial administration, the Subedar performed two main functions:

- 1. Maintenance of law and order:** The primary duty of the Subedar was to maintain peace in the province, suppress rebellions, and ensure the safety of the people.
- 2. Implementation of imperial orders:** He acted as the representative of the Emperor. His work included enforcing royal orders (farmans), leading the army, and coordinating administration with other officials.

OR

When and where was Shivaji's coronation celebrated? What title he took?

Answer - Shivaji Maharaj held his coronation on 6 June 1674 at Raigad Fort. On this occasion, he adopted the title of "Chhatrapati", becoming the supreme ruler of the Maratha Empire.

Q39. Explain any two grievances of Indian Sepoys against the British during 1857.

Answer - During 1857, Indian sepoy had two major grievances against the British:

- 1. Religious interference and new cartridges:** The cartridges of the new rifle were believed to be greased with cow and pig fat, which hurt the religious sentiments of Hindu and Muslim sepoy.
- 2. Racial discrimination and low pay:** Indian sepoy were paid less than British soldiers and were denied equal opportunities for promotion.

Q40. Who has been described as the author of 'Detente'? What does this term mean? Explain.

Answer - 'Détente' is a French word which means reduction of tension. During the Cold War, when tension between the United States and the Soviet Union decreased and cooperation increased, this policy was called détente. The main architects of détente were Richard Nixon and Henry Kissinger.

OR

What were the important political groups in late 19th century Russia? Explain.

Answer - At the end of the 19th century, many political groups were active in Russia against the Tsarist autocracy. The Narodniks supported the interests of peasants. The Russian Social Democratic Labour Party was a Marxist party, which later split into the Bolsheviks and the Mensheviks. The Liberals demanded a constitution and civil rights, while the Socialist Revolutionaries supported the redistribution of land.



OPTIONAL MODULE-6A
(Evolution of States in India)

Q41. Examine the military strength of the Mauryan Empire as per Megasthenes.

Answer - According to Megasthenes, the army of the Mauryan Empire was extremely powerful. It consisted of about 600,000 infantry soldiers, 30,000 cavalry, 9,000 elephants, and 8,000 chariots. The army was administered by a 30-member council, which worked through six sub-committees responsible for the infantry, cavalry, chariots, elephants, navy, and logistics.

OPTIONAL MODULE-6B
(Culture in India)

Q41. Examine the uniqueness of Kalamkari textiles.

Answer - Kalamkari textiles are famous for their unique artistic style. They are made using natural dyes, and the designs are hand-drawn with a bamboo pen. Mythological stories and natural motifs are depicted on cotton fabrics, which makes Kalamkari eco-friendly, chemical-free, and highly artistic.

Q42. Explain the characteristic features of the Gandhara School of Arts.

Answer - Gandhara art developed during the Kushan period and represents a blend of Indian themes and Greco-Roman techniques. In this style, the Buddha is shown in human form, with a strong emphasis on realism. The Greek toga and its clear folds are visible in the dress. Physical features such as curly hair, a long nose, a broad forehead, and moustaches are prominent. Sculptures were mainly made of grey schist stone, and plaster was used in later phases.

Q43. What measures did Balban take to emphasize that the Sultan had absolute powers? Describe.

Answer - Ghiyasuddin Balban adopted the theory of kingship to strengthen the power and prestige of the Sultan in the Delhi Sultanate. He declared himself the representative of God on earth. He suppressed the Chahalgani (group of Turkish nobles), made Sijda (prostration) and Paibos (kissing the feet) compulsory in the court, imposed severe punishments on rebels, and established a spy department (Barid) to keep a close watch on the nobles.

Q44. Describe any three important points of treaty signed between the Mughals and Bijapur in 1636.

Answer - The Treaty of Shah Jahan-Bijapur (1636) and its main points:



- 1. Acceptance of Mughal sovereignty:** The Sultan of Bijapur accepted the supremacy of the Mughal emperor. He was now given the title of Khan, and the Mughal emperor's name was read in the Friday khutba.
- 2. Territorial division:** The Nizam Shahi kingdom of Ahmednagar was abolished and its territories were divided between the Mughals and Bijapur. Bijapur was allowed to expand towards the south.
- 3. Peace and security:** Bijapur agreed to pay an indemnity of 20 lakh rupees. It also promised not to interfere with Golconda and not to trouble the Maratha leader Shahji Bhonsle.

OR

Describe the three important officials at the level of Pargana under the Delhi Sultanate.

Answer - The three main officials at the Pargana (group of villages) level during the Delhi Sultanate were as follows:

- 1. Amil:** He was the most important official of the pargana. His main duty was to ensure the collection of land revenue from peasants and to maintain records of agricultural land.
- 2. Mushrif:** He worked as the chief accountant. He prepared detailed accounts of income received from land revenue and other taxes to prevent corruption.
- 3. Khazandar:** He was the treasurer. All cash and grain collected from the pargana were kept safely under his control.

Q45. Discuss any three methods the British used to expand their Empire in India.

Answer - The three main methods adopted for the expansion of the British Empire were as follows:

- 1. Subsidiary Alliance:** Under this policy introduced by Lord Wellesley, Indian rulers were forced to maintain British troops in their states. As a result, they lost their military independence and became dependent on the British.
- 2. Doctrine of Lapse:** Through this policy introduced by Dalhousie, the British took over those states which had no natural heir, such as Jhansi and Satara.
- 3. Direct Wars:** The British defeated those rulers who did not accept their authority by using military force through wars such as Plassey, Buxar, and the Mysore Wars.

OR



Discuss any three reasons for the Battle of Buxar in 1764.

Answer - The three main causes of the Battle of Buxar (1764) were as follows:

1. **Misuse of Dastaks:** Company officials misused free trade passes, which caused heavy losses to the state treasury and local Indian traders.
2. **Shift of Capital:** Mir Qasim shifted his capital from Murshidabad to Munger to escape British influence. He also began to reorganize his army on modern lines.
3. **Abolition of Internal Trade Taxes:** Mir Qasim abolished internal trade taxes for Indian traders as well. This ended the special trade privileges of the British and became the immediate cause of the war.

