

STUDENT'S EDITION

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Ancient India History

1 The date of the Harappan Civilisation (2300-1750 BC) has been fixed on the basis of

- a) Pottery design
- b) Stratification
- c) Aryan invasion
- d) Radio Carbon-14 dating

Answer (D)

2. Most of the large Harappan towns had fortifications which served the purpose of

- A) safety from robbers
- B) protection against cattle raiders
- C) protection against floods
- D) All the above

Answer (D)

3 Which of the following civilizations is not associated with the Harappan Civilisation?

- a) Mesopotamian
- b) Egyptian
- c) Sumerian
- d) Chinese

Answer (D)

4 which Of the following scholars who was the first to discover the traces of the Harappan Civilisation?

- a) Sir John Marshall
- b) RD Banerji
- c) A Cunningham
- d) Daya Ram Sahani

Answer (D)

5 The Harappan Civilisation achieved far greater advancement than

- a) town planning
- b) metal working
- C) weights and measures
- d) seals and figures

Answer (A)

6 The town planning in the Harappan Civilisation was inspired by a regard for

- A) beauty and utility

- B) uniformity
- C) sanitation and public health
- D) demographic factor

Answer (C)

7 The Indus or Harappan Civilisation is distinguished from the other contemporary civilisations by its

- A) town planning
- B) underground drainage system
- C) uniformity of weights and measures
- D) large agricultural surplus

Answer (B)

8 Match the location of the following Harappan sites:

List-I (Sites)	List-II (States)
A. Ropar	(i) Uttar Pradesh
B. Alamgirpur	(ii) Punjab
C. Kalibangan	(iii) Gujarat
D. Dholavira	(iv) Rajasthan
E. Banawali	(v) Haryana

Codes:

	A	B	C	D	E
a)	i i	i	iv	iii	v
b)	i	ii	iii	iv	v
c)	i i	i	iii	iv	v
d)	i i	iii	i	v	iv

Answer (A)

9. The first metal to be extensively used by the people in India was

- a) Bronze
- b) Iron
- c) Copper
- d) Tin

Answer (C)

10. The Harappan or Indus Valley Civilisation flourished during the ____ age.
- a) Megalithic b) Paleolithic
c) Neolithic d) Chalcolithic

Answer (D)

- 11 Cereal(s) grown by the people of the Harappan Civilisation was/ were
- a) Wheat b) Rice
c) Millet d) All the above

Answer (D)

12. The utensils of the Indus Valley people were mainly made of
- a) clay b) copper c) bronze d) brass

Answer (A)

13. Which of the following metals was not known to the Indus valley people?
- a) gold b) silver c) copper d) iron

Answer (D)

- 14 Which of the following objects was not worshipped by the Indus
- A) valley people
B) Mother Goddess
C) Pashupati Shiva
D) Trees such as Peepal and Acacia Trimurti

Answer (D)

15. At which of the following Harappan sites has a supposed dockyard been found?
- a) Kalibangan b) Lothal
c) Suktagendor d) Sotka Koli

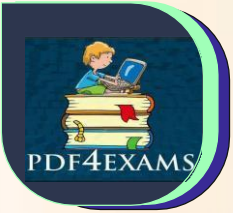
Answer (B)

16. The economy of the Indus Valley people was based on?
- a) Agriculture b) Trade and Commerce
c) Crafts d) All the above

Answer (D)

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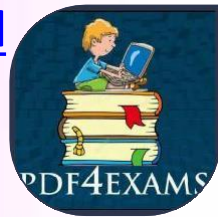


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17. The Harappan Civilisation declined as a result of

- A) Aryan invasion
- B) Decline in foreign trade
- C) Ecological factors
- D) Not definitely known factors

Answer (D)

18 The most common animal figure found at all the Harappan sites is

- a) unihorn bull b) cow
- c) bull d) tiger

Answer (A)

19. The term Aryan, Indo-Aryan or Indo-European denotes a _____ concept?

- a) Linguistic b) Racial
- c) Religious d) Cultural

Answer (A)

20 . According to the most widely accepted view, the Aryans originally came from

- a) India b) Central Asia
- c) Central Europe d) Steppes of Russia

Answer (B)

21. Which of the following Vedas was compiled first?

- a) Rigveda b) Samaveda
- c) Yajurveda d) Atharvaveda

Answer (A)

22 . Which of the following Vedas deals with magic spells and witchcraft?

- a) Rigveda b) Samaveda
- c) Yajurveda d) Atharvaveda

Answer (D)

23. The later Vedic Age means the age of the compilation of

- a) Samhitas b) Brahmanas

c) Aranyakas d) All the above

Answer (D)

24. The Vedic religion along with its Later (Vedic) developments is actually known as

- a) Hinduism b) Brahmanism
c) Bhagavatism d) Vedic Dharma

Answer (B)

25. The Vedic Aryans first settled in the region of

- a) Central India b) Gangetic Doab
c) Saptasindhu d) Kashmir and Punjab

Answer (C)

26. Which of the following contains the famous Gayatrimantra?

- a) Rigveda b) Samaveda
c) Kathopanishad d) Aitareya Brahmana

Answer (A)

27. The famous Gayatrimantra is addressed to

- a) Indra b) Varuna
c) Pashupati d) Savita

Answer (D)

28. Two highest gods in the Vedic religion were

- a) Agni and Savitri b) Vishnu and Mitra
c) Indra and Varuna d) Surya and Pushan

Answer (C)

29. Division of the Vedic society into four classes is clearly mentioned in the

- a) Yajurveda b) Purusa-sukta of Rigveda
c) Upanishads d) Shatapatha Brahmana

Answer (B)

30. This Vedic God was 'a breaker of the forts' and also a 'war god'

- a) Indra b) Yama

- c) Marut d) Varuna

Answer (A)

31. The Vedic economy was based on

- A) trade and commerce
B) crafts and industries
C) agriculture and cattle rearing
D) all the above

Answer (C)

32 The normal form of government during the Vedic period was

- a) democracy b) republics
c) oligarchy d) monarchy

Answer (D)

33. Two popular Assemblies of the Vedic period were

- a) Sabha and Mahasabha b) Mahasabha and Ganasabha
c) Sabha and Samiti d) Ur and Kula

Answer (C)

34. The philosophy propounded in the Upanishads is known as

- a) Advaita b) Vedanta
c) Yoga d) Samkhya

Answer (B)

35. After the growth of the Vedic religion the most important development in the history of the so-called Hinduism was the development of

- a) Shaivism b) Saktism
c) Bhagavatism d) Tantricism

Answer (C)

36. Bhagavatism refers to worship of

- a) Vasudeva Krishna b) Brahma
c) Brahma-Vishnu-Shiva d) Durga as Shakti

Answer (A)

37. Vaishnavism, a later development of Bhagavatism, advocates the worship of

- A) Vishnu
- B) Ram and Krishna
- C) Vishnu and his incarnations
- D) Vishnu and Lakshmi

Answer (C)

38. The Hindu social sacraments such as marriage etc are performed on the basis of the rituals described in the

- a) Rigveda b) Yajurveda
- c) Grihyasutras d) Upanishad

Answer (C)

39. The founder of Jainism was

- a) Rishbha b) Neminath
- c) Parsvanatha d) Vardhaman Mahavira

Answer (C)

40*. Vardhamana Mahavira the 24th Tirthankar of Jainism was born at _____ and died at _____.

- a) Vaishali and Rajagriha b) Kusinara and Pava
- c) Kundagrama and Pava d) Kashi and Champa

Answer (C)

41. The 'Three Jewels' (Triratnas) of Jainism are

- A) right faith or intentions, right knowledge and right conduct
- B) right action, right livelihood and right effort
- C) right thoughts, non-violence and non-attachment
- D) right speech, right thinking and right behaviour

Answer (A)

42. Of the five vows (Panch Anuvratas) of Jainism , four existed before Mahavira. The one which he added was

- A) not to kill (non-injury)
- B) not to steal
- C) non-attachment to worldly things
- D) celibacy

Answer (D)

43 In Jainism the aim of life is to attain Nirvana or Moksha for which one has to

- A) follow three jewels and five vows
- B) practice, non-violence and non-injury to all living beings
- C) renounce the world and attain right knowledge
- D) believe in the Jains and absolute non-violence

Answer (A)

44. Jainism was divided into two sects— Svetambaras (White-clad) and Digambaras (Sky-clad or naked) — During the reign of the

- a) Nandas
- b) Mauryas
- c) Kusanas
- d) Shungas

Answer (B)

45 The name Buddha means

- a) enlightened
- b) learned
- c) divine
- d) sacred

Answer (A)

46 Match the events of the Buddha's life with the places of their occurrence:

List-I List-II

- A. Birth (i) Kusinagar
- B. Attainment of knowledge (ii) Sarnath
- C. First Sermon (iii) Bodh-Gaya
- D. Death (iv) Lumbini

Codes:

- | | A | B | C | D |
|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| a) | i | ii | iii | iv |
| b) | ii | i | iv | iii |
| c) | iii | ii | i | iv |
| d) | iv | iii | ii | i |

Answer (D)

47. Buddhism was divided into Mahayana and Hinayana during the reign of

- a) Asoka b) Kanishka
c) Menander d) Harsha

48. The great exponent of Mahayana Buddhism was

- a) Ashvaghosa b) Vasubandhu
c) Nagarjuna d) Nagasena

49. Jatakas are the stories of

- A) Buddha's life
B) Buddha's previous lives
C) The lives of the future Buddhas
D) Great saints of Buddhism

