



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



NIOS PYQ's SOLUTIONS

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

$$fa = bc^2$$

PREVIOUS YEARS' QUESTIONS & ANSWERS



APRIL-2025

Your Path to Success

SECTION - A

Q1 - What are found all-over the Pachmarhi hills?

- (A) Temples and forts
- (B) Ancient manuscripts
- (C) Rock shelters with paintings
- (D) Buddhist Stupas

Answer - (C) Rock shelters with paintings

Q 2 - The earliest examples of Pala miniature paintings are found in which Buddhist text?

- (A) Jataka tales
- (B) Astasahasrika-Prajnaparamita
- (C) Vinaya Pitaka
- (D) Dhammapada

Answer – (B) Astasahasrika-Prajnaparamita

Q 3 - What happens to the moisture as the plaster sets?

- (A) It turns into oil
- (B) It evaporates
- (C) It gets absorbed into the pigment
- (D) It remains in the painting

Answer – (B) It evaporates

Q 4- What themes are commonly depicted in Ajanta paintings?

- (A) Only royal battles
- (B) Scenes and motifs related to Buddha
- (C) Mythological war scenes
- (D) Abstract and modern designs

Answer – (B) Scenes and motifs related to Buddha



Q 5 - What is the medium of the work 'Bear, Tiger and Birds'?

- (A) Mural
- (B) Thumb Printing
- (C) Acrylic on canvas
- (D) Watercolor

Answer – (B) Thumb Printing

Q 6 - How long have human beings been painting, as evident from rock paintings?

- (A) More than 10000 years
- (B) More than 20000 years
- (C) More than 30000 years
- (D) More than 40000 years

Answer – (C) More than 30000 years

Q 7 - Who were traditionally the primary artists of Madhubani paintings?

- (A) Male sculptors
- (B) Royal court painters
- (C) Women from the Mithila region
- (D) British colonial artists

Answer – (C) Women from the Mithila region

Q 8 - What is the central theme depicted in the Kalighat painting 'Sita with Luv-Kush'?

- (A) A war scene from the Ramayana
- (B) A moment of love and warmth between Sita and her sons
- (C) The coronation of Lord Rama
- (D) The abduction of Sita by Ravana

Answer – (B) A moment of love and warmth between Sita and her sons



SECTION - B

Q 9 - Read the passage and answer the following questions :

Ajanta Cave Painting

The most famous paintings are found in the Ajanta caves. Ajanta caves are situated over the winding bed of the Waghora river, a small tributary of the Tapti river, sixty miles northeast of Aurangabad district in Maharashtra state. The caves are named after the nearby village Ajintha. Ajanta caves extend a rocky hill some 260 feet high and cut out of its sides along a stretch of 540 yards. There are thirty caves, including an unfinished one. Caves 9, 10, 19, 26 and 29 are Chaitya halls (worshipping places). Others were used as Viharas (Monasteries) where the monks lived. Ajanta caves were discovered in 1819 by some of the officers of the Madras regiment. One of them is Major John Smith. The first report on the Ajanta caves was sent to the Royal Asiatic Society by Lt. JeE. Alexandra in 1824.

Fill up the blanks :

- (a) Ajanta caves are situated over the winding bed of the _____ river.
- (b) The Waghora river is a small tributary of the _____ river.
- (c) Ajanta caves are located in _____ district of Maharashtra.
- (d) The caves are named after the nearby village _____ .

Answer –

- (a) Waghora
- (b) Tapti
- (c) Aurangabad
- (d) Ajintha



Q 10 – Read the passage and answer the following questions :**Fresco**

Fresco is a technique of mural painting in which the painting is executed upon freshly-laid or wet lime plaster. Water or water mixed with lime is used for the pigment to merge with the plaster. As the plaster sets, the moisture evaporates, and the calcium in the lime turns into a fine layer of calcium carbonate on the surface of the painting. This protects the colours. Frescos are executed on surfaces rich in lime and the pigments also use lime as a binder, the colour palette becomes limited because chemicals present in pigments react to the calcium present in lime. Hence the Indian painter used Ramraj, Hirmich, Hingul, ochre, indigo, lamp soot or coal dust and various combinations for frescos. The pigments were powdered in a pestle, sieved, mixed with water and kept as liquids. Hingul, sindoor etc. were ground with sheep's milk and clarified with lemon juice.