Q46. Explain any three important points of the Treaty of Versailles.

Answer - The three main terms of the Treaty of Versailles were as follows:

1. **Territorial losses:** Germany was forced to give up a large part of its territory and all its colonies. Alsace and Lorraine were returned to France.
2. **Military restrictions:** Germany's army was limited to only 100,000 soldiers. It was not allowed to maintain a navy or an air force.
3. **War compensation:** Germany was held responsible for the war and was ordered to pay a heavy fine of 6.6 billion pounds. This clause was known as the "War Guilt Clause."

OR

What was Operation Sea Lion? Explain.

Answer - Operation Sea Lion was a secret plan of Germany to attack Britain during World War II. After winning France in 1940, Adolf Hitler wanted to send his army into Britain by crossing the English Channel. For this, complete control over the British air force (Royal Air Force) was necessary. However, the German air force, the Luftwaffe, failed to defeat the RAF. As a result, Hitler had to postpone this plan indefinitely.

Q47. What efforts were made by Mikhail Gorbachev to transform and revitalize the Soviet Union? Discuss.

Answer - Mikhail Gorbachev adopted three main policies to reform the Soviet Union.

1. **Perestroika:** Gorbachev reduced centralised control over industries and gave them more independence. Limited private business was allowed. This policy aimed at economic reform and political restructuring.



- 2. Glasnost:** This policy increased freedom of the press and expression. People were allowed to criticise government policies, which increased transparency and awareness against corruption.
- 3. Democratisation and Foreign Policy:** Gorbachev introduced multi-party elections, withdrew Soviet troops from Afghanistan, and signed nuclear arms control agreements with the United States. Through these steps, he tried to end the Cold War.

Q48. Explain the causes of failure of the Revolt of 1857.

Answer - Five reasons for the failure of the Revolt of 1857:

- 1. Lack of unity and coordination:** The rebels had no common leadership or plan; many leaders were fighting only for their own regions.
- 2. Weak leadership:** Bahadur Shah Zafar and other regional leaders failed to unite and organise the entire movement effectively.
- 3. British military superiority:** The British had modern weapons, a trained army, sufficient funds, and communication facilities like railways and telegraph, which helped them suppress the revolt.
- 4. Limited impact:** The revolt was mainly confined to North India; South India, Bengal, and the Bombay Presidency were not affected.
- 5. Support of different Indian groups:** The educated middle class, big landlords, and merchants either supported the British or did not join the revolt.

OR

Discuss the role of Sidhu and Kanhu brothers in Santhal tribal Uprising.

Answer - The Santhal Rebellion (1855–56) was a powerful mass movement against British colonial rule and the exploitation by zamindars. Sidhu Murmu and Kanhu Murmu played a decisive role in it:

- 1. Leadership and organisation:** Sidhu and Kanhu organised thousands of Santhals. On 30 June 1855, at Bhognadih, they raised the slogan "Our land, our rule."
- 2. Armed resistance:** Under their leadership, the Santhals attacked British officials, police, and zamindars using bows, arrows, and traditional weapons. They disrupted rail and postal services.
- 3. Parallel government:** During the rebellion, they set up a parallel administration and stopped paying taxes to the British.



4. **Sacrifice:** The revolt was crushed under pressure from the British army. Sidhu and Kanhu were captured and hanged. Their martyrdom (sacrifice) became an inspiration for future movements.

Q49. What were the causes for the Battle of Plassey in 1757? Explain.

Answer - Main causes of the Battle of Plassey (1757):

1. **Misuse of trade privileges:** The Mughal emperor had granted the Company dastaks (duty-free trade passes), but Company officials used them for personal gain, causing loss to the Nawab's revenue.
2. **Issue of fortification:** The British began fortifying Calcutta (Fort William) without the Nawab's permission. Despite his protest, they did not stop, which he considered an attack on his sovereignty.
3. **Providing shelter to refugees:** The British gave shelter to the rebel officer Krishnadas. Even after the Nawab's demand, they refused to hand him over.
4. **Black Hole incident:** The Nawab captured Calcutta. Reports of the death of British prisoners due to suffocation in a small cell inflamed the situation and pushed matters towards war.
5. **Conspiracy against the Nawab:** The British made a secret agreement with Mir Jafar and Seth Ami Chand to remove the Nawab from power.

OR

Explain the essential features of Wood's dispatch.

Answer - Main features of Wood's Despatch (1854):

1. **Objective of establishment:** Wood's Despatch was sent by Sir Charles Wood to the British government to improve higher education and administrative training in India.
2. **Support to Indian languages:** The Despatch emphasised the promotion and development of Indian languages, but recommended English as the main medium for higher education.
3. **Establishment of universities:** It recommended the establishment of Indian universities to raise the standard of higher education.
4. **Recruitment of officials:** It emphasised the need to train Indian youth and include them in the administration.



5. **Educational reforms:** It stated that the aim of education was not only administrative efficiency but also social awareness and moral development.

OPTIONAL MODULE-6A
(Evolution of States in India)

Q50. What were the important conditions of Subsidiary Alliance between the British and the native Princely States?

Answer - The main terms of the Subsidiary Alliance were as follows:

1. **Deployment of British troops:** The king had to keep British troops in his state. The cost of this army had to be paid either in cash or by surrendering part of the territory.
2. **Control over foreign policy:** The princely state could not enter into any treaty or war with another foreign power. Any diplomatic negotiation required British permission.
3. **British Resident:** A Resident was posted at the king's court, who promised not to interfere in internal matters, but in practice exercised control over the administration.
4. **Restriction on European appointments:** The ruler could employ only the British; other Europeans, especially the French, were not allowed.
5. **Assurance of protection:** The East India Company promised to protect the state from external attacks and internal rebellions.