Answer (B)

50. Outside India, Buddhism was first accepted in

- a) China b) Japan c) Sri Lanka d) Tibet

Answer (C)

51. In the sixth century BC northern India was divided into

- A) sixteen great states
B) eight republican states
C) both (a) and (b) above
D) Anga and Magadha

Answer (C)

52. Of all the states in northern India in 6th century BC which of the following states emerged as the most powerful?

- a) Anga b) Magadha
- c) Kashi d) Kosala

Answer (B)

53. When Alexander invaded India, Magadha was being ruled by the

- a) Haryankas b) Sisunagas
- c) Nandas d) Mauryas

Answer (C)

54. Chandragupta Maurya with the help of Chanakya decided to overthrow the Nandas because

- A) Chanakya had been humiliated by the Nandas
- B) the Nandas were low-born
- C) the Nandas had accumulated a great deal of wealth by extortion and oppression of the people
- D) Chanakya wanted to restore the ideal of Kshatriya rule

Answer (C)

55. The decline of the Nandas at the hands of Kautilya and Chandragupta Maurya has been vividly portrayed in the Sanskrit play written by Kalidasa

- a) Mudrarakshas b) Devichandragupta
- c) Malavikagnimitram d) Mrichhakatika

Answer (C)

56. Kautilya (also known as Vishnugupta and Chanakya) is the author of Arthashastra which has been compared with

- a) Plato's State b) Machiavelli's Prince
- c) Karl Marx's Das Kapital d) Hitler's Mein Kampf

Answer (B)

57. Megasthenes, the ambassador of Selucus at the Mauryan court in Pataliputra, wrote an account of the period in his book

- a) Travels of Megasthenes
- b) Indika
- c) Indica
- d) Both (b) and (c)

Answer (B)

58. Which of the following is the single most important source of the history of Ashoka?

- A) Sri Lankan chronicles _ Dipavamsa and Mahavamsa
- B) Buddhist works Divyavadana and Ashokavadana
- C) Inscriptions of Ashoka
- D) Archaeological Sources and the Puranas

Answer (C)

59. After the Kalinga War, Ashoka decided never to wage any war because?

- A) After the conquest of Kalinga the political unity of Mauryan India had been achieved
- B) Ashoka felt apologetic about the destruction of men and material on both sides in the war
- C) He was moved by the violence, slaughter and sufferings to the combatants and non-combatants in the war
- D) Shortly after the war he adopted Buddhism which was opposed to violence

Answer (C)

60. In his inscriptions Ashoka calls himself

- A) Devanampriya Priyadarshi King

- B) Ashoka Priyadarshi
- C) Dhammasoka (Dharmasoka)
- D) Daivaputra

Answer (A)

61. Ashoka's claim to be one of the greatest rulers in world history lies in the fact that
- A) is aims covered both the religious and secular aspects of life
 - B) he worked for the material moral and spiritual uplift of the people
 - C) after a single conquest he dedicated himself completely to the cause of peace
 - D) he attempted to unify the people of different castes and communities into a bound of common moral ideal

Answer (C)

62. The most important official post with vast responsibilities created by Asoka was
- a) Rajuka b) Yukta
 - c) Dharamamahamatya d) Prativedaka

Answer (C)

63. The Mauryan sculptors had attained the highest perfection in the carving of
- a) floral designs b) pillars
 - c) animal figures d) yaksha figures

Answer (C)

64. The most striking feature of the Ashokan pillars is their
- a) monolithic structure b) carving
 - c) polish d) uniformity of workmanship

Answer (C)

65. Which of the following was not one of the actual causes for the decline of the Mauryan empire?

- A) Ashoka's pacifist policies
- B) Division of the empire after Ashoka
- C) Foreign aggressions particularly Greek
- D) Economic and financial crisis

Answer (A)

66. Who usurped power from the Mauryas after killing the last Mauryan ruler Brihadraha?

- a) Pushyamitra Sunga b) Agnimitra
- c) Vasumitra d) Jyesthamitra

Answer (A)

67. The most famous Indo-Greek ruler of India, famous for his sense of justice and dialogues with a Buddhist monk Nagasena (as described in the Buddhist work Milinda Panho) was

- a) Demetrius b) Menander
- c) Eukratides d) Heliocles

Answer (B)

68. The first great empire to the south of the Vindhayas was of the

- a) Cholas b) Cheras
- c) Pandyas d) Satavahanas

Answer (D)

69. The greatest claim to fame of the Satavahanas is on account of

- A) Pursuing a tolerant religious policy and giving common patronage to Buddhism and Brahmanism
- B) Adoption of Prakrit as their court language in preference to Sanskrit
- C) Great economic prosperity and brisk inland and foreign trade
- D) Great contribution to Indian art as evident from the art of Amravati and Nagarjunakonda

Answer (C)

70. Mohenjo-Daro is situated in

- a) Montgomery district b) Larkana district
- c) Chandigarh area d) Gujarat

Answer (B)

71. Which of the following is the oldest of the Vedas??

- a) Sama Veda b) Atharva Veda
- c) Yajur Veda d) Rig Veda

Answer (D)

72 The family of the Rig Vedic Aryans was

- a) Patrilineal b) Patriarchal
- c) Matriarchal d) Matrilineal

Answer (B)

73 Gautama Buddha was brought up by

- a) Mahaprajapati b) Mayadevi
- c) Kundavi d) Sangamitra

Answer (A)

74*. Mahavira was

- a) the 20th Tirthankara b) the 21st Tirthankara
- c) the 23rd Tirthankara d) the 24th Tirthankara

Answer (D)

75. The Phrase the 'Light of Asia' is applied to

- a) Alexander b) Chandragupta Maurya c) Mahavira d) The Buddha

Answer (D)

76. The Eight-fold path was enunciated by

- a) The Buddha b) Mahavira
- c) Nehru d) Mahatma Gandhi

Answer (A)

77. The Svetambara Jains were

- a) clad in white b) clad in black
- c) clad in red d) saffron clad

Answer (A)

78. The Buddha

- A) rejected the theory of Karma
- B) was non-committal on the theory of Karma
- C) believed in the theory of Karma
- D) suggested an alternative to the theory of Karma

Answer (C)

79. The Buddhist Doctrines were written in

- A) Sanskrit
- B) Pali
- C) Tibetan
- D) Not written in any language but orally transmitted

Answer (B)

80*. The first Buddhist Council was held at

- a) Lumbini
- b) Kapilavastu
- c) Rajagriha
- d) Avanti

Answer (C)

81. Ashoka was much influenced by a Buddhist monk called

- a) Upegupta
- b) Vasubandhu
- c) Ambhi
- d) Asvagosha

Answer (A)

82. Megasthenes visited India during the period of

- a) Chandragupta II
- b) Ashoka

c) Chandragupta Maurya d) Harsha

Answer (C)

83. Megasthenes was the Ambassador of

a) Selukos Nikator b) Alexander

c) Darius d) The Persians

Answer (A)

84. "The Indica" was written by

a) Kautilya b) Patanjali c) Megasthenes d) Panini

Answer (C)

85. Mauryan Dynasty was founded by

a) Ashoka b) Chandragupta Maurya c) Pushyamitra d) Ajatasatru

Answer (B)

86. The main occupation of the Aryans was

a) Weaving b) Agriculture c) Trade d) Seafaring

Answer (B)

87. The Rig Veda consists of

a) 1000 hymns b) 1028 hymns

c) 500 hymns d) 2000 hymns

Answer (B)

88. The Yueh-Chi were driven out from western China by the

a) Hunas b) Rashtrika c) Mangols d) Bhojakas

Answer (A)

89. Which of the following explains the duties of Dharmamahatras?

a) The Minor Rock Edicts b) The two Kalinga Edicts

c) Arthashastra d) Indica

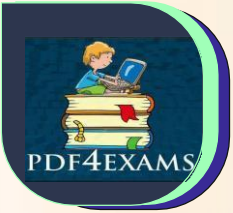
Answer (A)

90. During the Mauryan period the administration of Pataliputra was in the hands of

a) three boards b) four boards

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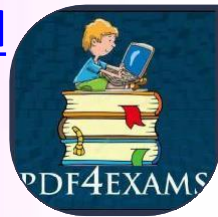


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c) five boards d) six boards

Answer (D)

91. Which of the following Minor Rock Edicts of Ashoka describes the Conquest of Kalinga by Ashoka?

a) No. XIII b) No. Xc) No. XI d) No. XII

Answer (A)

92. Which of the following Vedas is rendered musically?

a) Rig Veda b) Yajur Veda
c) Sama Veda d) Atharva Veda

Answer (C)

93. Of the following who was the hero of a famous drama Malvikagnimitra written by Kalidasa?

a) Vasumitra b) Vajramitra c) Pushyamitra d) Agnimitra

Answer (D)

94. The duties of Dharmamahamatras are explained in the Minor Rock Edict No _____.

a) X b) IV c) XII d) V

Answer (D)

95. Which of the following subjects is not dealt with in the Puranas?

a) Primary creation b) Secondary creation
c) Genealogies of gods d) Arithmetic

Answer (D)

96. The Vishnu Purana gives an account of _____.

a) Mauryan Dynasty b) The Andhras
c) The Vardhanas d) Life in Indus Valley

Answer (A)

97. A well-organised State machinery was introduced for the first time by

a) the Vedic Aryans b) Alexander
c) the Guptas d) the Mauryas

Answer (D)

98. The last Mauryan king was

a) Pushyamitra Sunga b) Ashoka

c) Harsha d) Brihadratha

Answer (D)