Fill up the blanks :

- (a) Fresco is a technique of _____ where the painting is executed upon freshly laid or wet lime plaster.
- (b) Water is used so that the _____ merges with the plaster.
- (c) The pigments were powdered in a pestle, sieved, mixed with water, and kept as _____.
- (d) _____ and _____ were ground with sheep's milk and clarified with lemon juice.

Answer –

- (a) Mural Painting
- (b) Pigment
- (c) liquids
- (d) Hingul and Sindoor



Q 11 – Read the passage and answer the following questions :**Warli painting-Palghat Devi Chauk**

Palghat Devi Chauk painting is made on the main interior wall of the house for wedding related rituals. A figure of Palghat Devi, the Warli goddess of fertility, is painted in the center of a large rectangle called Chauk. On the top two corners, representational figures of the sun and the moon or Basing, the ceremonial crown worn by the bride and the groom are painted. Below the figure of the goddess are painted auspicious figures. The chowk is then surrounded by wedding scenes and everyday activities. These include the bridegroom riding a mare, men and women dancing, hunting and farming scenes, and drawing of toddy, flora and fauna. Married women invariably execute the Chowk, but after that, enthusiastic younger women cover the wall with a veritable collage of real and imaginary scenes from life.

Fill up the blanks :

- (a) The central figure in the Chauk is _____ the Warli goddess of fertility.
- (b) The Chauk is a _____ painted as part of the _____.
- (c) The Palghat Devi Chauk is an integral part of Warli art, which is a tribal painting style from _____.
- (d) This form of painting primarily uses _____ made from _____ on a mug base.

Answer –

- (a) Palghat Devi
- (b) Large Rectangle , wedding Rituals
- (c) Maharashtra
- (d) White pigment, Rice flour



SECTION - C

Answer the following questions (in minimum 30 words each) :

Q 12 – What role did bird motifs play in Indus valley civilization pottery designs?

Answer – Bird motifs were not just aesthetic but had symbolic and cultural significance:

1. Aesthetic Enhancement – Bird motifs added visual appeal to pottery. Stylized forms, often geometric or abstract, made the pots distinctive and elegant.

2. Cultural Representation – Birds reflected the close observation of nature by the Harappan people and their connection with the environment, including rivers, forests, and animals.

Q 13 – Write about the development of company painting in India.

Answer – Company painting developed in India during the late 18th and 19th centuries under the influence of the British East India Company. It was a fusion of traditional Indian miniature painting styles with European techniques, especially watercolor, perspective, and realism. Indian artists adapted their skills to cater to British patrons, who wanted portraits, landscapes, flora, fauna, and everyday life scenes as souvenirs.

Q 14 – Explain the key characteristics of Jain miniature paintings.

Answer – Jain miniature painting developed and was mainly patronized in Gujarat. These paintings were primarily executed on palm leaves, which also served as a surface for calligraphy. The style followed the tradition of wall paintings but clearly incorporated elements of local folk art, giving it a distinctive appearance. The subject matter mainly focused on religious themes, depicting Tirthankaras and important Jain spiritual stories.

Or



What are the main subjects depicted in the Mirzapur rock paintings?

Answer – The Mirzapur rock paintings primarily depict human figures, animals, hunting scenes, daily activities, dancing, warfare, and rituals, reflecting the lifestyle, culture, and beliefs of early prehistoric communities in the region.

Answer the following question (in minimum 70 words) :

Q 15 – Analyze the artistic and religious significance of the painting 'Vishvarupa I' in the Chamba style.

Answer – The Chamba painting 'Vishvarupa I' portrays Lord Vishnu's cosmic form, illustrating his omnipresence and infinite power. Artistically, it showcases the Chamba style's delicate lines, bright colors, and intricate detailing, blending narrative and symbolism. Religiously, it conveys divine protection, universal order, and devotion, serving both as a spiritual guide and an object of worship, reflecting the fusion of Himalayan regional aesthetics with Vaishnavite theology.

Or

Describe the artistic style and subject matter of the Palanquin painting in the company school.

Answer – The Palanquin painting of the Company School depicts a decorative, portable palanquin often used in royal or ceremonial processions. Artistically, it combines Indian miniature detailing with European realism and perspective. The painting emphasizes bright colors, fine outlines, and meticulous patterns, capturing intricate designs of the palanquin, its ornaments, and attendants. The subject reflects colonial India's social life, ceremonies, and elite culture, serving as both documentation and aesthetic artwork.



Answer the following questions (in minimum 90 words each) :

Q 16 – What are the key characteristics of M.F. Husain's style in 'Nand Swaram,' and how does it reflect his artistic vision?

