

1994-2022 (29 Years)

UPSC Civil Services Prelims

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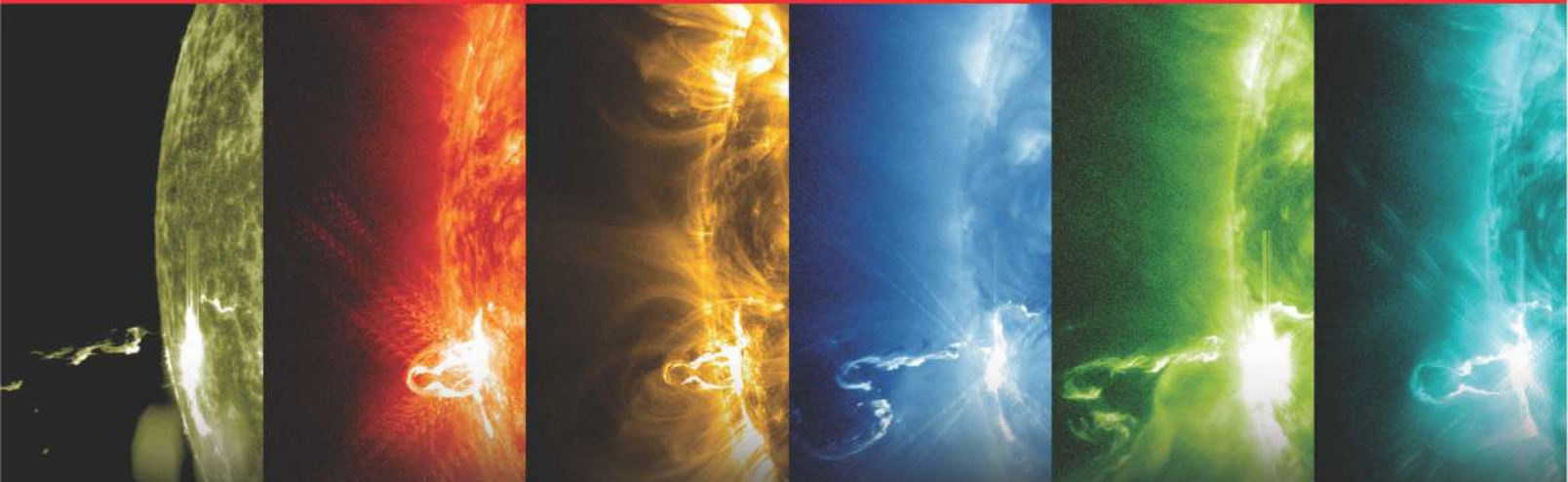
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UPSC-Civil Services Prelims Examinations

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PAPER-1

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Edited by - N.N. Ojha

Guiding Civil Services Aspirants Since 30 Years

Solved by - Chronicle Editorial Team

CHRONICLE

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UPSC-Civil Services Prelims Examinations

Topic-wise Solved Papers

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ABOUT THIS BOOK

The 2023 edition of '29 Years Topic-wise Solution of General Studies (Paper-I) of UPSC Civil Services Preliminary Examination' is prepared strictly adhering to the latest syllabus.

Key Features of this Book

- Categorization of questions according to topics
- Detailed explanation to the questions asked
- Explanation on options other than the correct one
- Additional information on the topics from which questions were asked

Why Additional Information?

- UPSC never repeats its questions but touches upon the topics again from different aspects. By going through the additional information provided herein, aspirants will be able to answer other questions that could be asked from the topics in future.
- To comprehend in a better way the current pattern of questions which are interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary in nature.

An in-depth analysis of the questions reveals that prior to 2000 the questions were straightforward; later they became interdisciplinary and for the last three years, majority of the questions are multidisciplinary in nature.

For example, a question that asked about only Mughal architecture in the 90s changed to asking about Maratha architecture also in the same question, and in the past few years it has become a regular practice to ask about the geography or political conditions prevailing at that time. Therefore, the questions have become truly multidimensional.

To address this, the book is segregated into different sections and 100+ topics that will enable the readers to adopt a holistic approach towards preparation.