OR

What changes the British brought in Indian social institutions to westernize India between 1820–1850?

Answer - Measures adopted for westernization of Indian society (1820–1850):

1. **Abolition of Sati:** In 1829, Lord William Bentinck, with the support of Raja Ram Mohan Roy, completely banned the practice of Sati. It is considered the most important step towards social reform.
2. **Medium of Education:** Through the Macaulay's Minute of 1835, Western education and the English language were made the official medium. Its aim was to create a class of "brown Englishmen" who would assist the British administration.



- 3. Legal Reforms:** Under the leadership of Thomas Macaulay, the Law Commission codified Indian laws, introducing the Western idea of the "rule of law" and legal equality.
- 4. Female foeticide and Child Marriage:** To prevent these evil practices, several regulatory measures were taken, and a background was prepared for **widow remarriage**, for which a law was enacted in **1856**.
- 5. Religious Changes:** After the Charter Act of 1813, Christian missionaries were allowed to preach in India, which increased the influence of Western religion and lifestyle.

Q50. How does the Indian textile reflect culture?

Answer - Role of Clothing in Indian Culture:

- 1. Mirror of Regional Diversity:** Clothing in different parts of India reflects regional climate. For example, warm woollen shawls are used in Kashmir due to cold weather, while light cotton clothes are suitable for the hot climate of South India.
- 2. Art and Handicrafts:** Indian textiles preserve traditional art forms through weaving and embroidery such as Chikankari, Patola, and Kalamkari, which keep ancient skills and cultural traditions alive.
- 3. Religious and Social Symbols:** The colour and type of clothing are closely linked with religious and social occasions. Red colour is commonly worn in weddings, and different styles of turbans indicate social identity.
- 4. Connection with Nature:** The use of cotton, silk, and natural dyes in traditional clothes shows the simplicity of Indian culture and its close relationship with nature.
- 5. Cultural Continuity:** From the use of cotton in the ancient Harappan civilisation to the present day, Indian clothing has maintained its originality. The sari and dhoti are the best examples of this cultural continuity.

OR

How does the Indian food habit reflect culture?

Answer - Indian Food and Culture:

- 1. Regional Diversity and Geography:** In coastal regions, fish and rice are staple foods, while in Punjab and Haryana, milk, curd, and wheat are commonly consumed. These food habits reflect the local climate and agricultural culture.



2. **Ayurveda and Health Science:** Spices such as turmeric, ginger, and asafoetida add not only flavour but also medicinal value, reflecting the principle that food itself is medicine.
3. **Religious and Spiritual Influence:** In Jainism, Hinduism, and other religions, sattvic food, fasting, and diets based on non-violence reflect the purification of the mind and soul.
4. **Hospitality and Social Life:** Sharing food is a symbol of love and respect. Practices like langar and community meals represent social harmony and equality.
5. **Traditional Styles of Serving Food:** Serving food on banana leaves in South India and in a thali in North India symbolises respect for nature and the idea of completeness in life.

Q51. Mark the following places (locations) on the Indian map :