Answer – M.F. Husain, one of India's most celebrated modern artists, is known for his vibrant, dynamic, and expressive style. The main characteristics of his style in 'Nand Swaram' are:

1. **Bold and flowing lines** : The lines of figures and forms convey a sense of movement and vitality.
2. **Vivid and contrasting colours** : Bright colours make the painting attractive and rhythmic.
3. **Stylized figures** : Human forms focus more on emotion and energy than on realism.
4. **Fusion of styles** : A combination of folk art, traditional Indian painting, and modern abstract style.
5. **Cultural themes** : The painting reflects Indian myths, music, and everyday life.

Or

Discuss the use of bold colors, stylized figures, and intricate detailing in 'Krishna with a Companion' from the Basohli tradition.

Answer – In the Basohli school painting 'Krishna with a Companion' exemplifies the hallmark features of the Basohli tradition. The artist employs bold, vibrant colors, particularly reds, blues, and yellows, to create a dramatic and lively effect. The figures are highly stylized, with elongated limbs, expressive faces, and exaggerated gestures, emphasizing emotion and narrative over realism. Intricate detailing is evident in the ornate clothing, jewelry, and decorative background elements, showcasing meticulous craftsmanship. Together, these features convey intense devotional sentiment, narrative clarity, and the energetic aesthetic that defines the Basohli style.



Q 17 – Write about any two styles of Pahari painting. Explain the themes and characteristic features of the styles of the painting.

Answer – Pahari painting, from the Himalayan hill states, is known for its vibrant colors, lyrical style, and devotional or romantic themes. Different schools developed distinctive regional aesthetics. Two styles of Pahari painting are :

1. Basohli Style : The Basohli style is one of the earliest schools of Pahari painting, which developed in Basohli in the Jammu region. This style is known for its deep colours, dramatic expression, and stylized figures.

- (i) Bold and vibrant colours – Such as red, blue, and yellow.
- (ii) Stylized, expressive figures – With elongated eyes and dynamic postures.
- (iii) Decorative details in costumes – Fine ornamentation in garments and jewellery.
- (iv) Dramatic compositions – Which create a strong emotional impact.

2. Kangra School : The Kangra style is a well-known and highly developed school of Pahari painting, which developed in the Kangra region of Himachal Pradesh. This style is known for its delicacy, fine line work, and poetic expression.

- (i) Soft and light colours - Such as pink, green, blue, and pastel tones.
- (ii) Natural and gentle figures - With soft faces and expressive postures.
- (iii) Natural backgrounds - Beautiful depiction of mountains, rivers, trees, and flowers.
- (iv) Poetic and romantic compositions - Expressing feelings of peace, love, and devotion.

Or

Discuss the contribution of any two contemporary Indian artists to modern art.

Answer – Contemporary Indian artists have given a new dimension to modern Indian art, where a combination of traditional themes and modern techniques is seen, reflecting both cultural heritage and a contemporary outlook.

1. M.F. Husain (1915–2011) : M. F. Husain is called the “Picasso of India.” He gave international recognition to modern Indian art.

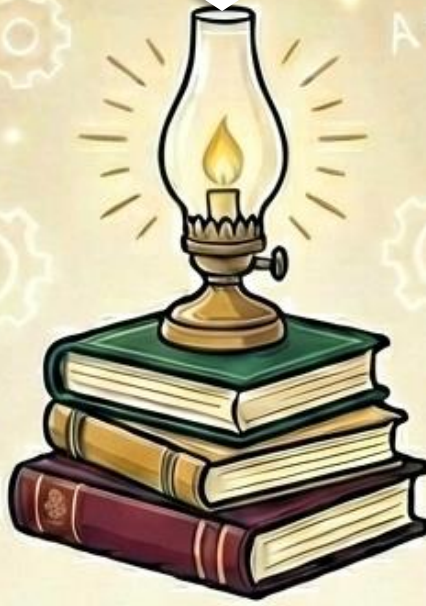


- (i) A combination of Indian folk art, traditional themes, and modern abstract style.
- (ii) Depiction of Indian myths, music, cinema, and scenes from everyday life in his paintings.
- (iii) Effective use of vibrant colours and bold, flowing lines.

2. **F.N. Souza (1924–2002)** : F. N. Souza was a powerful and fearless modern Indian artist and a founding member of the Progressive Artists' Group.

- (i) Gave a modern and expressive form to post-independence Indian art.
- (ii) Bold portrayal of human emotions, social issues, and reality.
- (iii) A modernist vision expressed through angular, distorted figures and intense colours.