99. Bimbisara was succeeded by

a) Ashoka b) Ajatasatru

c) Vesudeva d) Chandragupta Maurya

Answer (B)

100. The Upanishads are separated from the Brahmanas by treatises called _____

a) Vedas b) Aranyakas c) Epics d) Puranas

Answer (B)

101. 'Atman is everything and everything is Atman' is the _____ doctrine.

a) Buddhist b) Jain

c) Pantheistic d) Zoroastrian

Answer (C)

102. The religious movements of Buddhism and Jainism were led by

a) Sudras b) Kshatriya Princes

c) Valsyas d) Brahmins

Answer (B)

103. Whom can we call the first national ruler of India?

a) Chandragupta Maurya b) Kanishka

c) Harsha d) Ajatasatru

Answer (A)

104. The salient feature of the Rig Vedic religion was worship of _____

a) Nature b) Pasupathi

c) Trimurti d) Mother Goddess

Answer (A)

105. The 'Brahmanas' deals with

- a) The Bhakti Theory b) Yoga
c) Ritualism d) Meditation

Answer (C)

106. Which of the following Gods lost his importance as the first deity during the Rig Vedic period?

- a) Varuna b) Agni c) Vishnu d) Rudra

Answer (A)

107. Which of the following was the God of Animal during the later Vedic period?

- a) Indra b) Rudra c) Vishnu d) Prajapathi

Answer (B)

108. Which of the following animals was not known to the people of Indus Valley Civilisation?

- a) Horse b) Cow c) Goat d) Elephant

Answer (A)

109. When Alexander invaded India, Taxila was ruled by

- a) Ambhi b) Porus c) Ashoka d) Bimbisara

Answer (A)

110. There are similarities between the seals found at Mohenjo-Daro and _____.

- a) Egypt b) China
c) Sumeria d) Afghanistan

Answer (C)

111. The Harappas had commercial relations with _____.

- a) China b) Java
c) Mesopotamia d) Burma (Now, Myanmar)

Answer (C)

112. Megasthenese was a Greek Ambassador sent to the court of _____.

- a) Ashoka b) Chandragupta Maurya c) Kanishka d) Porus

Answer (B)

113. Mudra Rakshasa was written by

- a) Kalidasa b) Visakadatta c) Bana d) Bharavi

Answer (B)

114. The Indus Civilisation is noted for its

- a) Art
- b) Scientific Advance
- c) Town Planning
- d) Military Organisation

Answer (C)

115. The language which contributed to the spread of Buddhism was

- a) Sanskrit
- b) Pali
- c) Tamil
- d) Greek

Answer (B)

116. Which of the following was the cause of the decline of Buddhism?

- A) Buddhism was founded by a prince
- B) Corruption crept into Buddhist monasteries
- C) Buddha and Mahavira were contemporaries
- D) Buddha preached non-violence

Answer (B)

117. Which of the following is not included in triratna of Jainism?

- a) Right Knowledge
- b) Right Conduct
- c) Right Faith
- d) Creator

Answer (D)

118. The Harappans did not know the use of

- a) Copper
- b) Bronze
- c) Gold
- d) Iron

Answer (D)

119. Ajivikas were _____.

- a) A monastic sect
- b) A sect of Barbarians
- c) Soldiers
- d) Spies

Answer (A)

120. Dharmamahamatras were _____ during the Mauryans.

- a) Officials
- b) Buddhist Monks
- c) Jain Monks
- d) Soldiers

Answer (A)

121. During the period of Sungas there was a revival of _____ .
- a) Jainism b) Buddhism
c) Brahminism d) Zoroastrianism

Answer (C)

122. Of the following who has been considered as a grammarian?
- a) Kautilya b) Megasthenes c) Patanjali d) Kanishka

Answer (C)

123. Agnimitra was the hero of Kalidas's _____ .
- a) Sakuntala b) Malavikagnimitra
c) Megadutta d) Mrichhakatikam

Answer (B)

124. Kanva dynasty was established by
- a) Rudradaman b) Vasudeva
c) Nagarjuna d) Kadphises

Answer (B)

125. Kharavela of Kalinga was a follower of
- a) Jainism b) Buddhism
c) Hinduism d) Confucianism

Answer (A)

126. The capital of the king Kharavela of Kalinga was
- a) Taxila b) Pataliputra
c) Kalinganagara d) Pushpapura

Answer (C)

127. Under Mauryas each province was placed under a _____ .
- a) Prince b) Commander c) Council d) Minister

Answer (A)

128. Chandragupta Maurya was _____ .
- a) A benevolent despot b) Autocrat

- c) Democrat d) A pious ruler

Answer (A)

129. The mother of Vardhamana Mahavira was a

- a) Lichavi Princess b) Maurya Princess
c) Saka Princess d) Not a member of the royal family

Answer (A)

130. Buddha delivered his first sermon at _____ .

- a) Sanchi b) Sarnath c) Kapilvastu d) Vaisali

Answer (B)

131. The Buddha attained nirvana at _____ .

- a) Bodh Gaya b) Sarnath
c) Sanchi d) Kusinagara

Answer (D)

132. The proceedings of the Third Buddhist Council led to the issue of _____ Edict?

- a) Sanchi b) Sarnath c) Bhabra d) Kalinga

Answer (B)

133. Which of the following is not the name of Kautilya?

- a) Chanakya
c) Dramindacharya
b) Vishnugupta
d) Devaputra

Answer (D)

134. Kautilya hailed from _____ .

- a) Taxila b) Srinagar c) Pataliputra d) Nepal

Answer (A)

135. Buddha has been described as 'an ocean of wisdom and compassion' in

- a) The Light of Asia
c) Buddhacharita

b) Amarakosa

d) Jatak Tales

Answer (B)

136*. The most important Pahlava ruler was _____

a) Mues b) Gondophernes c) Menander d) Darius

Answer (B)

137. St Thomas died a martyr at _____ .

a) Madras b) Bombay

c) Goa d) Surat

Answer (A)

138. Of the following Kushan Kings who assumed the title "the Lord of the Whole World"?

a) Kadphises I b) Kadphises II

c) Kanishka d) Huvishka

Answer (B)

139. The Capital of Kanishka Empire was _____.

a) Pataliputra b) Peshawar

c) Kabul d) Taxila

Answer (B)

140. The fourth Buddhist Council was held at _____ .

a) Pataliputra b) Vaisali

c) Kundalavana d) Bodhi Gaya

Answer (C)

141 Alexander was the son of Philip II of _____ .

a) Sparta b) Athens

c) Macedonia d) Carthage

Answer (C)

142. Porus was defeated by Alexander at the battle of _____ .

a) Herat b) Kabul

c) Hydraspes d) Arbela

Answer (C)

143. Alexander the Great died at _____.

- a) Susa b) Babylon
c) Macedonia d) Kabul

Answer (B)

144. The monolithic image of Jain Saint 'Gomatiswara' is at _____.

- a) Mount Abu b) Saravanabelgola
c) Kusunagara d) Kalinga

Answer (B)

145 Which of the following is known as the Jain Temple City?

- a) Girnar b) Allahabad
c) Rajagriha d) Varanasi

Answer (A)

146. _____ was the mother of Vardhamana Mahavira.

- a) Yasodhara b) Kundhavi
c) Trisala d) Mayadevi

Answer (C)

147. Bhasa was the author of _____.

- a) Mahavamsa b) Swapnavasavadatta
c) Sakunthala d) Buddha Charita

Answer (B)

148. The Monk whom Chandragupta Maurya accompanied to South India was _____.

- a) Asvaghosa b) Vasumitra
c) Upagupta d) Bhadrabahu

Answer (D)

149. Who among the following is not associated with medicine in ancient India?

- a) Dhanvantri b) Susruta

- c) Bhaskaracharya d) Charaka

Answer (C)

150. Megasthenes was succeeded by _____ as ambassador?

- a) Darius b) Demetrius
c) Deimachos d) Philip

Answer (C)

151. The Saka Era was founded by

- a) Kadphises b) Kanishka
c) Alexander d) Menander

Answer (B)

152. The famous Indo-Greek King who embraced Buddhism was _____

- a) Strato I b) Menander c) Demetrius d) Alexander

Answer (B)

153. Kanishka was the follower of

- a) Hinduism b) Jainism
c) Hinayanism d) Mahayanism

Answer (D)

154. The Sunga ruler Bhaga erected a monolithic 'Garuda' at _____.

- a) Varanasi b) Besnagar
c) Rajagriha d) Patliputra

Answer (B)

155. Match the following:

List-I List-II

- | | | |
|----------------|----|--------------|
| A. Kautilya | 1. | Magadha King |
| B. Megasthenes | 2. | Ashoka |
| C. Bimbisara | 3. | Arthashastra |
| D. Upagupta | 4. | Ambassador |

Codes:

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

Answer (A)

156. Match the following:

List-I

List-II

- | | | |
|-----------------|----|-------------------------|
| A. Sama Veda | 1. | Kali Age |
| B. Atharva Veda | 2. | Philosophical treatises |
| C. Puranas | 3. | Musically rendered |
| D. Upanishads | 4. | Magic and spells |

Codes:

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

Answer (A)

157. Vardhamana Mahavira died at

- a) Pavapuri b) Kundagrama c) Pataliputra d) Taxila

Answer (A)

158. The city of Pataliputra was founded at the junction of the Ganges and the _____.

- a) Sonu b) Brahmaputra c) Yamuna d) Gomati

Answer (A)