(i) Taxila

(ii) Mathura

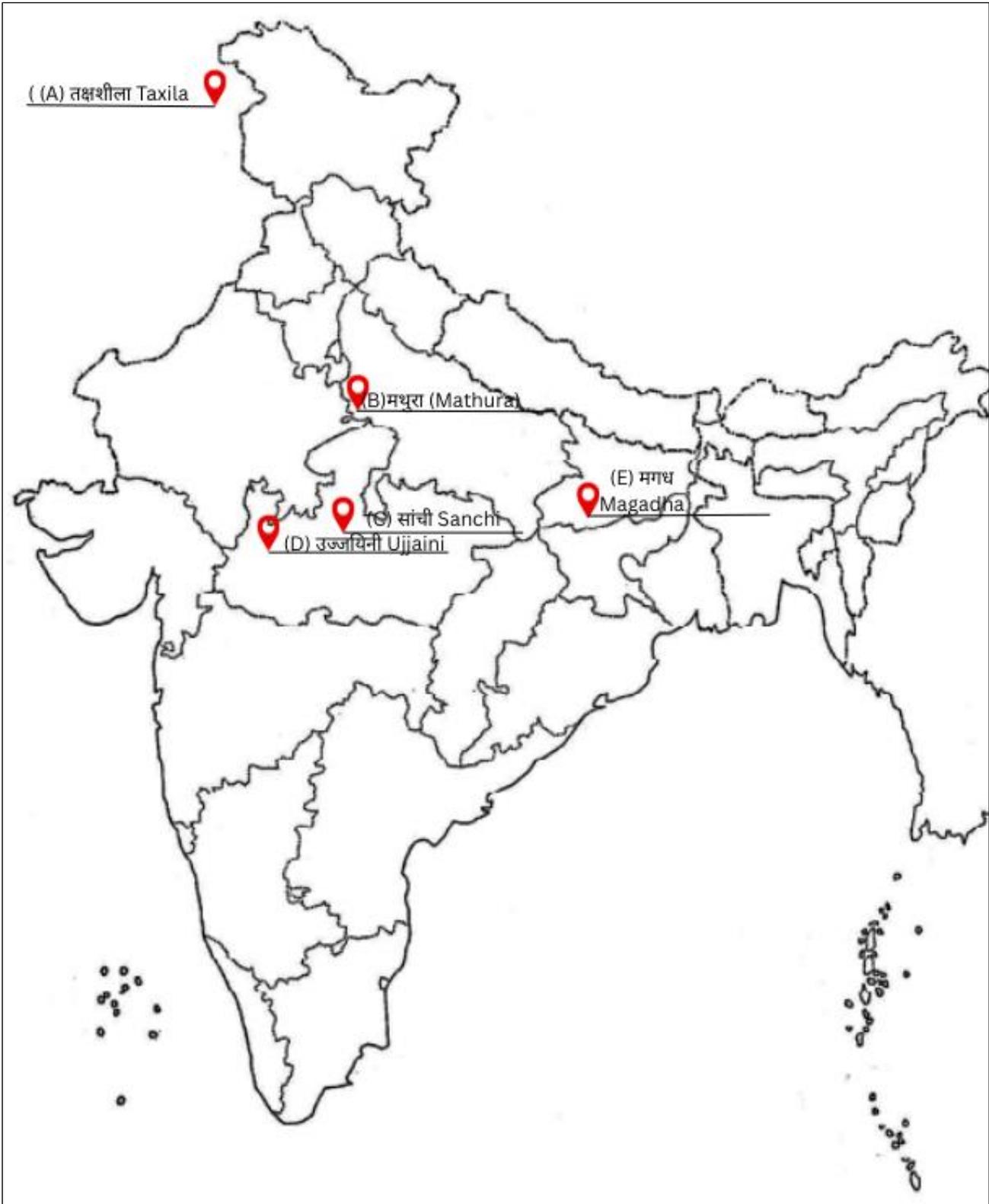
(iii) Sanchi

(iv) Ujjaini

(v) Magadha

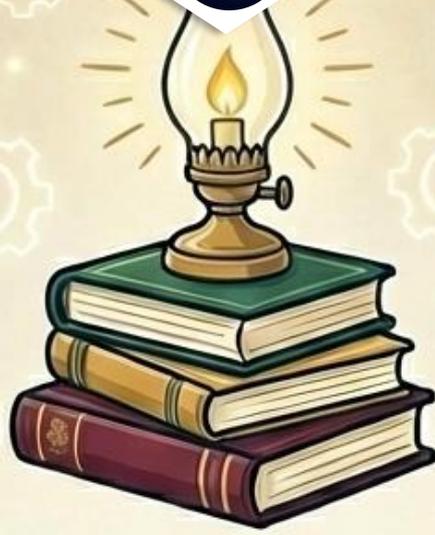
Answer -







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NIOS PYQ's SOLUTIONS

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PREVIOUS YEARS' QUESTIONS & ANSWERS



OCTOBER-2024

Your Path to Success

Section - A

Q1. Who among of the following deities was known as the weather god in the Rigvedic period?

- (A) Agni (B) Varuna
(C) Indra (D) Yama

Answer - (C) Indra

Q2. Which metal was mainly acquired by the Harappans from the Khetri mines in Rajasthan?

- (A) Gold (B) Silver
(C) Copper (D) Lead

Answer - (C) Copper

Q3. Who among the following succeeded Chandragupta I ?

- (A) Shrigupta (B) Chandragupta II
(C) Samudragupta (D) Kumaragupta

Answer - (C) Samudragupta

Q4. Which of the following titles did Bairam Khan hold as the wakil of the Mughal kingdom?

- (A) Nawab (B) Amir-ul-Umara
(C) Khan-i-Khanan (D) Vizier

Answer - (C) Khan-i-Khanan

Q5. What was the primary ideological conflict during the Cold War ?

- (A) Democracy vs. Monarchy (B) Capitalism vs. Communism
(C) Fascism vs. Socialism (D) Nationalism vs. Imperialism

Answer - (B) Capitalism vs. Communism

Q6. In which of the following region was, where the Gandhara School of Art developed?

- (A) Southern India (B) Northwestern part of the Indian Subcontinent
(C) Eastern India (D) Central India

Answer - (B) Northwestern part of the Indian Subcontinent



Q7. What was the primary conflict between the USA and the USSR after World War II ?

- (A) Territorial disputes (B) Ideological differences
(C) Economic trade (D) Cultural exchange

Answer - (B) Ideological differences

Q8. Which one of the following company is known to have ruled India from 1600 to 1858 ?

- (A) The Dutch East India Company (B) The French East India Company
(C) The British East India Company (D) The Portuguese East India Company

Answer - (C) The British East India Company

Q9. Who among the following was the founder of the Mughal Empire in India ?

- (A) Babur (B) Akbar
(C) Humayun (D) Shah Jahan

Answer - (A) Babur

Q10. Homi J. Bhabha is known for his work in which scientific field ?

- (A) Molecular biology (B) Nuclear science
(C) Genetic research (D) Space exploration

Answer - (B) Nuclear science

Q11. Who was the Mughal emperor that devised the Mansabdari system ?

- (A) Akbar (B) Babur
(C) Jahangir (D) Aurangzeb

Answer - (A) Akbar

Q12. Who among the following introduced the Subsidiary Alliance System in India ?

- (A) Lord Dalhousie (B) Lord Wellesley
(C) Lord Clive (D) Lord Curzon

Answer - (B) Lord Wellesley



Q13. Who amongst the following has produced finest literature in India around the early 20th century ?

- (A) Bhim sen Joshi
(B) Rabindranath Tagore
(C) Mulk Raj Anand
(D) Vikram Seth

Answer - (B) Rabindranath Tagore

Q14. Which of the following is the impact of globalization on communication ?

- (A) It has slowed down communication.
(B) It has made communication more expensive.
(C) It has facilitated cheap and instant communication.
(D) It has isolated communication channels.

Answer - (C) It has facilitated cheap and instant communication.

Q15. In which novel did Bankim Chandra Chatterjee immortalize the Sanyasi Rebellion?

- (A) Anand Math
(B) Chitrlekha
(C) Devdas
(D) Gora

Answer - (A) Anand Math

Q16. Who amongst the following social reformer was known for attacking the practice of Sati in the 19th century ?

- (A) Jotiba Phule
(B) Ishwarachandra Vidyasagar
(C) Raja Ram Mohan Roy
(D) Dadabhai Naoroji

Answer - (C) Raja Ram Mohan Roy

Q17. Who amongst the following leaders took the message of adoption of Swadeshi goods and the boycott of foreign goods to Bombay and Pune during the early 20th century in India ?

- (A) Bipin Chandra Pal
(B) Lokmanya Tilak
(C) Lala Lajpat Rai
(D) Syed Haider Raza

Answer - (B) Lokmanya Tilak



Q18. Which of the following countries were part of the Triple Entente ?