NIOS PYQ's SOLUTIONS

PREVIOUS YEARS' QUESTIONS & ANSWERS



OCTOBER-2025

Your Path to Success

SECTION - A

A. ☐
B. ☒
C. ☐



Choose the correct answer below the question.

Q 1. The painted pot with the fish motif belongs to which Harappan site?

- (A) Harappa
- (B) Mohenjodaro
- (C) Mehargarh
- (D) Dholavira

Answer – (C) Mehargarh

Q2. The earliest examples of Pala Miniature Paintings are from _____ leaf manuscripts of Buddhist text.

- (A) Palm Leaf
- (B) Banana Leaf
- (C) Peepal Leaf
- (D) Bhoj Leaf

Answer – (A) Palm Leaf

Q3. Why is Padmapani Bodhisattva holding a lotus?

- (A) Symbol of wealth
- (B) Representation of compassion and spiritual awakening
- (C) Gift for someone
- (D) Religious tradition only

Answer – (B) Representation of compassion and spiritual awakening

Q4. What does the figure of Mara represent in the mural 'Mara Vijaya'?

- (A) Enlightenment
- (B) Fearlessness
- (C) Temptation and distraction



(D) Peace

Answer – (C) Temptation and distraction

Q5. What technique is used in 'Bear, Tiger and Birds' painting?

(A) Vegetable printing

(B) Block printing

(C) Thumb and finger printing

(D) Etching

Answer – (C) Thumb and finger printing

Q6. What is the medium of Padmapani mural?

(A) Wash

(B) Oil

(C) Mud plaster with natural colours

(D) Canvas

Answer – (C) Mud plaster with natural colours

Q7. Who is the artist of the Warli work 'Palghat Devi Chauk'?

(A) Unknown

(B) Abhanindranath Tagore

(C) Jeevya Soma Mashe

(D) Rabindranath Tagore

Answer – (C) Jeevya Soma Mashe

Q8. In Folk and Tribal Art a twig is turned into which of the following?

(A) Palette

(B) Mug

(C) Brush

(D) Pigment

Answer – (C) Brush



SECTION – B

A.	☐
B.	☒
C.	☐



Q9. Read the passages and answer the following questions.

Passage One : Bhimbetka

"In this painting, many human figures are shown along with different kinds of animals. All the human figures hold many types of primitive weapons. The men are going to kill or capture these wild animals. The silhouette forms of figures are full of action. The painting shows four men attacking different animals. They are also taming a horse. It is interesting to compare the human and animal forms from the point of view of the completeness with which they are suggested by the artistic conventions."

Fill in the blanks :

A) In the Bhimbetka painting, human figures are seen holding ____.

Answer – Primitive weapons

(B) The painting shows four men attacking ____.

Answer – Different animals

(C) The figures in the painting are described as ____ forms full of action.

Answer – Silhouette

(D) Apart from attacking animals, the men are also shown ____ a horse.

Answer – Taming a horse

Q10. Read the passages and answer the following questions.

Passage Two : Linocut Print

"The Linocut is a modern block printing technique. A design is carved on linoleum, coloured, and pressed to create vibrant prints. Its charm lies in the balance of curves and lines and multiple colours."

Fill in the blanks:

(A) Linocut is a ____, ____ technique.



Answer – Modern, block printing

(B) A design is ____ on ____.

Answer – Carved, linoleum

(C) Pressed to create ____ prints.

Answer – Vibrant

(D) Its charm lies in the ____ of curves and ____.

Answer – Balance, multiple colours

Q11. Read the passages and answer the following questions.

Passage – 3 : Pithora Painting

"The painting features a range of motifs including the lion, elephant, camel, cow, scorpion, caged parrot, silk cotton tree, monkeys, farmer, Kathia Sawar (black rider), and mythical beings. These are repeated in the ritual songs. Colour materials are made from Mahavar, lamp soot, turmeric, and plant leaves."

Fill in the blanks:

(A) The painting features range of motifs including ____, ____, ____, ____, etc.

Answer – Lion, elephant, camel, cow

(B) Colour materials are made from ____, ____ and ____.

Answer – Lamp soot, turmeric, plant leaves

(C) Paintings shows ____ beings.

Answer – mythical

(D) There are repeated in the ____, ____.

Answer – Ritual songs



SECTION – C

A. ☐
B. ☒
C. ☐



Check for the choice and attempt all questions. (Answer within 30-40 words)

Q12. How does the painting of Apsara from Ajanta cave demonstrate the principles of Shadanga?