159. The Nanda dynasty was established by

- a) Vasudeva b) Kharavela
c) Mahapadma d) Pushyamitra

Answer (C)

160. Alexander was trained by

- a) Socrates b) Aristotle c) Plato d) Homer

Answer (B)

161. Of the following who is called India's Machiavelli?

- a) Asvaghosha b) Patanjali c) Kautilya d) Bana

Answer (C)

162. Which of the following was the main port for the Indus people?

- a) Lothal b) Harappa
c) Kalibangan d) Mohenjodaro

Answer (A)

163. The Indus people were worshippers of

- a) Mother's Goddess b) Indra
c) Rudra d) Varuna

Answer (A)

164. Vardhamana Mahavira was born at

- a) Bodh-Gaya b) Kundagrama c) Sarnath d) Benaras

Answer (B)

165. Bimbisara was succeeded by _____.

- a) Ashoka b) Ajatasatru
c) Vasudeva d) Chandragupta Maurya

Answer (B)

166. The term 'Aryan' denotes

- a) a speech group b) an ethnic group
c) a nomadic group d) a supporter race

Answer (A)

167. Alexander sent back home a portion of his army under an admiral called _____

- a) Ptolemy b) Nearchos c) Menander d) Porus

Answer (B)

168. Pushyamitra Sunga was a staunch _____ .

- a) Buddhist b) Jain c) Hindu d) Atheist

Answer (C)

169. 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 punchmarked coins

Answer (B)

170. Which one of the following was initially the most powerful city state of India in the 6th century BC?

- a) Gandhar b) Kamboj c) Kashi d) Magadh

Answer (C)

171. Which of the following was another name of Pataliputra?

- a) Purushapura b) Kusinagara
c) Kusumapura d) Huvishkapura

Answer (C)

172. Who was referred to as Amitrghata by the Greeks?

- a) Chandragupta Maurya b) Bimbisara
c) Bindusara d) Vasudeva

Answer (C)

173. The founder of the Achaemenian Empire was

- a) Cyrus b) Darius c) Xerxes d) Cambyses

Answer (A)

174. Which of the following was the characteristic feature of the religion of the ancient Tamils?

- a) Worship of Nature b) Worship of Mother Goddess
c) Worship of Murugan d) Worship of Sun

Answer (C)

175. The most powerful ruler of the Cheras was

- a) Udiyanjeral
- b) Nedunjeraladan
- c) Senguttuvan
- d) Sengannan

Answer (C)

176. A temple for "Patini devi" was constructed by

- a) Karikala
- b) Paranar
- c) Senguttuvan
- d) Udiyanjeral

Answer (C)

177. Which of the following was not the port of the Satavahanas?

- a) Barukkacha
- b) Kalyan
- c) Sopra
- d) Puhar

Answer (D)

178. Which of the following was the centre of inland trade of the Satavahanas?

- a) Nasik
- b) Srikakulam
- c) Tagara
- d) Surat

Answer (C)

179. Karikala was the centre of many legends found in

- a) Manimekalai
- b) Silappadhikaram
- c) Purananuru
- d) Kuruntokai

Answer (B)

180. During the 4th century AD the Western Satraps were conquered by

- a) Sassanian rulers
- b) Afghan rulers
- c) Satavahanas
- d) Kadambas

Answer (A)

181. Sudarsana lake was reconstructed by

- a) Nahapana
- b) Chashtana
- c) Rudradaman I
- d) Harsha

Answer (C)

182. The first ruler of the Satavahanas was

- a) Simuka
- b) Govinda
- c) Sri Satakarni
- d) Nahapana

Answer (A)

183. Naganika was a _____ Queen.

- a) Gupta b) Andhra c) Saka d) Pallava

Answer (B)

184. Which of the following works of Kalidasa gives information about the Andhras?

- a) Sakuntala b) Malavikagnimitra
c) Meghaduta d) Kumarasambhava

Answer (B)

185. Satavahana rule was extended to the Coromandal Coast by

- a) Sri Yajna Satakarni b) Pulumayi II
c) Sri Satakarni d) Simuka

Answer (B)

186. Chashtana was the Satraps of

- a) Gujarat b) Malwa c) Kathiawar d) Kashmir

Answer (B)

187. Srikakulam was the capital of

- a) Sakasb) Pahlavas c) Andhras d) Ashoka

Answer (C)

188. In whose court did Asyaghosa live?

- a) Harsha b) Samudra Gupta c) Kanishka d) Ashoka

Answer (C)

189. The Sunga period saw the growth of one of the following religions. Identify.

- a) Brahmanism b) Saivism
c) Buddhism d) Nature worship

Answer (A)

190. Whose general was Appolodotus?

- a) Euthydemus b) Demetrius c) Diodotus d) Antichos

Answer (B)

191. Who erected the Garuda pillar at Besnagar?

- a) Bhagabhadra b) Helliodorus
c) Menander d) Antialkidas

Answer (A)

192. During the pre-Gupta age the foreign trade was most extensive with

- a) South East Asian Countries b) China
c) Central Asia d) Roman Empire

Answer (D)

193. Which among the following was not affected by the invasion of the Persians on India?

- a) Script in the North-West b) Coinage
c) Court Ceremonies d) Sculpture

Answer (D)

194. Gandhara School of Art was deeply influenced by

- a) Chinese (Mongolian) art b) Hellenic art
c) Iranian (Persian) art d) Local (Indian) art

Answer (B)

195. Which one of the following was not a characteristic of society in Mauryan times?

- a) Slavery b) Rigidity of Caste
c) Prostitution d) Widow remarriage

Answer (D)

196. The ancient Chola kingdom existed in the delta of the river

- a) Tungabhadra b) Cauvery
c) Krishna d) Godavari

Answer (B)

197. Which of the following statements about Arthashastra is not true?

- A) It prescribes the duty of a king
B) It describes the then economic life of the country
C) It lays down the principles of politics
D) It highlights the need for financial reforms

Answer (D)

198. What is said to be the original home of the Sungas?

- a) Kalinga b) Vidisa c) Berar d) Bharhut

Answer (B)

199. Milindapanho is a

- a) History of a dynasty b) Prakrit drama
c) Sanskrit play d) Religious conversation

Answer (D)

200. Who wrote Ashtadhyayi?

- a) Panini b) Katyayana c) Jayadeva d) Bharatha

Answer (A)

201. The first Persian ruler who occupied part of Indian territory was

- a) Cyrus b) Cambyses c) Darius d) Xerxes

Answer (D)

202. Alexander the great, was obliged to go back because

- A) he fell ill
B) he suffered defeat in India
C) his forces refused to go further
D) he did not like India

Answer (C)

203. The one most important feature of the Mauryan Administration was

- A) wide powers enjoyed by the provincial governors
B) the presence of a 'council of ministers'
C) the presence of vast, numerous powers of the bureaucracy
D) an extensive network of spy-system

Answer (C)

204. The principles of Ashoka's Dharma (Dhamma) were taken from

- A) Buddhism
B) Jainism

- C) Brahmanism
D) The moral virtues of all Indian religions of that period

Answer (D)

205. Which social evil was conspicuously absent in ancient India?

- a) Polygamy b) Sati system
c) Devadasi system d) Purdah system

Answer (D)

206. The greatest Saka ruler of India, who was a great conqueror, is said to have gained fame by being well-versed in grammar, polity, logic, music etc and had taken a vow not to kill men except in battle. Who was he?

- a) Chastana b) Nahapana
c) Rudrasimha d) Rudradaman

Answer (B)

207. The greatest Kushana ruler whose contribution to Buddhism was even greater than that of Ashoka, was

- a) Kadphises b) Kanishka I c) Vasishka d) Huvishka

Answer (B)

208. The fourth and the last Buddhist Council was convened by

- a) Ashoka b) Menander c) Kanishka d) Huvishka

Answer (C)

209. The first image of the Buddha was carved out during the reign of

- a) Ashoka b) Pusyamitra Shunga
c) Kanishka I d) Menander

Answer (C)

210. The Gandhara-Mathura School of Art, which flourished during the Kushana period and the foreign influence of

- a) Greece b) Rome
c) Both (a) and (b) above d) China

Answer (C)

211. During the reign of Kanishka, Buddhism for the first time went to China and from China it went to

a) Burma and Tibet b) Thailand and Cambodia c) Korea and Japan d) Indonesia and Vietnam

Answer (C)

212. Who of the following was the personal physician of Kanishka and also the author of a famous treatise on the Indian system of medicine?

a) Charaka b) Susruta c) Nagarjuna d) Jevaka

Answer (A)

213. The worship of images (of Buddha) in India began during the period

a) Mauryan b) Sunga c) Kushana d) Gupta

Answer (C)

214. The earliest stratum of the history of the Tamils is known as

a) Chola Age b) Pandyan Age

c) Sangam Age d) Pallava Age

Answer (C)

215. The Sangam Age in the history of South India represents

A) The period of Aryanisation of South India

B) A period when an assembly of a college of Tamil poets was held at Madurai

C) A literary-cultural phase of the Tamilnam during the first three centuries of the Christian era

D) Both (b) and (c) above

Answer (D)

216. During the Sangam Age brisk and flourishing foreign trade was conducted from the south Indian ports of Muziris, Kaveripattanam, Poom-Puhar and Arikamedu to

a) West Asia b) South East Asia c) Roman World d) Central Europe

Answer (C)

217. Which of the following was not one of the ruling dynasties of South India in the Sangam Age?

a) Chola b) Chera

c) Pandya d) Pallava

Answer (D)

218. Which of the following is one of the greatest classics of the Sangam literature?

- a) Tikappiyam b) Kural
c) Pattuppattu d) Silapadikaram or Manimekalai

Answer (D)

219. Which of the following is the correct chronological sequence of the ruling dynasties of northern India, from the decline of the Mauryas to the rise of the Imperial Guptas?