How to Read this Book

Start with solving the questions asked before 2000 which were straightforward. Later move year-wise gradually and this way you will get accustomed to the pattern and changes taking place so that you can plan your study/strategy accordingly.

Relevance of this Book for other Examinations

Though a little diluted, the trend or pattern of the questions being asked in UPSC are now a days being followed by many other examinations. Most of the questions in State Public Service Commissions' examinations are being asked from the background and periphery of UPSC Civil Services examination questions. You can also use the explanations/additional information as study material for General Studies. So, preparing with these sets of questions and explanations is very much helpful for other competitive examinations also.

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UPSC/Civil services Prelims Solved 2022

General Studies

History of India and Indian National Movement

Ancient India

Jaina Religion

1. With reference to Indian history, consider the following texts:

1. Nettipakarana
2. Parishistaparvan
3. Avadanashataka
4. Trishashtilakshana Mahapurana

Which of the above are Jaina texts?

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 (b) 2 and 4 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 (d) 2, 3 and 4

Ans: (b), The **Nettipakarana** (Pali: Pakaraṇa, also called Nettippakarana or just Netti) is a Buddhist scripture. Nettipakarana is a guide to help those who already understand the teaching present it to others. The **Netti methods were taught by the Buddha's disciple Kaccana** (also Katyayana or Kaccayana).

Avadana Texts: The emergences of the Avadana may have been compiled during second Century A.D to the 11th Century A.D. The earlier product of Avadana texts like Avadana-sataka, Divyavadana etc., which are of Hinayanic character and the later Avadanas like Suvarnavarnavadana, Kalpadrumavadanamala, Vratavadanamala are earmarked as Mahayanic in character. Avadanas are non-canonical Buddhist texts about previous lives and karma; for example, Divyavadana (4th century) and Avadanashataka (2nd century) written in Sanskrit. It deals with **stories and tales related to Buddha.**

The **Parishistaparvan** also known as the **Sthaviravalicharitra** is a 12th-century Sanskrit mahakavya by Hemachandra which details the histories of the **earliest Jain teachers.** Mahapurana or **Trishashtilakshana Mahapurana** is a major Jain text composed largely by "Acharya" Jinasena during the rule of Rashtrakuta ruler Amoghavarsha and completed by his pupil Gunabhadra in the 9th century CE. Mahapurana consists of two parts. The first part is **Ādi purāṇa** written by "Acharya" Jinasena. The second part is **Uttarapurana** which is the section composed by Gunabhadra.

Hence option (b) is the correct.

Buddhist Religion

1. With reference to Indian history, consider the following pairs:

Historical person	Known as
1. Aryadeva	– Jaina scholar
2. Dignaga	– Buddhist scholar
3. Nathamuni	– Vaishnava scholar

How many pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) None of the pairs
(b) Only one pair
(c) Only two pairs
(d) All three pairs

Ans: (c), Āryadeva (3rd century) was a Mahayana Buddhist monk, a disciple of Nagarjuna and a Madhyamaka philosopher. He was a central figure in the development of early Indian Madhyamaka philosophy.

Dignaga was the early 6th century Indian Buddhist Monk and was also the founder of Indian logic, Hetu Vidya. He was born in Simhavakta near Kanchipuram.

Sri Ranganathamuni, popularly known as **Sriman Nathamuni**, was a Vaishnava theologian who collected and compiled the **Nalayira Divya Prabandham**. Considered the first of Sri Vaishnava āchāryās, Nathamuni is also the author of **Yogarhasya**, and **Nyāyatattva**.

Mauryan Period

1. Consider the following pairs:

Site of Ashoka's major rock edicts	Location in the State of
------------------------------------	--------------------------