(A) Germany, Austria-Hungary, Italy

(B) Britain, France, Russia

(C) Japan, Italy, Germany

(D) USA, Britain, Italy

Answer - (C) Japan, Italy, Germany

Q19. Which one of the following countries did not join the League of Nations despite its leading role in its formation ?

(A) United Kingdom

(B) France

(C) Italy

(D) United States

Answer - (D) United States

Q20. Which international organization was founded to promote global peace and security after World War II ?

(A) United Nations

(B) League of Nations

(C) Munich Pact

(D) Warsaw Pact

Answer - (A) United Nations

Q21. Fill in the blank :

The Harappan script has not been _____ yet. It is believed that they used _____ i.e., a graphic symbol or character to convey the idea directly.

Answer - read

Q22. Fill in the blanks :

(i) Brahma Covenant was written by _____.

Answer - Raja Ram Mohan Roy

(ii) Atmiya Sabha was founded in _____.

Answer - 1815

Q23. Fill in the blanks :

The Chinese pilgrim _____ came to India during the reign of Chandragupta II and the pilgrim Hsuan Tsang came during the reign of _____.



Answer - Fa-Hien, Harshavardhana

Q24. Fill in the blanks :

In the Delhi Sultanate _____, The Khiljis ruled from AD 1290 to AD 1320, and they were succeeded by the _____ who ruled from AD 1320 to AD 1412.

Answer - Khilji, Tughlaq

Q25. Fill in the blanks :

(i) _____ the lady ruler fought with Mughals.

Answer - Chand Bibi

(ii) Akbar initiated a policy of _____ the chieftains into Mughal nobility.

Answer - Sulh-i-Kul

Q26. Fill in the blanks :

(i) In 1905, Curzon announced the partition of _____ in (India).

Answer - Bengal

(ii) This led to the rise of the _____ Movement in India.

Answer - Swadeshi Movement

Q27. Complete the following sentences.

(i) Bal Gangadhar Tilak introduced the _____ festivals in Maharashtra to create a religious platform from where nationalist ideas could be preached and spread.

Answer - Ganpati and Shivaji festivals

(ii) The Indian National Congress formally took up the _____ movement in its Benaras Session of 1905 presided over by G.K. Gokhale.

Answer - Swadeshi Movement and Boycott

Q28. Complete the following sentences.

(i) India was largely an _____ economy during the rise of European nationalism.

Answer - Agrarian



(ii) Nationalism in India developed primarily as a response to _____ rule.

Answer - British

Q29. Complete the following sentence.

There was a rise of totalitarian regimes in several countries : _____ in Italy, _____ in Germany, and Military Fascism in Japan.

Answer - Fascism, and Nazism

Q30. Complete the following sentence.

Mainly Sikhs began the _____ Movement in 1913 in the city of San Francisco, in _____.

Answer - America, and Ghadar Movement

Q31. Complete the following statement.

In the 7th Century AD, a new religion named _____ was born in Arabia. It was founded and preached by Prophet _____ (AD 570–632).

Answer - Islam, and Prophet Muhammad

OPTIONAL MODULE – 6A

Q32. Complete the following sentences.

The _____ written by Kautilya and the Edicts of Ashoka are primary sources of written records of the _____ times.

Answer - Arthashastra, and Mauryan period

Q33. Complete the following sentences.

_____ was Jahangir's grandson, ruled from 1658 to 1707 and is known for his military campaigns that expanded the empire to its greatest extent. However, his reign is also marked by religious intolerance and heavy taxation, which contributed to the eventual decline of the _____ Empire.

Answer - Aurangzeb, and decline



Q34. Complete the following sentences.

(i) One of the most significant things the British did to Westernize India was to introduce a modified version of _____ education.

Answer - English

(ii) Macaulay's 1835 Minute on _____ had a decisive impact on British educational policy and is a classic example of a Western rationalist approach to Indian civilization (19th century).

Answer - Education

Q35. Complete the following sentences.

(i) The Delhi Sultanate was established during the victories by _____ Ghauri.

Answer - Muhammad Ghori

(ii) The dynasty of Ilbari Turks were collectively known as the _____ Sultanate.

Answer - Slave Dynasty

OPTIONAL MODULE – 6B**Q32. Answer in one word :**

(i) What is a way of life that varies from region to region ?

Answer - Culture

(ii) What does growing up in social and economic situation influence ?

Answer - Personality and Perspective.

Q33. Answer in one word :

(i) From where the earliest paintings created by hunting and gathering tribes are found?

Answer - Bhimbetka

(ii) Themes in Ajanta paintings are drawn from which source ?

Answer - Buddhism



Q34. Answer in one word :

(i) Who wrote the Ramcharitamanas ?

Answer - Tulsidas

(ii) Who wrote the Ramayana in Tamil ?

Answer - Kamban

Q35. Answer in one word :

(i) In which language was the first newspaper in India published in 1760 ?

Answer - English

(ii) Who was a key reformer of Bengal that used the press for social reform ?

Answer - Raja Ram Mohan Roy

SECTION - B

Q36. How did the primary economic activities of the Early Vedic Aryans differ from those of the Later Vedic period ?

Answer - In the Early Vedic period, the Aryan economy was mainly based on pastoralism, and agriculture was a secondary activity. Cattle, especially cows, were the main measure of wealth. In contrast, during the Later Vedic period, due to the use of iron tools and the expansion into the Ganga valley, agriculture became the dominant economic activity and land gained importance.

Q37. Examine any two Market Regulations of Alauddin Khalji.

Answer - The evaluation of Alauddin Khalji's market regulations is as follows:

- 1. Price Control** - Alauddin Khalji fixed the prices of food grains and essential commodities so that soldiers could buy necessities at low prices despite receiving low salaries.
- 2. Administrative Supervision** - Officials called Shahna-i-Mandi were appointed to supervise markets, ensure correct weights and measures, and impose strict punishments on violators.