- A) Sungas, Indo-Greeks, Kushans, Sakas and Guptas
B) Sungas, Kushans, Parthians, Sakas and Guptas
C) Sungas, Kanvas, Indo-Greeks, Sakas, Parthians and Guptas
D) Kanvas, Sungas, Indo-Greeks, Sakas, Parthians and Guptas

Answer (C)

220 . The last great ruling dynasty of Magadha was

- a) Sunga b) Kanva c) Kusana d) Gupta

Answer (D)

221. Kanishka is associated with an era which is known as

- a) Vikram era b) Saka-Shalivahan era
c) Saka era d) Gupta era

Answer (C)

222 . The greatest conqueror among the Gupta rulers was

- a) Samudragupta b) Chandragupta II
c) Kumargupta d) Skandagupta

Answer (A)

223. A Gupta king has been called an Indian Napoleon and he was also an accomplished poet and musician (player of Veena) who was he?

- a) Samudragupta b) Chandragupta II
c) Kumargupta d) Skandagupta

Answer (A)

224. The famous Mehrauli Iron Pillar inscription describes the conquest of

- a) Samudragupta b) Chandragupta II
c) Chandragupta Maurya d) Chandra of Indraprastha

Answer (B)

225. The Gupta king who is known in the Indian legends as Vikramaditya was

- a) Chandragupta I b) Samudragupta
- c) Chandragupta II d) Skandagupta

Answer (C)

226. The Chinese traveller Fa-hien visited India and left a detailed account of the reign of

- a) Samudragupta b) Chandragupta II
- c) Kumargupta I d) Skandagupta

Answer (B)

227. The foremost astronomer and mathematician of the Gupta period was

- a) Aryabhata b) Varahamihira
- c) Brahmagupta d) Vanabhata

Answer (A)

228. The Gupta artists had attained the highest perfection in

- a) architecture b) sculpture
- c) terracotas d) painting

Answer (B)

229. The most important reason(s) for the decline of the Gupta empire was/were

- A) Invasions of the Hunas
- B) weak later Gupta rulers
- C) independence of the later Gupta rulers
- D) (a) (b) and (c) above

Answer (D)

230. After the decline of the Guptas, which of the following cities of North India emerged as the centre of political gravity of North India?

- a) Ajmer b) Kannauj c) Dhara d) Delhi

Answer (B)

231. Match the following rulers/ruling dynasties of North India with the centres of their power:

List-I List-II

- A. Maukharis (i) Thaneshvar
 B. Puyabhuti or Vardhans (ii) Kannauj
 C. Sasanka (iii) Valabhi Gujarat
 D. Maitrakas (iv) Bengal Gauda

Codes:

- | | A | B | C | D |
|----|----|-----|-----|-----|
| a) | i | ii | iii | iv |
| b) | ii | i | iv | iii |
| c) | i | iii | ii | iv |
| d) | iv | iii | ii | i |

Answer (B)

232. The Chinese traveller Hiuen Tsang, called the Prince of Pilgrims visited India during the reign of

- a) Harsha b) Chandragupta II
 c) Dharampala d) Devapala

Answer (A)

233. Harshacharita the biography of Harsha, was written by

- a) Banabhatta b) Sudraka c) Sri Harsha d) Gunadhva

Answer (A)

234. Harsha was defeated by

- a) Sasanka b) King of Valabhi
 c) Bhaskarvarman d) Pulakesin II

Answer (D)

235. Harsha was the last great royal patron of

- a) Jainism b) Buddhism
 c) Shaivism d) Bhagavatism

Answer (B)

236. After the death of Harsha, a tripartite struggle ensued between the three contemporary powers for the supremacy of Kannauj. Which of the following was not a party in the struggle?

- a) Gurjar Partiharas b) Rastrakutas
c) Palas d) Paramaras

Answer (D)

237. What was Chandragupta-II also know as?

- a) Samudragupta b) Vikramaditya
c) Skandagupta d) Raanagupta

Answer (B)

238. That the Rig Vedic Aryans were a pastoral people is borne out by the fact that

- A) there are many references to the cow in the Rig Veda
B) Most of the wars were fought for the sake of cows
C) Gifts made to priests were usually cows and not land
D) All of the above

Answer (D)

239. The Aryans succeeded in their conflicts with the pre-Aryans because

- A) they used chariots driven by horses
B) they were from an advanced urban culture
C) they were taller and stronger
D) they used elephants on a large scale

Answer (A)

240. Coins made of metal first appeared in

- a) Harappan Civilisation b) Later Vedic Age
c) Age of the Buddha d) Age of the Mauryas

Answer (C)

241. In the early Vedic-period, Varna system was based on

- a) Education b) Birth c) Occupation d) Talen

Answer (C)

242. Arrange the following Magadhan dynasties in chronological order:

Sisunagas III. Mauryas IV. Haryankas

- a) IV, II, III and I b) II, I, IV and III
c) IV, II, I and III d) III, I, IV and II

Answer (C)

243. Which of the following are beliefs of Buddhism?

- I) The world is full of sorrows.
II) People suffer on account of desire.
III) If desires are conquered, nirvana will be attained.
IV) The existence of God and soul must be recognised.
- a) (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) b) (ii) and (iii)
c) (i), (ii) and (iii) d) (ii), (iii) and (iv)

Answer (C)

244. The Greeks were driven out of India by

- a) Bindusara b) Ashoka
c) Chandragupta Vikramaditya d) Chandragupta Maurya

Answer (D)

245. The Great Bath of Indus Valley civilisation is found at

- a) Harappa b) Mohenjo-Daro
c) Ropar d) Kalibangan

Answer (B)

246. Who was the court poet of Harsha-varadhana?

- a) Bhanu b) Ravi Kirti
c) Bana d) Vishnu Sharma

Answer (C)

247. 'Prince of Pilgrims' was the name attributed to

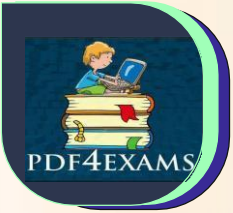
- a) Fa-Hien b) I-tsing
c) Hiuen Tsang d) Megasthenese

Answer (C)

248. The coins of which of the following reveal their love for music?

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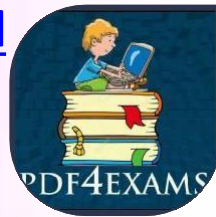


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- a) Maurya b) Nandas c) Guptas d) Cholas

Answer (C)

249. The year of accession of Kanishka to throne was

- a) 108 AD b) 58 AD c) 128 AD d) 78 AD

Answer (D)

250. Kalinga war took place in the year

- a) 263 BC b) 240 BC c) 261 BC d) 232 BC

Answer (C)

251. The first Grammarian of the Sanskrit language was

- a) Kalhana b) Panini c) Maitreyi d) Kalidasa

Answer (B)

252. The famous poet Kalidasa lived in the court of

- a) Chandragupta b) Chandragupta-II
c) Samudragupta d) Kumaragupta

Answer (B)

253. Which one of the following vedas contains sacrificial formulae?

- a) Sama Veda b) Yajur Veda
c) Rig Veda d) Athrva Veda

Answer (B)

254. When did the best productions of Gandhara sculpture appear?

- a) Mauryan Period b) Gupta Period
c) Kushana Period d) Harsha Period

Answer (C)

255. The caves of Ajanta and Ellora belonged to

- a) Jains b) Hindus c) Buddhists d) Sikhs

Answer (C)

256. Name the temple in Indonesia where scenes from Ramayana and Mahabharata are depicted?

- a) Brihadeshwara b) Angkor Wat
c) Kailashnath d) Borobudur

Answer (D)

257. The greatest Kushana ruler whose contribution to Buddhism was even greater than that of Ashoka was

- a) Kadphises b) Kanishka I
- c) Vaishka d) Huvishka

Answer (B)

258. The worship of images in India began during the _____ period.

- a) Mauryan b) Sunga c) Kusana d) Gupta

Answer (C)

259. The concept of Eight-fold Path forms the theme of

- a) Dipavamsa b) Divyavadana
- c) Mahaparinibban Sutta d) Dharmachakrapravartana Sutta

Answer (D)

260. The famous ruler of ancient India who is said to have been converted to Jainism, towards the end of his life, is

- a) Bindusara b) Samudragupta c) Chandragupta d) Ashoka

Answer (C)

261. The harappan economy was primarily _____ in nature.

- a) Rural b) Industrial
- c) Urban d) Capitalist

Answer (C)

262. The concept of Anuvrata was advocated by

- a) Mahayana Buddhism b) Jainism
- c) Lokayata School d) Hinayana Buddhism

Answer (B)

263. The Indo-Greek Kingdom set up in north Afghanistan in the beginning of the second century BC was

- a) Scythia b) Zedrasia c) Bactria d) Aria

Answer (A)

264. The best specimens of Mauryan art are represented by their

- a) Stupas b) Pillars c) Chaityas d) Caves

Answer (B)

265. Which of the following does not represent an important source material for the Mauryan period?

- a) Literary works b) Foreign accounts
c) Numismatic evidence d) Epigraphic sources

Answer (C)

266. According to Strabo, the Tamil kingdom to first send emissaries to meet Augustus in Athens in 20 BC, was

- a) Pallava b) Chola
c) Pandya d) Chera

Answer (C)

267*. Who among the following was the founder of the Nanda dynasty?