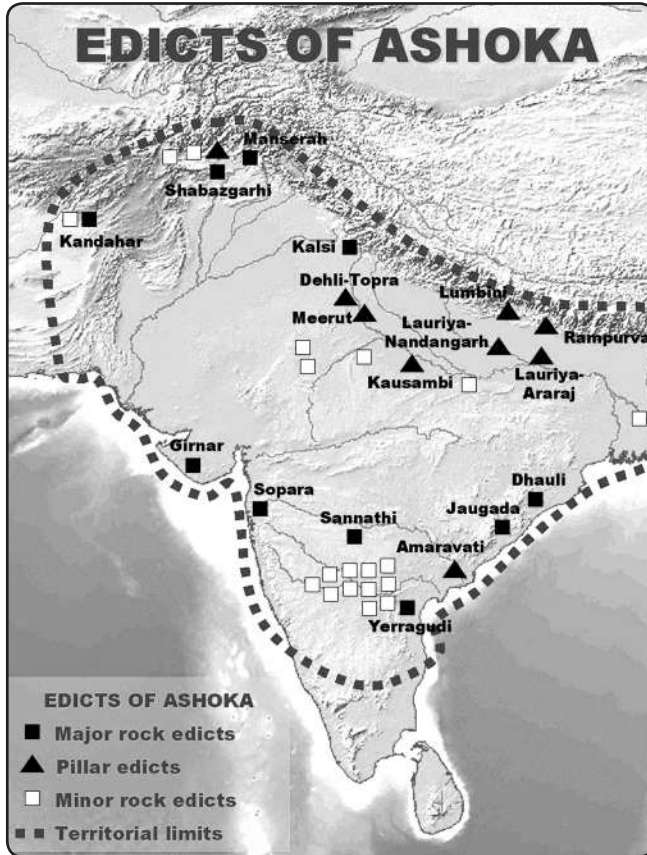
- | | |
|-------------|------------------|
| 1. Dhauli | – Odisha |
| 2. Erragudi | – Andhra Pradesh |
| 3. Jaugada | – Madhya Pradesh |
| 4. Kalsi | – Karnataka |

How many pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one pair (b) Only two pairs
(c) Only three pairs (d) All four pairs

Ans: (b), Kalsi (Dehradun district, Uttarakhand)

II ■ General Studies (Prelims) Solved



- Erragudi (Kurnool district, Andhra Pradesh)
- Dhauri (Khordha district, Odisha)
- Jaugada (Ganjam district, Odisha)

1. According to Kautilya's Arthashastra, which of the following are correct?

1. A person could be a slave as a result of a judicial punishment.
2. If a female slave bore her master a son, she was legally free.
3. If a son born to a female slave was fathered by her master, the son was entitled to the legal status of the master's son.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (d), The Arthashastra states that a man could be a slave **either by birth, by voluntarily selling himself, by being captured in war, or as a result of a judicial punishment.**

Slavery was a recognized institution during **Mauryan** times and the legal relationship between master and slave was clearly defined e.g. if a female slave bore her master a son, not only was she legally free but the child was entitled to legal status of the master's son.

Sangam Period

1. Which one of the following statements about Sangam literature in ancient South India is correct?

- (a) Sangam poems are devoid of any reference to material culture.
- (b) The social classification of Varna was known to Sangam poets.
- (c) Sangam poems have no reference to warrior ethic.
- (d) Sangam literature refers to magical forces as irrational.

Ans: (b), The Sangam age refers to that period in the early history of south India when large numbers of poems in Tamil were composed by a number of authors. The term Sangam refers to an assembly or "meeting together" of Tamil poets. Traditionally, three Sangams or assemblies are believed to have been convened one after the other. All the three Sangams took place at different places under the patronage of the **Pandya kings** of Madurai.

Tolkappiyam written during the sangam age refers to four castes namely Arasar, Anthanar, Vanigar and Vellalar. The ruling class was called **Arasar**. The class which spread knowledge were **Anthanars**, who had been religious priests. **Vanigars** carried on trade and commerce. The **Vellalars** were Agriculturists.

The class of warriors was an important element in society during the Sangam age. Captains of the army were invested with the title of 'enadi' at a formal ceremony. Civil and military officers were held under both the Cholas and the Pandyas by 'vellalas' or rich peasants. The ruling class was called 'arasar' and its members had marriage relations with the vellalas. **Hence option (b) is the correct answer.**

Medieval India

Early Medieval Period

1. Consider the following pairs:

King		Dynasty
1. Nannuka	–	Chandela
2. Jayashakti	–	Paramara
3. Nagabhata II	-	Gurjara-Pratihara
4. Bhoja	–	Rashtrakuta

How many pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one pair
- (b) Only two pairs
- (c) Only three pairs
- (d) All four pairs

Ans: (b), Gurjara-Pratihara Dynasty: The Gurjara Pratihara dynasty was founded by Nagabhata I in the region of Malwa in the 8th century AD. Gurjara-Pratihara dynasty ruled much of Northern India from the mid-8th to the 11th century.