OR



Examine the challenges faced by Raziya Sultan during her reign.

Answer - Razia Sultana faced strong opposition from Turkish nobles (Chahalgani), resentment from orthodox ulema, dissatisfaction due to her promotion of non-Turkish officials, succession disputes, and revolts by provincial governors. These challenges made her rule unstable.

Q38. Describe British Judicial Organization in India before 1858.

Answer - Before 1858, the East India Company established a hierarchical judicial system in India:

- 1. Types of Courts** - Warren Hastings set up Diwani courts for civil cases and Faujdari courts for criminal cases in each district.
- 2. Cornwallis Code** - Lord Cornwallis separated judicial administration from revenue administration and laid the foundation of the rule of law.

OR

Describe the key factors leading to the British conquest of South India in the 18th century.

Answer - Main factors behind British success in South India in the 18th century:

- 1. Internal Discord Among Indian Rulers:** The major powers of South India the Nizam, Mysore, and the Marathas were not united. This allowed the British to use diplomacy to divide them and expand their own power.
- 2. Powerful Navy:** The British possessed the world's most powerful navy, which made it easy for them to bring in supplies and troops via sea routes, whereas Indian rulers and the French were weak in this regard.

Q39. Mention any two aspects associated with the rise of economic nationalism in the 19th century ?

Answer - Two major aspects of the rise of economic nationalism in India in the 19th century:

- 1. Drain of Wealth Theory:** Leaders like Dadabhai Naoroji and R.C. Dutt highlighted how the British were carrying India's wealth and resources to Britain, which was making India poor.
- 2. Support for Swadeshi and Domestic Industries:** Nationalists advocated for the boycott of British-made goods and the promotion of Indian (Swadeshi) industries so that the country could become economically self-reliant.



Q40. Analyze how the Russian Revolution influenced other countries. (Any two points)

Answer - The Russian Revolution (1917) had a profound impact on the world:

1. **Spread of Communism and Socialism:** It inspired workers and peasants across the globe to fight for their rights and led to the formation of Communist parties worldwide.
2. **Support for Anti-colonial Movements:** It provided ideological strength to the ongoing freedom struggles in Asian and African countries (such as India) and served as an inspiration to fight against imperialism.

OR

Analyze the main outcomes of World War I. (Any two points)

Answer - Two main consequences of World War I (1914-1918):

1. **Decline of Empires:** With the end of this war, four major empires Germany, Austria-Hungary, Ottoman, and Russia collapsed, and new countries like Poland and Czechoslovakia emerged on the world map.
2. **Establishment of the League of Nations:** An international organization, the 'League of Nations', was established with the objective of preventing such devastating wars in the future and maintaining global peace.

(OPTIONAL MODULE 6A)

Q41. Explain the role of Chiefs in the governance of the Palas.

Answer - Under the Pala Empire, chiefs acted as high officials and military commanders. They administered regions, collected revenue, led armies during wars, and played an important role in maintaining political and military stability.

(OPTIONAL MODULE 6B)

Q41. Explain any two features of the cave paintings found in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.

Answer - Main features of rock paintings in Uttar Pradesh (e.g., Mirzapur) and Madhya Pradesh (e.g., Bhimbetka):



1. **Themes:** These paintings primarily depict hunting scenes, animals (elephants, rhinoceros, bison), and human activities such as group dances.
2. **Use of Colors:** Artists used natural mineral colors, among which red (ochre) and white are prominent, which remain preserved even after thousands of years.

Q42. Examine the main features of the Maratha administration. (Any three)

Answer - Three main features of the Maratha administration established by Shivaji Maharaj:

1. **Ashtapradhan Mandal:** A council of eight ministers was formed to assist the King, in which the Peshwa (Prime Minister) and Amatya (Finance Minister) were the most important.
2. **Revenue System:** For state income, taxes called 'Chauth' (25% of produce) and 'Sardeshmukhi' (an additional 10%) were collected.
3. **Ryotwari System:** Direct contact was maintained with the farmers, and the power of middlemen was limited to prevent the exploitation of peasants.

Q43. Explain why Akbar sought alliances with Rajput kingdoms.

Answer - Akbar allied with the Rajput states to establish a permanent and vast empire in India. By making the Rajputs his friends, he increased the military strength of the Mughal army and defeated rebels, such as the Afghans. He secured their loyalty through matrimonial alliances and by appointing Rajput rulers to high positions (Mansabs). This reduced internal rebellions and ensured the stability and strength of the empire, leading to the success of Akbar's reign.

Q44. Explain the role of Raja Ram Mohan Roy in the social reform movement of 19th century India.

Answer - Raja Ram Mohan Roy is considered the 'Father of the Indian Renaissance'.

1. **Abolition of Sati:** His greatest contribution was the campaign against the practice of Sati. Due to his efforts, Lord William Bentinck declared the Sati practice illegal in 1829.
2. **Establishment of Brahma Samaj:** He founded the 'Brahmo Samaj' in 1828 to oppose idol worship, the caste system, and superstitions, promoting monotheism.
3. **Modern Education:** He supported Western science and English education for Indians so that society could become modern.



OR

Explain how Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar contributed to women's education in 19th century India.

Answer - Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar was a staunch supporter of women's education. His contribution was unprecedented:

- 1. Bethune School:** In 1849, along with J.E.D. Bethune, he helped establish the first Hindu Female School in Calcutta and served as its secretary.
- 2. Establishment of Schools:** As a government school inspector, he opened more than 35 girls' schools in various districts of Bengal (such as Hooghly and Burdwan) through his personal efforts.
- 3. Awareness:** Facing orthodox opposition, he explained to society that education is essential for the progress of women.

Q45. Explain how the Ahmadabad mill strike was resolved by Gandhiji ?

Answer - In the 1918 Ahmedabad Mill Strike, Gandhiji used a 'hunger strike' (fast unto death) for the first time to settle an industrial dispute.