- a) Mahapadma Nanda b) Ashoka Nanda
c) Dhana Nanda d) None of the above

Answer (A)

268. The word 'Veda' has been derived from the root-word 'Vid' which means

- a) Divinity b) Sacredness
c) Doctrine d) Knowledge

Answer (D)

269. The Kushan rule was brought to an end by

- a) The Nagas b) The Britishers
c) Samudragupta d) The Hindu Shahi Dynasty

Answer (D)

270. Ashoka has been particularly influenced by the Buddhist monk

- a) Ambhi b) Upagupta
c) Asvaghosha d) Vasubandhu

Answer (B)

271. During Kanishka's reign, the centre of political activity shifted from Magadha to

- a) Delhi b) Ayodhya
c) Kannauj d) Purushapura (Peshawar)

Answer (D)

272. Which of the following contributes most for the revival of Sanskrit language?

- a) Kushanas b) Mauryas
c) Guptas d) Indo-Greeks

Answer (C)

273. Who had got the Konark Sun Temple constructed?

- a) Kanishka b) Ashoka
c) Narasimha Deva II d) Rajendra Chola

Answer (C)

274. Which one of the following sculptures invariably used green schist as the medium?

- a) Maurya sculptures b) Mathura sculptures
c) Bharhut sculptures d) Gandhara sculptures

Answer (C)

275. Who among the following is known for his work on medicine during the Gupta period?

- a) Saumilla b) Sudraka c) Shaunaka d) Susrutha

Answer (D)

276. 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

Answer (C)

277. Who wrote Mricchinakatika ?

- a) Akbar b) Kalidas c) Sudraka d) Dandin

Answer (C)

278. After the partition of India, the largest number of Harappan towns and settlements have been found in

- a) Punjab b) Haryana

- c) Gujarat d) Uttar Pradesh

Answer (C)

279. The Indus Valley Civilization can be said to belong to the

- a) Paleolithic age b) Primitive age
c) Neolithic age d) Bronze age

Answer (D)

280. Who among the following used to hold a religious assembly at Prayag every five years?

- a) Ashoka b) Harshvardhana
c) Kanishka d) Chandragupta Vikramaditya

Answer (B)

281. Gautam Buddha as a prince was known as

- a) Gautam b) Siddhartha
c) Rahuld) Suddhodhana

Answer (B)

282. The Jatakas are a collection of stories

- A) Meant for children
B) Based on pet Hindu myths
C) About Jains saints
D) Pertaining to several different earlier births of the Buddha

Answer (D)

283. Architectural developments in India manifested themselves in their full glory during the period of the

- a) Guptas b) Nandas c) Mauryas d) Cholas

Answer (A)

284. The deep transforming effect that the Kalinga War had on Ashoka has been described in

- a) Archaeological excavations b) Rock edicts
c) Coins d) Pillar edicts

Answer (B)

285. The proud title of 'Vikramaditya' had been assumed by

- a) Harsha
- b) Chandragupta II
- c) Kanishka
- d) Samudragupta

Answer (B)

286. In which region was the first metallic coin used in India?

- A) The Indo-Gangetic plain of central India
- B) The Himalaya
- C) Bihar and Eastern Uttar Pradesh
- D) The Deccan Plateau

Answer (a)

287. Which of the following was the first metal to be discovered and used as tools by humans?

- a) Iron
- b) Gold
- c) Tin
- d) Copper

Answer (D)

288. Who, from among the following rulers, had ruled over the largest part of India?

- a) Kanishka
- b) Chandragupta I
- c) Chandragupta Maurya
- d) Ashoka

Answer (C)

289. The Upanishads are a series of books devoted to

- a) Yoga
- b) Social law
- c) Religious rituals
- d) Philosophy

Answer (D)

290. Which of the following temples has acquired the name of the Black Pagoda?

- a) Sun Temple
- b) Lingaraj Temple
- c) Bhuvaneshwari Temple
- d) Jagannathdeva Temple

Answer (A)

291. Whom was Ashvaghosha a contemporary of?

- a) Menander
- b) Harsha
- c) Kanishka
- d) Ashoka

Answer (C)

292. Name the later Gupta ruler who had performed the Ashwamedha Yajna (Horse Sacrifice) and assumed the imperial title of Maharajadhiraj?

- a) Kamarupa b) Mahasena Gupta
- c) Adityasen d) Kumaragupta III

Answer (C)

293. With what subject does the Mitakshara deal?

- a) Law b) Grammar
- c) Medicine d) Theology

Answer (A)

294. The Mauryan administration was highly

- a) Decentralized b) Bureaucratic
- c) Centralized d) Despotic

Answer (C)

295. Emperor Harsha's southward march was stopped on the Narmada river by

- a) Pulakesin-I b) Pulakesin-II
- c) Vikramaditya-I d) Vikramaditya-II

Answer (B)

296. The Buddha's Eight Fold Path did not include

- a) Right Resolve b) Right Views
- c) Right Speech d) Right Table Manners

Answer (D)

297. The aim of Ashoka's Dhamma was

- a) Subtle conquest b) Religious domination
- c) A casteless society d) Non-violence and peace

Answer (D)

298. By whom had the Stupa at Sanchi in Madhya Pradesh been built?

- a) Ashoka b) Harshavardhana
- c) Kanishka d) Chandragupta

Answer (A)

299. The author of Ashtadhyayi is

- a) Charaka b) Panini
c) Aryabhata d) Chanakya

Answer (B)

300. In the Rigvedic period, after the king the next most important functionary of the State was the

- a) Senani b) Revenue collector
c) Magician-doctor d) Purohita

Answer (D)

301. The Indus Valley Civilization has been assigned the period 2500-1800 BC on the basis of

- A) Mystical insight by modern seers
B) Markings on seals
C) Radio carbon dating
D) Travellers written accounts

Answer (C)

302. Which of the following are essentially books of rituals?

- a) The Vedas b) The Upanishads
c) The Aranyakas d) The Brahmanas

Answer (D)

303. The concluding portions of the Brahmanas are called the

- a) Vedas b) Agamas c) Tantras d) Satpathas

Answer (D)

304. What does the Yajur Veda contain?

- a) Only hymns b) Spells and charms
c) Hymns and rituals d) Commentaries on society

Answer (C)

305. The Mahajanapada that acquired prominence to become an empire was that of

- a) Magadha b) Kasi c) Kosala d) Avanti

Answer (A)

306 Which of the following forms of land tenure denoted an entire village being donated to Brahmins?

- a) Jagir b) Zamindari c) Brahmadeya d) Devadana

Answer (C)

307 What did the Devadana type of a land tenure signify?

- A) Villages donated to Brahmins
B) Villages donated to the King
C) Villages donated to the gods
D) Villages not normally lived in

Answer (C)

308 Which of the following is not famous for temples marked by erotic sculptures?

- a) Khajuraho b) Madurai c) Halebid d) Konark

Answer (C)

309 What was the extent of Harsha's empire?

- A) The entire Indian subcontinent
B) The whole of India
C) The entire Deccan region
D) A part of northern India

Answer (D)

310. The Rigvedic Aryans were governed by a

- a) Tribal republic b) Form of democracy
c) Monarchical government d) Rule by elders

Answer (C)

311. The most important cause of the downfall of the Gupta empire was/were

- A) Muslim invasions
B) The pacifist influence of the Buddha's teachings
C) Frequent wars of succession
D) Revolt and declaration of independence by principal chiefs

Answer (D)

312. What is the present name of Dwara Samudra, the ancient capital of the Hoysalas?

- a) Mathura b) Halebid c) Raourkela d) Belur

Answer (B)

313. In which century did the first movement against vedic ritualistic practices start?

- a) 19th century BC b) 14th century BC
c) 5th century AD d) 600 BC

Answer (D)

314. The Ajanta cave paintings mostly belong to the period of the

- a) Mughals b) Mauryas c) Chalukyas d) Guptas

Answer (D)

315. Which of the following rulers had reigned in the third century BC?

- a) Jehangir b) Ashoka c) Samudragupta d) Akbar

Answer (B)

316. Who was the founder of the Sankhya School of philosophy?

- a) Ramanuja b) Manu
c) Swami Vivekananda d) Kapila

Answer (D)

317. Which of the following is regarded by historians as a crucial stage in describing the progress of civilization?

- a) Writing b) The discovery of fire
c) Agriculture d) The use of internet

Answer (C)

318. Where in India have traces of megalithic culture predominantly been found?

- a) Southern India b) Northeastern India
c) Central India d) Northern India

Answer (A)

319. Who is credited with having written the immortal classic treatise Raja Yoga Sutras (Aphorisms on Meditation)?

- a) Panini b) Kapila c) Patanjali d) Manu

Answer (C)

320. The earlier Buddhist sculptures had shied away from depicting the image of the Buddha, except through such symbols as

- a) Footprints b) The Bodhi Tree
c) Stupas d) All of the above

Answer (D)

321. Of the following dynasties, only the _____ dynasty was not a patron of temple architecture?

- a) Paramar b) Yadava c) Chalukya d) Chandella

Answer (B)

322. Which of the following is not an important work of Kalidasa?

- a) Shakuntala b) Kumarasambhava
c) Gita Govinda d) Meghadoot

Answer (c)

323. Who was not among the scholars patronized by Kanishka?

- a) Parsva b) Birbal c) Ashvaghosha d) Nagarjuna

Answer (b)