UPSC/Civil services Prelims Solved 2021

General Studies

History of India and Indian National Movement

Ancient India

Indus Valley Civilization

1. Consider the following pairs:

Historical Place	:	Well-known for
1. Burzahom	:	Rock-cut shrines
2. Chandraketugarh	:	Terracotta art
3. Ganeshwar	:	Copper artefacts

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 2
- (c) 3 only
- (d) 2 and 3

Ans: (d), Burzahom: In the Kashmir valley, there are several neolithic sites near Srinagar and between Baramulla and Anantnag. These include Burzahom, Gufkral, Hariparigom, etc. Pits have been found at neolithic levels at Burzahom. Other finds of Period I at Burzahom included ill-fired, handmade, coarse pottery in grey, red, brown, and buff colours. Burzahom had a well-developed bone tool industry; artefacts such as points, harpoons, needles, etc. The site is famous for pit dwelling and neolithic tool industry. **Hence pair 1 is not correctly matched.**

Chandraketugarh: It is located in the Ganga delta in West Bengal. In early historic times, Chandraketugarh was connected to the Ganga by the Vidyadhari River, and must have been an important centre of trade, and possibly also a political centre. Chandraketugarh was a major centre of terracotta craft. Various kinds of artefacts have been found at the site over the years, including coins, pottery, seals and sealings, and figurines made of ivory, wood, and bronze. **Hence pair 2 is correctly matched.**

Ganeshwar: The Ganeshwar–Jodhpura culture was located in the north-eastern part of Rajasthan. Hundreds of copper objects found at this site suggest that it had emerged as a copper-working centre and that its people were supplying these items to communities elsewhere. **Hence pair 3 is correctly matched.**

Gupta and Post-Gupta Period

1. Which one of the following ancient towns is well-known for its elaborate system of water harvesting and management by building a series of dams and channelizing water into connected reservoirs?
- (a) Dholavira
 - (b) Kalibangan
 - (c) Rakhigarhi
 - (d) Ropar

Ans: (a), Dholavira, the Harappan City in the Rann of Kutch, has been **inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List**, making it the "40th treasure" in India to earn the special recognition.

Discovered in 1968, the site is known for its unique characteristics, such as its **water management system**, multi-layered defensive mechanisms, extensive use of stone in construction and special burial structures.

Along with Gujarat's Dholavira, Rudreswara/Ramappa Temple in Telangana was also inscribed in the list during the 44th session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee in Fuzhou, China. While the Harappan city of Dholavira has borne witness to the entire trajectory of the rise and fall of an early civilization of humankind, the Kakatiya Rudreshwara (Ramappa) Temple stands as an outstanding marvel of the Kakatiyan culture.

Kalibangan is a famous site of Indus Valley Civilization in **Rajasthan**. It is famous for pottery, **black bangles**. It was an **industrial site the sign of ploughed field, fire altar** and couple buried are founded.

The site of **Rakhigarh** is one of the five known biggest townships of Harappan civilization on Indian sub-continent. Other four are Harappa, Mohenjodaro and Ganveriwala in Pakistan and Dholavira (Gujrat) in India. Five interconnected mounds spread in a huge area form the Rakhigarhi's unique site. Two mounds, out of five, were thickly populated. This site was excavated by Shri Amarendra Nath of Archeological Survey of India.

The town is a shadily populated spot famous for being as **one of the major excavation sites of the Indus Valley Civilization**. Ropar is the **first Indus valley excavation site** in independent India. The excavations from Ropar have yielded a detailed insight on the Indus valley civilization and the Harappa Culture.

VIII ■ General Studies (Prelims) Solved

Art & Architecture in Ancient India

1. Which one of the following statements is correct?

- (a) Ajanta Caves lie in the gorge of Waghora river.
- (b) Sanchi Stupa lies in the gorge of Chambal river.
- (c) Pandu-lena Cave Shrines lie in the gorge of Nar-mada River.
- (d) Amaravati Stupa lies in the gorge of Godavari river.

