VISHNU IAS
MODERN GURUKUL FOR CIVIL SERVICES
TGPSC G 1 | UPSC - CSE | APPSC G 1

PRELIMS PYQS PROGRAM
2013 TO 2026
DAY – 01: HISTORY
QUESTION PAPER

Total Questions: 30 **Maximum Marks: 60** **Time: 30 Minutes**

Instructions: Each question has four options, only one of which is correct. Choose the best answer. Each correct answer carries 2 marks.

1. Which inference about Harappan belief is supported by the evidence?

(A) Monumental palaces and temples were widespread
(B) Male and female divine figures were represented
(C) Horse-drawn war chariots were common
(D) All three claims are established

2. Which place among the following is not a Harappan/Indus civilisation site?

(A) Chanhudaro
(B) Kot Diji
(C) Sohgaura
(D) Desalpur

3. Which Harappan city is especially known for reservoirs, dams and a sophisticated water-management system?

(A) Dholavira
(B) Kalibangan
(C) Rakhigarhi
(D) Ropar

4. The famous bronze female figurine from Mohenjo-daro was made of which material?

(A) Carnelian
(B) Terracotta
(C) Bronze
(D) Gold

5. What inferences follow from spindle whorls, graduated weights/measures and courtyard houses with wells/bathing areas?

(A) Domestic spinning and scientific measurement
(B) Scientific measurement and common property
(C) Domestic spinning and common property
(D) All three

6. Which description best captures Nirvana in Buddhist teaching?

(A) Cessation of craving and the fires of desire
(B) Permanent destruction of an eternal soul
(C) A heavenly resting place
(D) An unknowable mental state

7. Which pair of regions is most closely associated with events in the Buddha's life and teaching career?

(A) Avanti and Gandhara
(B) Gandhara and Kamboja
(C) Kosala and Magadha
(D) Avanti, Kosala and Gandhara

8. Which two Mahajanapadas were closely linked with the Buddha's life and ministry?

(A) Avanti, Gandhara and Kosala
(B) Gandhara and Kosala
(C) Avanti, Kosala and Magadha
(D) Kosala and Magadha

9. Which statements about the Bodhisattva ideal are correct?

(A) It is the defining ideal of early Theravada alone

(B) A compassionate being progresses towards Buddhahood and works for others' liberation

(C) Only statement 2

(D) All statements including A

10. Which statement about Sautrantika, Sammitiya and Sarvastivada is correct?

(A) Both Sautrantika and Sammitiya were Jain sects

(B) Sarvastivada held that dharmas exist across the three times

(C) Both statements

(D) Neither statement

11. Who is regarded in Buddhist tradition as the Buddha of the future?

(A) Avalokiteshvara

(B) Lokeshvara

(C) Maitreya

(D) Padmapani

12. Which set best describes features associated with Mahayana Buddhism?

(A) Buddha's deification alone

(B) Deification and Bodhisattva path only

(C) Bodhisattva path and image worship only

(D) Deification, Bodhisattva ideal and image/ritual worship

13. Which statements about Sthaviravada, Lokottaravada and Mahasanghika influence are correct?

(A) Statements 1 and 2

(B) Statements 2 and 3

(C) Statement 3 only

(D) All three

14. Dhanyakataka, a Buddhist centre associated with the Mahasanghika tradition, was located in which region?

(A) Andhra

(B) Gandhara

(C) Kalinga

(D) Magadha

15. Which epithets among Nayaputta, Shakyamuni and Tathagata apply to Gautama Buddha?

(A) Nayaputta only

(B) Shakyamuni and Tathagata

(C) All three

(D) None

16. Which set of statements reflects Jain doctrine?

(A) Penance alone is irrelevant to karma

(B) Only animals possess souls

(C) Karma binds the soul; austerity helps shed it; life is present in many forms

(D) Jainism denies the soul

17. Which of the listed works belong to Jain literature: Parishishtaparvan, Trishashtilakshana Mahapurana, Nettipakarana and Avadanashataka?

(A) First, third and fourth

(B) First and second only

(C) Second and third only

(D) Second and fourth only

18. Which religion teaches that souls are present not only in animals and plants but also in earth, water and other elements?

(A) Buddhism

(B) Jainism

(C) Shaivism

(D) Vaishnavism

19. Which is not one of the four broad gatis (states of existence) in Jain cosmology?

(A) Deva

(B) Yaksha

(C) Manushya

(D) Tiryanch

20. Which statements about conditions recorded by Xuanzang are correct?

(A) Travel routes were entirely free of robbery

(B) Ordeals and transit duties are mentioned

(C) Only statement A

(D) All three claims

21. Who first deciphered the Brahmi script that enabled the reading of Ashoka's inscriptions?

(A) Georg Bühler
(B) James Prinsep
(C) Max Müller
(D) William Jones

22. At which archaeological site was Ashoka identified by the inscriptional phrase 'Ranyo Ashoka' alongside a sculpted royal image?

(A) Kanaganahalli
(B) Sanchi
(C) Shahbazgarhi
(D) Sohgaura

23. Which ruler's inscription advises restraint in praising one's own sect while denigrating others?

(A) Ashoka
(B) Samudragupta
(C) Harsha
(D) Krishnadevaraya

24. Which statements about slavery in the Arthashastra are accepted: judicial enslavement, emancipation of a slave woman bearing her master's child, and the child's status?

(A) 1 and 2 only
(B) 2 and 3 only
(C) 1 and 3 only
(D) All three

25. How many site-state pairs are correct: Dhauli–Odisha, Erragudi–Andhra Pradesh, Jaugada–Madhya Pradesh, Kalsi–Karnataka?

(A) One
(B) Two
(C) Three
(D) Four

26. Pradeshika, Rajuka and Yukta in Ashokan records were associated primarily with which administrative level?

(A) Village
(B) District
(C) Province
(D) Central secretariat

27. Which pairs are correctly matched: eripatti with tank-maintenance land; taniyur with Brahmadeya village; ghatika with temple-linked educational centre?

(A) First and second
(B) Third only
(C) Second and third
(D) First and third

28. Choose the chronological order of Pallava power under Mahendravarman I, Pala foundation, Pratihara prominence under Bhoja and Chola power under Parantaka I.

(A) Pallava–Pratihara–Pala–Chola
(B) Chola–Pratihara–Pala–Pallava
(C) Pallava–Pala–Pratihara–Chola
(D) Chola–Pala–Pratihara–Pallava

29. Which comparison is correct regarding warfare equipment, metals and horse domestication?

(A) Only armour statement
(B) Only metals and horse statements
(C) Armour and horse statements
(D) All three statements

30. Which port was an important maritime outlet of the Kakatiya kingdom?

(A) Kakinada
(B) Motupalli
(C) Machilipatnam
(D) Nellore