324. Which of the following is not a category into which Ashoka's monuments may be grouped?

- a) Stupas b) Pillars c) Viharas d) Caves

Answer (C)

325. Which important industry show signs of having thrived in Lothal?

- a) Pottery b) Shipbuilding
c) Terracota toys d) Aircraft manufacture

Answer (B)

326. The archaeologist to initially discover the Mohenjo-Daro site of the Indus Valley Civilization was

- a) Sir John Marshall b) Daya Ram Sahni
c) Sir Martimir Wheeler d) Rakhal Das Banerji

Answer (D)

327. Which of the following Indus Valley sites is presently in Pakistan?

- a) Kalibangan b) Harappa c) Alamgirpur d) Lothal

Answer (B)

328. The Harappan site that had a dock is

- a) Alamgirpur b) Harappa
c) Lothal d) Mohenjo-Daro

Answer (C)

329. Which one of the Chola Kings conquered Ceylon?

- a) Aditya I b) Rajendra c) Rajaraja I d) Vijayalaya

Answer (D)

330. Which of the following was not an Indus Valley site?

- a) Pataliputra b) Rangpur c) Sukatagendor d) Lothal

Answer (A)

331. The Vedic deity Indra was the god of

- a) Fire b) Rain and Thunder
c) Eternity d) Wind

Answer (B)

332. The Atharva Veda does not discuss the ideal of

- a) Karma b) Jnana c) Upanasana d) Moksha

Answer (C)

333. The institution of varna appeared in the

- A) Rigvedic period
B) Later vedic period
C) Period of the Manava Dharm Shastra
D) Period of consolidation of text of the Mahabharata

Answer (D)

334. The Aryans did not practise the craftsmanship of

- a) Blacksmithy b) Pottery c) Jewellery d) Carpentry

Answer (D)

335. The only Veda to have been rendered musically is

- a) The Rig Veda b) The Sama Veda
- c) The Yajur Veda d) The Atharva Veda

Answer (B)

336. What is the first discourse that the Buddha had delivered at the Deer Park in Sarnath called?

- a) Mahaparinirvana b) Mahamasthisheka
- c) Mahabhiniskraman d) Dharmachakrapravartan

Answer (D)

337. Name the ruler whose patronage had been enjoyed by Jainism.

- a) Kanishka b) Kharavela
- c) Pushyamitra Sunga d) Samudragupta

Answer (B)

338. The famous Indo-Greek king to embrace Buddhism was

- a) Alexander b) Strato
- c) Menander d) Democritus

Answer (C)

339. To whom is the introduction of Buddhism into China traditionally attributed?

- a) Nagarjuna b) Samprati
- c) Vasubandhu d) Kashyapa Matanga

Answer (D)

340. Name the ruler whose reign was a witness to both Vardhaman Mahavira and the Buddha preaching their respective doctrines?

- a) Udayin b) Bimbisara
- c) Ajatashatru d) Harshvardhana

Answer (B)

341. Where was Mahavira born?

- a) Sravasti b) Vaishali
- c) Rajagriha d) Pataliputra

Answer (B)

342. The oldest Jain scriptures are regarded to be the

- a) Fourteen Purvas b) Twelve Upangas
c) Twelve Angas d) Fourteen Uparvas

Answer (C)

343. Who among the following rulers had embraced Jainism?

- a) Chandragupta Maurya b) Bindusara
c) Ajatashatru d) Pulakesin

Answer (A)

344. The original teachings of Mahavira are contained in the

- a) Jatakas b) Tripitakas c) Purvas d) Angas

Answer (C)

345. Which of the following rulers did not enter the Buddhist fold?

- a) Harsha b) Samudragupta c) Kanishka d) Ashoka

Answer (B)

346. In Sanskrit plays written during the Gupta period, women and Sudras speak

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

Answer (C)

347. According to tradition, a mighty king in India in the fourth century BC had been raised to power by a Taxila brahmin, named

- a) Chanakya b) Patanjali c) Pushyamitra d) Manu

Answer (A)

348. Who had established the four Mathas or Monastic seats in the four corners of India?

- a) Madhavacharya b) Shankaracharya
c) Bhaskaracharya d) Ramanujacharya

Answer (B)

349. The term used to denote a group of families in the vedic society was

- a) Vish b) Jana c) Grama d) Gotra

Answer (B)

350. The Svetambaras and Digambaras refer to two sects of

- a) Saivism b) Buddhism c) Vaishnavism d) Jainism

Answer (D)

351. According to the Mimamsa School of Philosophy, liberation is possible through

- a) Yoga b) Bhakti c) Karma d) Jnana

Answer (C)

352. The great Hindu law giver was

- a) Manu b) Banabhatta c) Kapil d) Kautilya

Answer (A)

353. During whose reign did Buddhism become the state religion?

- a) Chandragupta Maurya b) Skandagupta I
c) Samudragupta d) Ashoka

Answer (D)

354. The correct chronological order of the four Buddhist councils held is

- A) Rajagriha, Kashmir or Jullandhar, Pataliputra, Vaishali
B) Vaishali, Rajagriha, Kashmir or Jullandhar, Pataliputra
C) Rajagriha, Vaishali, Pataliputra, Kashmir or Jullandhar
D) Pataliputra, Rajagriha, Kashmir or Jullandhar, Vaishali

Answer (C)

355. The fourth Buddhist council had compiled an encyclopaedia of Buddhist philosophy, called

- a) Sutralankara
b) Jatakas
c) Madhyamika Sutra
d) Mahavibhasha Sutra

Answer (D)

356. Who had converted Kanishka to Buddhism?

- a) Parsva b) Nagarjuna c) Asvaghosha d) Vasumitra

Answer (C)

357. Buddhism was first propogated outside India in

- a) China b) Cambodia c) Thailand d) Ceylon

Answer (D)

358. The language adopted for preaching in Mahayana Buddhism was

- a) Pali b) Brahmi c) Sanskrit d) Prakrit

Answer (C)

359 Who is said to have both been born and shed his body on the Vaishakha Purnima day?

- a) Chaitanya Mahaprabhu b) Mahavira
c) Shankaracharya d) The Buddha

Answer (D)

360. The Indus Valley Civilization was discovered in the year

- a) 1917 b) 1921 c) 1927 d) 1932

Answer (B)

361 During the Gupta period, the village affairs were managed by the village headman with the assistance of the

- a) Amatya b) Mahattara
c) Vishyapati d) Gopa

Answer (C)

362. An important part of the eastern court during the Gupta period was

- a) Kalyan b) Tamralipti c) Broach d) Sopara

Answer (B)

363. The Sunga dynasty had made _____ the official religion of their kingdom.

- a) Buddhism b) The Ajivika Sect
c) Jainism d) Brahmanism

Answer (D)

364. Most of the Hindu colonies in South East Asia had been found during the reign of the

- a) Mauryas b) Rajputas c) Guptas d) Cholas

Answer (D)

365. The Saka era started from the year

- a) 124 BC b) 78 BC c) 78 AD d) 124 AD

Answer (C)

366. Which Gupta ruler had led a campaign to the south, besides being an accomplished veena player?

- a) Skandagupta b) Samudragupta
c) Chandragupta I d) Chandragupta Vikramaditya

Answer (B)

367. Who among the following has been called the 'Napoleon of India'?

- a) Samudragupta b) Harshavardhana
c) Chandragupta Maurya d) Ashoka

Answer (a)

368. Ashoka's prime claim to greatness lay in

- A) His extensive conquests
B) The promotion of people's welfare by him
C) His maratho army
D) His exclusive patronage of Buddhism

Answer (B)

369. The achievements of Samudragupta have been chronicled in the

- a) Hathigumpha inscription b) Sarnath inscription
c) Girnar inscription d) Allahabad pillar inscription

Answer (D)

370. The sage who is considered to have Aryanised southern India was

- a) Vasishtha b) Vishwamitra
c) Agastya d) Yagnavalkya

Answer (C)

371 The Chola ruler who had subdued the Ganges and obtained the title 'Gangai Konda Cholan' was

- a) Rajaraja Chola b) Rajendra Chola
c) Rajadhiraja Chola d) Kulattunga

Answer (B)

372. The dynasty that excelled itself as a naval power was that of the

- a) Hoysalas b) Cheras c) Cholas d) Pallavas

Answer (C)

373 Which Chola ruler had conquered the northern part of Sri Lanka and made it a province of his empire?

- a) Rajindra Chola I b) Adhirajindra Chola
c) Parantaka Chola I d) Rajaraja Chola I

Answer (D)

374. The ancient medical treatise, Charaka Samhita is attributed to Charaka, who was a contemporary of

- a) Kanishka b) Chandragupta Maurya c) Ashoka d) Samudragupta

Answer (A)

375. Who among the following are credited with having built the famous Ellora Caves?

- a) The Cholas b) The Satavahanas
c) The Rashtrakutas d) The Cheras

Answer (C)

376. The caves and rock cut temples at Ellora pertain to

- a) Hinduism b) Buddhism
c) Jainism d) All of the above

Answer (D)

377. The cult of Krishna is primarily exhibited through the

- a) Ancient art b) Rajasthani school of art
c) Mughal school of art d) Bengal school of art

Answer (B)

378 In which of the following caves have 28 new caves been further discovered?

- a) Ajanta Caves b) Ellora Caves
c) Elephanta Caves d) None of the above

Answer (C)