Ans: (a), Ajanta Caves: The Ajanta caves are located in the Aurangabad district of the state of Maharashtra. These are a group of Buddhist caves which were carved and sculpted from the 2nd Century BCE. to 5th century CE. The caves were declared as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1983. The site is a horseshoe shaped escarpment which overlooks the **Waghora River**.

Pandu-lena: Popularly known as Pandu-lena or Pandava's Caves, the group of 24 cave excavation is located (on the north face of a hill called Trirasmī in ancient times) 8 km southwest of Nasik town (ancient city of Nasika or Nasikya which figures in many of the donor inscriptions of west Indian caves). The caves are hewn at a height of nearly 60 – 70 m from the surrounding plains. The hill was known as Trirasmī, probably due to the location of three independent hill groups which marks the end of Trimbak-Anjaneri range of Sahyadris.

Amaravati is situated on the right bank of the river Krishna at a distance of 35 km north of the railway station of Guntur town. It is also a center of pilgrimage, known as Amareswaram.

The Amaravati School of Art occupies a pre-eminent position in the history of Indian Art. With its beginning in 3rd century BC the Amaravati unfolds its chapters through the galaxy of sculptural wealth that once adorned the Mahachaitya the majestic monument of the Buddhists situated here with its history extending over a period of a millennium and a half.

Sanchi, variously known as Kakanaya, Kakanava, Kakanadabota and Bota-Sripurvata in ancient times, has a singular distinction of having remarkable specimen of Buddhist art and architecture right from the early Mauryan period (c. third century BC to twelfth century AD). Sanchi is famous in the world for stupas, monolithic Asokan pillar, temples, monasteries and sculptural wealth.

It was Emperor Asoka who laid the foundations of a religious centre at Sanchi fascinated probably by the location of the hill or because of his Queen Devi, who was the daughter of a merchant of Vidisha. He erected the Great Stupa (Stupa 1) here after redistribution of mortal remains of Lord Buddha for erecting several stupas all over the country in order to spread Buddhism. This stupa was originally a low structure of brick, half the diameter of the present edifice hemispherical in shape with raised terraces at the base. It was enclosed by a wooden railing and a stone umbrella at the top. This Great Stupa served as a

nucleus to the large Buddhist establishment during the later period.

During Sunga times, several edifices were raised at Sanchi and its surrounding hills. The Asokan stupa was enlarged and faced with stones and decorated with balustrades, staircases and a harmika on the top.

In the first century BC the Andhra-Satavahanas, who had extended their sway over the eastern Malwa, caused the elaborately carved gateways to Stupa 1. The Great Stupa of Sanchi displays an austere grandeur and the exquisite carvings of the doorway depict in detail the significant episodes and miracles from Lord Buddha's life and events depicted in the Buddhist Jataka stories.

2. With reference to the history of ancient India, Bhavabhuti, Hastimalla and Kshemeshvara were famous

- (a) Jain monks
- (b) playwrights
- (c) temple architects
- (d) philosophers

Ans: (b), Bhavabhuti, a major dramatist of the later Sanskrit dramatic period, was the court poet of King Yashovarman of Kannauj, in north India in 8th CE. He too wrote plays based on the Ramayana, such as the Mahaviracharita (Exploits of a Great Hero), which depicts the early life of Rama and Uttaramcharita (The Latter History of Rama), which shows the final years of Rama's life as written in the Uttara Kanda of the Ramayana. Both the plays consist of seven acts written in the Nataka style. His third drama, Malatimadhava (Malati and Madhava), is a Prakarana play centered on the love story of Malati, the daughter of a minister and Madhavya, her beloved.

Hastimalla was a kannada poet and playwright during the reign of Hoysalas.