- 1. The Dispute:** Mill owners wanted to end the 'Plague Bonus', whereas workers were demanding a 50% wage hike due to inflation.
- 2. Agreement and Victory:** After studying the situation, Gandhiji stated that a 35% demand was reasonable. Under the moral pressure of his fast, the mill owners relented, and the matter was referred to a tribunal (arbitration), which eventually decided to give the workers a 35% bonus.

OR

Explain the main principles of Gandhiji's Non-Cooperation Movement.

Answer - The basic principles of the Non-Cooperation Movement started in 1920 were:

- 1. Boycott:** Indians renounced government titles, schools, courts, and foreign clothes.
- 2. Swadeshi and Constructive Work:** 'Khadi' and the spinning wheel (Charkha) were adopted in place of foreign goods. Emphasis was placed on Hindu-Muslim unity and the removal of untouchability.



3. Non-violence: This movement was entirely based on Truth and Non-violence; there was no place for violence in it.

Q46. Analyse the impact of World War I on the global political scene.

Answer - World War I (1914-1918) completely changed global politics:

- 1. Decline of Empires:** Four massive empires Germany, Austria-Hungary, Ottoman, and Russia came to an end.
- 2. Rise of New Nations:** The map of Europe changed, and several new independent countries like Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Yugoslavia came into existence.
- 3. Shift of Power:** Europe's global dominance weakened, and the United States (USA) emerged as a new superpower.
- 4. International Organization:** The 'League of Nations' was established to prevent future wars.

OR

Analyse the role of the League of Nations in maintaining world peace in the interwar period.

Answer - The role of the League of Nations, established after World War I, was mixed. It succeeded in peacefully resolving some small disputes, such as the Sweden-Finland and Greece-Bulgaria border disputes. However, it failed to stop the aggression of major powers, such as Japan's invasion of Manchuria (1931) and Italy's invasion of Abyssinia (1935). Not being a member of the United States further increased its weakness.

Q47. What are the main teachings of Guru Nanak ? Explain.

Answer - Guru Nanak Dev Ji gave the message of Nirguna Bhakti and 'Ik Onkar' (God is One). His main teachings were based on three pillars:

- 1. Naam Japna:** Chanting and remembering the name of God at all times.
- 2. Kirat Karna:** Earning a living through honesty and hard work.
- 3. Vand Chakna:** Sharing one's earnings with the needy.



Q48. Describe the major features of Harappan urban planning and architecture.

Answer - The Harappan civilization is world-famous for its modern and organized town planning. Its major features are as follows:

- 1. Grid System:** Harappan cities were laid out like a net. Roads cut each other at right angles (90 degrees), dividing the city into several rectangular blocks.
- 2. Drainage System:** This was the most unique feature of this civilization. Small drains from every house joined large covered drains in the street. 'Manholes' were provided at intervals for cleaning.
- 3. City Division:** The city was usually divided into two parts: the western part was on a higher level called the 'Citadel' (where the ruling class likely lived), and the eastern part was the 'Lower Town' where common citizens lived.
- 4. Burnt Bricks:** Baked bricks were used in the construction of buildings, which had a fixed ratio (4:2:1). The Great Bath and Granaries are excellent examples of their architecture.

OR

Describe those evidences which suggest trade and economic activities in the Harappan Civilization.

Answer - The economy of the Harappan civilization was highly developed, as confirmed by the following archaeological evidence:

- 1. Evidence of Foreign Trade:** The use of the word 'Meluha' for the Harappan region in Mesopotamian texts and the discovery of Harappan seals there are proof of long-distance trade. The dockyard found at Lothal confirms maritime trade.
- 2. Standardized Weights and Measures:** Uniform weights have been found at various sites, indicating organized commercial activities.
- 3. Seals and stamping:** Thousands of seals found were likely used for the security and identification of traded goods.
- 4. Craft Production and Raw Materials:** Bead-making factories have been found in Chanhudaro and Lothal. Copper was brought from Rajasthan (Khetri) and gold from South India, which is evidence of internal trade.



5. **Huge Granaries:** Massive granaries found in Harappa and Mohenjo-daro point toward surplus agricultural production and tax collection.

Q49. Examine any five main causes of the Revolt of 1857.

Answer - Five main causes of the Revolt of 1857:

1. **Political Causes:** Lord Dalhousie's '**Doctrine of Lapse**', states like Jhansi, Satara, and Nagpur were **captured** by the British Empire, causing resentment among rulers. Awadh was also **taken over** on charges of misgovernance.
2. **Economic Exploitation:** British land revenue policies burdened farmers with heavy taxes. Additionally, discriminatory trade policies destroyed Indian handicrafts and industries.
3. **Social and Religious Interference:** The abolition of Sati, the widow remarriage law, and the activities of Christian missionaries were perceived by Indians as an attack on their religion and traditions.
4. **Military Discontent:** Indian sepoy were paid less than British soldiers and were not promoted above the rank of Subedar. The 'General Service Enlistment Act' also hurt their religious sentiments.
5. **Immediate Cause:** The rumor regarding the use of cartridges greased with cow and pig fat in the 'Enfield Rifle' inflamed the religious sentiments of both Hindu and Muslim soldiers, which acted as the spark for the revolt.

OR

Examine the role of any five key leaders of the Revolt of 1857.

Answer - Local leaders played a significant role in the Revolt of 1857:

1. **Bahadur Shah Zafar :** Rebels declared the last Mughal Emperor as the 'Emperor of India'. He became the central face and symbol of unity for the revolt.
2. **Rani Lakshmibai :** She opposed the 'Doctrine of Lapse' and died a heroic death fighting the British to save Jhansi.
3. **Nana Saheb :** The adopted son of Peshwa Baji Rao II, Nana Saheb led the revolt in Kanpur and expelled the British garrison from there.