Answer – The Apsara painting of Ajanta cave beautifully demonstrates the principles of Shadanga. It shows Rupabhedha through variation in forms, Pramana through proper proportion, Bhava through expression of emotions, Lavanya-Yojana through beauty, Sadrishya through resemblance, and Varnika Bhanga through the arrangement of colours.

Q13. Why are the ceiling decorations in Ajanta considered significant in Indian mural tradition?

Answer – The ceiling decorations of Ajanta are considered important in Indian mural tradition because they show a beautiful combination of human figures, animals, birds, and floral designs. They reflect the decorative skill and creativity of the artists.

Q14. In what way is romanticism expressed in "Krishna Romancing Radha with a Lotus"?

Answer – In the painting "Krishna Romancing Radha with a Lotus", the feeling of love and affection is expressed through Krishna offering a lotus to Radha. Their sweet relationship and the emotional atmosphere create a beautiful expression of romance.

OR

How does Jamini Roy blend folk and modern elements in his painting "Mother and Child"?

Answer – In his painting "Mother and Child", Jamini Roy combines folk and modern elements by using bold outer lines and large eyes from folk art, and presenting them on a modern canvas through the tempera technique.

Check for the choice and attempt the question. (Answer with 70-80 words)

Q15. In what ways does Amrita Shergil reflect Ajanta and Gauguin influences in 'Bride's Toilet'?

Answer – In the painting "Bride's Toilet", Amrita Sher-Gil reflects the influence of Ajanta through graceful figures, clear outlines, and calm expressions. The influence of Gauguin is seen in the use of flat colour schemes, earthy tones, and simple presentation.



OR

Describe about the development of 'Jain Paintings' during Medieval Period.

Answer – The development of Jain paintings during the medieval period took place mainly between the 10th and 12th centuries in Gujarat, Rajasthan, and other regions. In the beginning, these paintings were made on palm-leaf manuscripts, and later illustrated texts were also prepared on paper.

Check for the choice and attempt the question. (Answer with 90-100 words)

Q16. How does K.K. Hebbar depict coastal India in his painting 'Untitled'? Explain about the artist and the work.

Answer – K. K. Hebbar (1911–1996) was a famous Indian painter known for depicting Indian life and folk culture. His style shows the influence of Indian folk art and expressionism.

In his painting "Untitled", he portrays a coastal town of Kerala. Fishermen and their boats are shown in the foreground, while huts are painted in the background. The painting presents a lively scene of morning activities. The sea, coastline, boats, and huts are shown in grey-yellow, orange, blue, and slate colours. The transparency of water among deep shadows makes the painting realistic.

OR

What do you understand by the Pala miniature paintings? Explain the artwork 'Pancharaksha Tara' in detail.

Answer – Pala miniature painting is a style of painting related to Buddhism, developed along with Buddhist manuscripts written on palm leaves. Its figures are characterized by delicate outlines and beautiful colour combinations.

The painting "Pancharaksha Tara" is a tempera painting of the Pala style, dated 1080 AD. It shows the Mahayana Buddhist goddess Tara seated in the lotus posture. One hand rests on the thigh, while the other is shown in the Abhaya Mudra. The figure is adorned with a crown, earrings, and necklace. Balanced use of pink, yellow, and red colours, along with rhythmic and precise lines, are its main features.

Q17. Explain in detail the various designs and patterns used on earthen pots found in the Indus Valley Civilization.

Answer – Various designs and motifs are found on the earthen pots of the Indus Valley Civilization. These include circular, square, triangular, and other geometric patterns. The designs are beautifully combined with animal



figures to create attractive patterns. Among the motifs, geometric fish, peacock, and other bird figures are especially notable. These were painted with black lines on red or light yellow backgrounds. Many pots also show floral and geometric motifs. These designs and motifs reflect the creativity, aesthetic sense, and understanding of geometric principles of the artists of that time.

OR

Describe the central theme of Kangra painting using 'Under the Kadamba Tree' as an example.

Answer – The central theme of the Kangra style is the delicate expression of love, devotion, and the beauty of nature. The painting "Under the Kadamba Tree" is a beautiful example of this feeling. In this painting, Radha and Krishna are shown under the Kadamba tree in a loving and emotional atmosphere. It presents a beautiful harmony of nature and human emotions. Through soft colours, rhythmic lines, and an attractive setting, the feelings of love and romance are expressed effectively. Thus, this painting reflects the softness, beauty, and artistic skill of the Kangra style.





Thank you!



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



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