3. With reference to the history of ancient India, which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. Mitakshara was the civil law for upper castes and Dayabhaga was the civil law for lower castes.
- 2. In the Mitakshara system, the sons can claim right to the property during the lifetime of the father, whereas in the Dayabhaga system, it is only after the death of the father that the sons can claim right to the property.
- 3. The Mitakshara system deals with the matters related to the property held by male members only of a family, whereas the Dayabhaga system deals with the matters related to the property held by both male and female members of a family.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1 and 2
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1 and 3
- (d) 3 only

Ans: (b), Statement 1 is not correct: Both the Two systems of family/civil law, Dayabhaga and Mitakshara are the basic to the upper castes alone - Dayabhaga system prevailed in eastern India and Mitakshara in remaining parts of the country.

History of India and Indian National Movement

Ancient India

Indus Valley Civilization

1. Which one of the following is not a Harappan site?

- (a) Chanhudaro (b) Kot Diji
(c) Sohagaura (d) Desalpur

(IAS 2019)

2. Which of the following characterizes / characterize the people of Indus Civilization?

1. They possessed great palaces and temples.
2. They worshipped both male and female deities.
3. They employed horse-drawn chariots in warfare.

Select the correct statement/statements using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) None of the statements given above is correct

(IAS 2013)

3. Regarding the Indus Valley Civilization, consider the following statements:

1. It was predominantly a secular civilization and the religious element, though present, did not dominate the scene.
2. During this period, cotton was used for manufacturing textiles in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

(IAS 2011)

4. Match List I (Ancient site) with List II (Archaeological finding) and select the correct answer using the codes given below the lists:

List I (Ancient site)

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

List II (Archaeological finding)

1. Ploughed field 2. Dockyard
3. Terracotta Replica of a Plough
4. An inscription comprising ten large sized signs of the Harappan Script

Codes:	A	B	C	D
(a)	1	2	3	4
(b)	2	1	4	3
(c)	1	2	4	3
(d)	2	1	3	4

(IAS 2002)

5. Which one of the following animals was NOT represented on the seals and terracotta art of the Harappan culture?

- (a) Cow (b) Elephant
(c) Rhinoceros (d) Tiger

(IAS 2001)

6. What is the correct chronological order in which the following appeared in India?

1. Gold coins 2. Punch-marked silver coins
3. Iron plough 4. Urban culture

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

- (a) 3, 4, 1, 2 (b) 3, 4, 2, 1
(c) 4, 3, 1, 2 (d) 4, 3, 2, 1

(IAS 1998)

7. The earliest evidence of silver in India is found in the—

- (a) Harappan culture
(b) Chalcolithic cultures of Western India
(c) Vedic texts
(d) Silver punch marked coins

(IAS 1994)

Vedic Period

1. With reference to the difference between the culture of Rigvedic Aryans and Indus Valley people, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Rigvedic Aryans used the coat of mail and helmet in warfare whereas the people of Indus Valley Civilization did not leave any evidence of using them.
2. Rigvedic Aryans knew gold, silver and copper whereas Indus Valley people knew only copper and iron.
3. Rigvedic Aryans had domesticated the horse whereas there is no evidence of Indus Valley people having been aware of this animal.

6 ■ General Studies (Prelims) Solved

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

(IAS 2017)

2. The national motto of India, 'Satyameva Jayate' inscribed below the Emblem of India is taken from

- (a) Katha Upanishad (b) Chandogya Upanishad
(c) Aitareya Upanishad (d) Mundaka Upanishad

(IAS 2014)

3. The religion of early Vedic Aryans was primarily of

- (a) Bhakti
(b) image worship and Yajnas
(c) worship of nature and Yajnas
(d) worship of nature and Bhakti

(IAS 2012)

4. With reference to the guilds (Shreni) of ancient India that played a very important role in the country's economy, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Every guild was registered with the central authority of the State and the king was the chief administrative authority on them.
2. The wages, rules of work, standards and prices were fixed by the guild.
3. The guild had judicial powers over its own members.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

(IAS 2012)

5. The "dharma" and "rita" depict a central idea of ancient Vedic civilization of India. In this context, consider the following statements:

1. Dharma was a conception of obligations and of the discharge of one's duties to oneself and to others.
2. Rita was the fundamental moral law governing the functioning of the universe and all it contained.