- Begum Hazrat Mahal** : In Awadh, the wife of Nawab Wajid Ali Shah, Begum Hazrat Mahal, declared her minor son as Nawab and fought a tough struggle against the British.
- Kunwar Singh** : The 80-year-old zamindar of Jagdishpur (Arrah), Kunwar Singh, defeated the British army several times in Bihar despite his old age, demonstrating his strategic brilliance.

(OPTIONAL MODULE 6A)

Q50. Explain the colonial apparatus as developed by Britishers for India.

Answer - To maintain control over India and fulfill colonial interests, the British developed a strong administrative machinery, which had four main pillars:

- Civil Services:** It was called the 'Steel Frame'. Lord Cornwallis organized it. Its task was to run the administration and collect revenue.
- Army:** This was the strength of the British Empire. It was used to defeat Indian powers, suppress internal rebellions, and protect the British Empire.
- Police:** Lord Cornwallis established a regular police force to maintain law and order. Its main task was to prevent crime and monitor anti-British activities.
- Judiciary:** The British introduced the concept of the Rule of Law. They created written laws (like the IPC) and established a hierarchical chain of courts.

(OPTIONAL MODULE 6B)

Q50. Explain how classical culture is preserved and passed down through generations.

Answer - Preserving classical culture and passing it to the next generation is a continuous process that occurs through specific mediums:

- Guru-Shishya Tradition:** This is the backbone of Indian classical culture. Music, dance, and other arts are taught by the Guru to the disciple through direct training, maintaining the purity of knowledge.
- Texts and Literature:** Written texts like the Vedas, Upanishads, Ramayana, Mahabharata, and Natyashastra have kept cultural values and rules codified and safe.
- Family Socialization:** Traditions, festivals, and customs are handed down from one generation to another within the family. Children are taught cultural values from childhood.

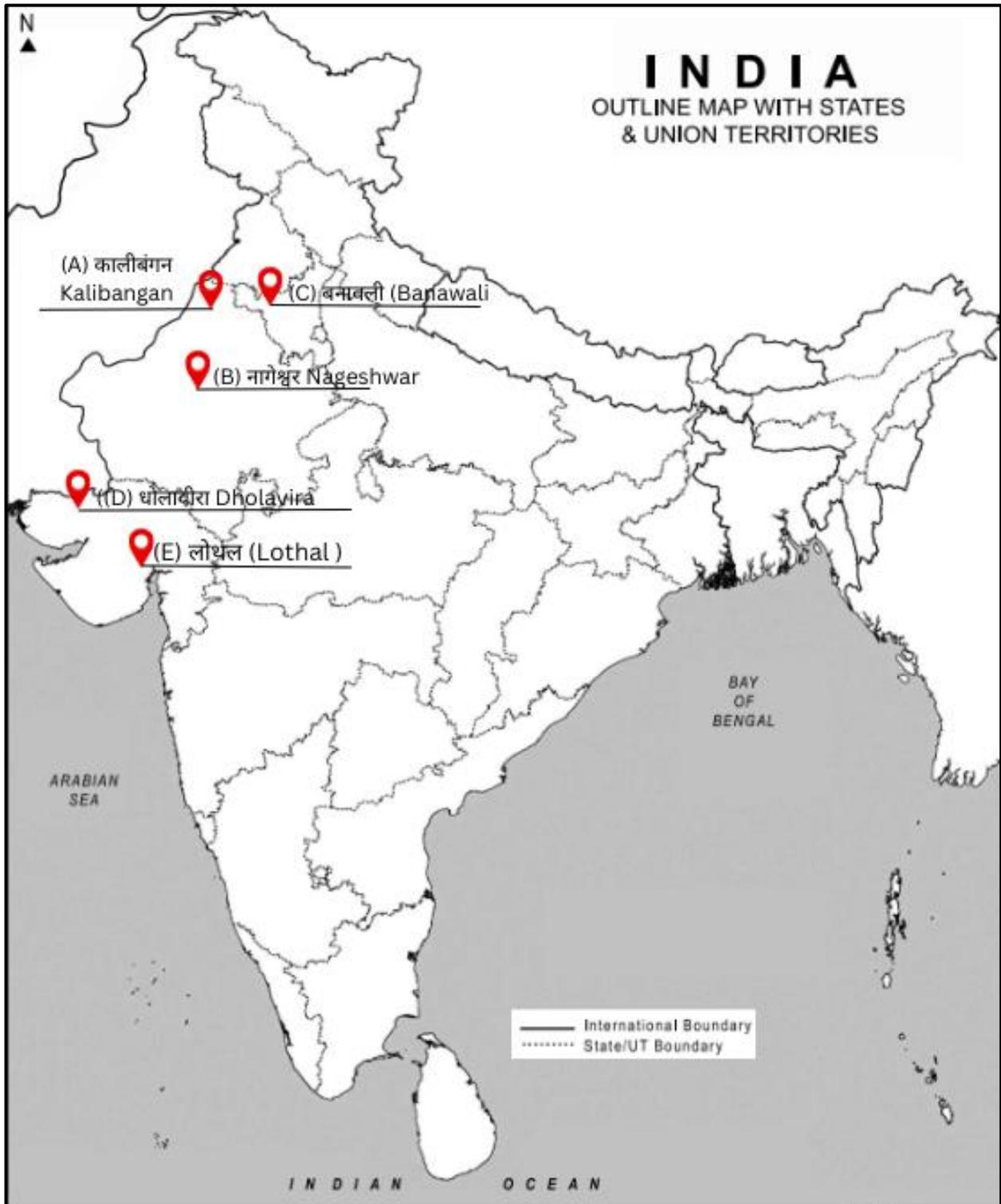


4. Institutional Conservation: In ancient times, temples and royal courts patronized art. Today, this work is being done by academies, museums, and cultural festivals.

Q51. Mark the Harappan Civilization site on the map.

- (A) Kalibangan (B) Nageshwar (C) Banawali (D) Dholavira (E) Lothal

Answer -





Thank you!



We hope you found this material helpful. We wish you the very best for your examination.



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