Which of the statements given above is/ are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

(IAS 2011)

6. Which one of the following four Vedas contains an account of magical charms and spells?

- (a) Rig-veda (b) Yajur-veda
(c) Atharva-veda (d) Sama-veda

(IAS 2004)

7. The term 'Aryan' denotes

- (a) an ethnic group (b) a nomadic people
(c) a speech group (d) a superior race

(IAS 1999)

8. The famous dialogue between Nachiketa and Yama is mentioned in the:

- (a) Chhandogya Upanishad
(b) Mundakopanishad
(c) Kathopanishad
(d) Kenopanishad

(IAS 1997)

9. The river most mentioned in early Vedic literature is:

- (a) Sindhu (b) Sutudri
(c) Saraswati (d) Ganga

(IAS 1996)

10. In the context of ancient Indian society which one of the following terms does not belong to the category of the other three?

- (a) Kula (b) Vamsa
(c) Kosa (d) Gotra

(IAS 1996)

11. Who among the following was a Bhrahmavadini who composed some hymns of the Vedas?

- (a) Lopamudra (b) Gargi
(c) Leelavati (d) Savitri

(IAS 1995)

12. According to ancient Indian cosmogonic ideas the sequential order of the cycle of four acons (yugas) is:

- (a) Dvapara, Krita, Treta and Kali
(b) Krita, Dvapara, Treta and Kali
(c) Krita, Treta, Dvapara and Kali
(d) Treta, Dvapara, Kali and Krita

(IAS 1996)

13. The word 'Hindu' as reference to the people of Hind (India) was first used by:

- (a) the Greeks (b) the Romans
(c) the Chinese (d) the Arabs

(IAS 1995)

14. Match List-I with List-II and select the correct answer (using codes given below the lists)

List-I (Eras)

- A. Vikrama era
B. Saka era
C. Gupta era
D. Kali era

List-II (Reckoned from)

1. 3102 B.C.
2. 320 A.D.
3. 78 A.D.
4. 58 B.C.
5. 248 A.D.

Codes:

- (a) A-2; B-4; C-5; D-1 (b) A-1; B-3; C-2; D-4
(c) A-4; B-5; C-2; D-3 (d) A-4; B-3; C-2; D-1

(IAS 1995)

15. In Sanskrit plays written during the Gupta period women and Sudras speak:

- (a) Sanskrit (b) Prakrit
(c) Pali (d) Sauraseni

(IAS 1995)

India & World Geography

Section A

WORLD GEOGRAPHY: MAP

1. Consider the following pairs

River	Flows into
1. Mekong	Andaman Sea
2. Thames	Irish Sea
3. Volga	Caspian Sea
4. Zambezi	Indian Ocean

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only
(c) 3 and 4 only (d) 1, 2 and 4 only

(IAS 2020)

2. Consider the following pairs:

Sea	Bordering Country
1. Adriatic Sea	: Albania
2. Black Sea	: Croatia
3. Caspian Sea	: Kazakhstan
4. Mediterranean Sea	: Morocco
5. Red Sea	: Syria

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) 1, 2 and 4 only (b) 1, 3 and 4 only
(c) 2 and 5 only (d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

(IAS 2019)

3. Which of the following has/have shrunk immensely/ dried up in the recent past due to human activities?

1. Aral Sea 2. Black Sea
3. Lake Baikal

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 2 only (d) 1 and 3

(IAS 2018)

4. Mediterranean Sea is a border of which of the following countries?

1. Jordan 2. Iraq
3. Lebanon 4. Syria

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 and 4 only (d) 1, 3 and 4 only

(IAS 2017)

5. Turkey is located between

- (a) Black Sea and Caspian Sea
(b) Black Sea and Mediterranean
(c) Gulf of Suez and Mediterranean Sea
(d) Gulf of Aqaba and Dead Sea

(IAS 2014)

6. What could be the main reasons for the formation of African and Eurasian desert belt?

1. It is located in the sub-tropical high pressure cells.
2. It is under the influence of warm ocean currents.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct in this context?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

(IAS 2011)

7. Between India and East Asia, the navigation time and distance can be greatly reduced by which of the following?

1. Deepening the Malacca straits between Malaysia and Indonesia.
2. Opening a new canal across the Kra Isthmus between the Gulf of Siam and Andaman Sea.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

(IAS 2011)

8. Which one of the following can one come across if one travels through the Strait of Malacca?

- (a) Bali (b) Brunei
(c) Java (d) Singapore

(IAS 2010)

9. Which one of the following straits is nearest to the International Date Line?

- (a) Malacca Strait
(b) Bering Strait
(c) Strait of Florida
(d) Strait of Gibraltar

(IAS 2008)

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10. Which one of the following pairs is not correctly matched?

- | | | |
|--------------|---|--------|
| City | : | River |
| (a) Berlin | : | Rhine |
| (b) London | : | Thames |
| (c) New York | : | Hudson |
| (d) Vienna | : | Danube |

(IAS 2009)

11. Cape Canaveral, the site from which space shuttles are launched, is located on the coast of

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| (a) Florida | (b) Virginia |
| (c) North Carolina | (d) South Carolina |

(IAS 2009)

12. In which one of the following is Malta located?

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| (a) Baltic Sea | (b) Mediterranean |
| (c) Black Sea | (d) North Sea |

(IAS 2008)

13. Bermuda triangle extends up to which of the following places?

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| 1. Southern Florida | 2. Puerto Rico |
| 3. Hawaii Islands | |

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| (a) 1, 2 and 3 | (b) 1 and 2 only |
| (c) 2 and 3 only | (d) 1 and 3 only |

(IAS 2006)

14. Through which one of the following groups of countries does the Equator pass?

- | |
|---------------------------------------|
| (a) Brazil, Zambia and Malaysia |
| (b) Colombia, Kenya and Indonesia |
| (c) Brazil, Sudan and Malaysia |
| (d) Venezuela, Ethiopia and Indonesia |

(IAS 2006)

15. Where are the Balearic Islands located?

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| (a) Mediterranean Sea | (b) Black Sea |
| (c) Baltic Sea | (d) North Sea |

(IAS 2005)

16. Itaipu Dam built on the River Parana is one of the largest dams in the world. Which one of the following two countries has this as a joint project?

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| (a) Brazil and Peru | (b) Paraguay and Ecuador |
| (c) Brazil and Paraguay | (d) Colombia and Paraguay |

(IAS 2005)

17. Consider the following statements:

- Total land area of Earth is approximately 1475 lakh square kilometers
- Ratio of land area to water area of Earth is approximately 1:4
- Maximum percentage of Earth's water is in the Pacific Ocean

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| (a) 1 and 3 | (b) 2 and 3 |
| (c) 1 Only | (d) 3 Only |

(IAS 2005)

18. Match List I with List II and select the correct answer

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| List I (Sea) | List II (Country) |
| (A) Black Sea | 1. Bulgaria |
| (B) Red Sea | 2. China |
| (C) Yellow Sea | 3. Eritrea |
| (D) Caspian Sea | 4. Kazakhstan |

- | | | | | |
|---------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Codes: | A | B | C | D |
| (a) | 1 | 4 | 2 | 3 |
| (b) | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| (c) | 1 | 3 | 2 | 4 |
| (d) | 2 | 4 | 1 | 3 |

(IAS 2004)

19. The great Asian river Mekong does not run through

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| (a) China | (b) Malaysia |
| (c) Cambodia | (d) Laos |

(IAS 2004)

20. The waterfall 'Victoria' is associated with the River

- | | |
|------------------|--------------|
| (a) Amazon | (b) Missouri |
| (c) St. Lawrence | (d) Zambezi |

(IAS 2003)

21. In the map given below, four islands of Indian Ocean region i.e.



- | | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| (A) Seychelles | (B) Chagos |
| (C) Mauritius and | (D) Socotra |

are marked as 1, 2, 3 and 4. Match them and select the correct answer from the codes given below:

- | | | | | |
|---------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Codes: | A | B | C | D |
| (a) | 1 | 3 | 4 | 2 |
| (b) | 3 | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| (c) | 1 | 3 | 2 | 4 |
| (d) | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 |

(IAS 2002)

22. Which one of the following lakes forms an international boundary between Tanzania and Uganda?

- | | |
|--------------|-------------|
| (a) Chad | (b) Malawi |
| (c) Victoria | (d) Zambezi |

(IAS 2000)