379. The Pallava kings were the makers of the rock-cut temples at

- a) Thanjavur b) Mahabalipuram
c) Khajuraho d) Rameswaram

Answer (B)

380. The fresco paintings of Ajanta caves illustrate the art of the

- a) Guptas b) Mauryas
c) Kushanas d) Rashtrakutas

Answer (A)

381. Which is the oldest Indian linguistic text?

- a) Nirukta b) Mahabhashya
c) Ashtadhyayi d) Kasikavritti

Answer (C)

382. Which of the following is the oldest seat of learning?

- a) Nalanda b) Vikramshila
c) Taxila d) Ujjain

Answer (C)

383. The Shrimad Bhagavata Gita contains _____ chapters and _____ Sanskrit slokas or couplets.

- a) 14,500 b) 16,600 c) 18,700 d) 20,800

Answer (C)

384. The Ramayana narrates events believed to have taken place in the _____ Yuga or age.

- a) Sat b) Dwapar c) Kal d) Treta

Answer (D)

385. Who among the following anticipated Newton by affirming that all things tended to gravitate to the earth?

- a) Aryabhata b) Brahmagupta

c) Varahamihira d) Buddhagupta

Answer (B)

386. In ancient India, Nalanda University represented a great centre for the study of

- a) Mahayana Buddhism b) Hinduism
c) Hinayana Buddhism d) Jainism

Answer (A)

387. Who is the author of Kadambari, from among the following?

- a) Kalidas b) Panini c) Kautilya d) Bana

Answer (D)

388. Which sage or scholar had recast the original single Veda into four distinct Vedas?

- a) Patanjali b) Kapila
c) Vyasa d) Shankaracharya

Answer (C)

389. To whom did the term 'Macedonia's madaman' refer?

- a) Alexander b) Xersus c) Darius d) Phillip II

Answer (A)

390. The bronze coins of Natraja or Dancing Shiva during the Chola period invariably depicted the deity with ____ arms.

- a) Eight b) Six c) Four d) Two

Answer (B)

391. The two colossal images of the Buddha at Bamiyan are an instance of the _____ art?

- a) Early Mathura b) Maurya
c) Gupta d) Gandhara

Answer (C)

392. Identify the temple, from among the following, that was built by the Rashtrakutas?

- A) The Kailash temple, Mahabalipuram
B) The Surya Temple, Konark
C) The Channakeshava temple, Batur

D) The Shiva Temple, Ellora

Answer (D)

393. The earliest surviving extant, ie still standing, temples date from the _____ period?

- a) Gupta b) Sunga c) Vedic) Maurya

Answer (A)

394. Which of the following sets of books and authors has been incorrectly matched?

- A) Kadambari - Banabhatta
B) Arthasastra - Kalhana
C) Uttarramcharita - Bhavabhuti
D) Mudrarakshasa - Vishakhadatta

Answer (B)

395. An elaborate system of municipal administration had been established by

- a) Skanda Gupta b) Chandragupta Maurya c) Kanishka d) Harshavardhana

Answer (B)

396. During the period of Hiuen Tsang's visit, the city most famous for the production of cotton cloth was

- a) Benaras b) Pataliptura c) Mathura d) Ujjain

Answer (C)

397. Foreigners were absorbed in a large number in the Indian society during the _____ period?

- a) Rajput b) Gupta c) Mauryan d) Kushan

Answer (C)

398. Of the following books and their respective fields, which of the combinations is incorrect?

- A) Charaka Samhita — Architecture
B) Malavikagnimitra — Drama
C) Surya Siddhanta — Astronomy
D) Mitakshara — Law

Answer (A)

399. The chief impact of vedic culture on Indian history has been

- A) The growth of Sanskrit
- B) The rise of an other-worldly outlook
- C) The progress of philosophy
- D) The consolidation of the caste system

Answer (D)

400. The original Buddhist religious texts had been written in

- a) Brahmi
- b) Sanskrit
- c) Pali
- d) Magadhi

Answer (C)

401. The greatest Buddhist commentator of the Buddhist canonical literature has been

- a) Nagarjuna
- b) Ashvaghosha
- c) Vasumitra
- d) Buddhaghosha

Answer (B)

402. The Buddha has been eulogized as an ocean of wisdom and compassion in

- a) Buddha-Charita
- b) Jataka tales
- c) Amarakosa
- d) The Light of Asia

Answer (C)

403. Who among the following is referred to as the 'Sadhu from the west'?

- a) Thomas of Cannan
- b) St Thomas
- c) St Bartholomew
- d) None of the above

Answer (B)

404. Which of the following periods is referred to as the period of Hindu revival or renaissance?

- a) Period of Marsha
- b) Kushan Period
- c) Gupta Period
- d) Mauryan Period

Answer (C)

405. Who among the following had popularized the theory of the Arctic region as the original home of the Aryans?

- a) BG Tilak b) Max Muller
- c) GK Gokhale d) Dr S Radhakrishnan

Answer (A)

406. The famous vedic saying "war begins in the minds of men" is contained in the

- a) Mundakopanishad b) Mahabharata
- c) Rig Veda d) Atharva Veda

Answer (D)

407. Which of the following rivers does not find frequent mention in Rigvedic Hymns?

- a) Ganges b) Sindhu c) Brahmaputra d) Saraswati

Answer (C)

408. The philosophical essence, "The world is but God manifest and God is my own soul" may be traced to the

- a) Vedas b) Upanishadas
- c) Puranas d) Manusmriti

Answer (B)

409. The most commonly used coin during the Mauryan period was

- a) Karashopana b) Nishka c) Suvarna d) Kakini

Answer (A)

410. The Arab conquest of Sind in 712 AD had taken place under the leadership of

- a) Mohammed of Ghazni b) Mohammed-bin-Qasim c) Mohammed of Ghori d) None of the above

Answer (B)

411. The reverential title of 'The Liberator' had been earned by

- a) Alexander b) Chandragupta Maurya
- c) Ashoka d) Chandragupta Vikramaditya

Answer (C)

412. Among the four works mentioned below which one is encyclopedic in nature?

- a) Mamarakosa b) Siddhantasiromani

- c) Ashtangahridaya d) Brihat Samhita

Answer (D)

413. Who was the Greek ambassador in the court of Chandragupta Maurya?

- a) Megasthenes b) Seleucus c) Menander d) Demetrias

Answer (A)

414. Which of the following pairs of various eras and the respective years they commenced from, is wrong?

- a) Saka Era; 78AD b) Gupta Era; 320 AD
c) Vikram Era; 58 AD d) Kali Era; 3102 BC

Answer (C)

415. The ritualistic precepts pertaining to the hymns of the Vedas are known as the

- a) Samhitas b) Aranyakas
c) Brahmanas d) Upanishads

Answer (C)

416. The script of the Indus Valley Civilization was

- a) Dravidian b) Persian
c) Sanskrit d) Undecipherable

Answer (A)

417. The god whose worship had not gained ground in the Rigvedic period was

- a) Marut b) Lord Shiva c) Agni d) Indra

Answer (B)

418. The Digambaras and Shvetambaras differ primarily with regard to their

- a) Choice of god b) Philosophical doctrines c) Dress d) Rituals

Answer (C)

419. Ashoka expresses his faith in the Buddhist creed in the

- a) Rummidei inscription b) Schism edict
c) Kandhar inscription d) Bhabru edict

Answer (D)

420. Which of the following was common to both the Harappan society and the Rigvedic society?

- a) Horse b) Female deities
c) Urban centres d) Iron implements

Answer (A)

421. The largest urban centre in ancient India had been

- a) Pataliputra b) Kausambi c) Taxila d) Kannauj

Answer (D)

422. Ashoka's conquest of Kalinga has been described in the minor rock edict numbered

- a) I b) IV c) VIII d) XIII

Answer (D)

423. The new element of Gopurm had been encouraged in temples of southern India by the

- a) Chalukyas b) Pallavas c) Cholas d) Pandyas

Answer (D)

424. The temples known as the Seven Pagodas had been built by the

- a) Pallavas b) Cholas
c) Hoysalas d) Chalukyas

Answer (A)

425. A dominant majority of the images at Ajanta are those of

- a) Lord Shiva b) The Buddha
c) Hanuman d) Parvati

Answer (B)

426. The Modi script had been employed in the documents of the

- a) Hoysalas b) Zamorins
c) Marathas d) Wodeyaras

Answer (C)

427. In which script were the Ashokan inscription were written in North West Frontier Province?

- a) Prakrit b) Brahmi c) Sanskrit d) Kharoshti

Answer (D)

428. The lowest unit of Chola administration was the

- a) Kottam b) Mandalam c) Kurram d) Valanadu

Answer (C)

429. Madurai had been the capital of the

- a) Cholas b) Pallavas c) Rashtrakutas d) Pandyas

Answer (B)

430. Which one of the following ports handled the north Indian trade during the Gupta period?

- a) Kalyan b) Cambay c) Tamralipti d) Broach

Answer (C)

431. Who among the following presided over the Buddhist council held during the reign of Kanishka at Kashmir?

- a) Parsva b) Vasumitra c) Nagarjuna d) Sudraka

Answer (B)

432. What is the name of the preaching mudra or gesture, in which the Buddha is depicted delivering his first sermon, in the Gandhara Sculptures?

- a) Abhaya b) Dharmachakra
c) Dhyana d) Bhumisparsha

Answer (C)

433. What was the original name of Euthydemia?

- a) Gondhara b) Sakala
c) Kapisa d) Purushapura

Answer (B)

434. In whose coins was the wheel found?

- a) Menander b) Demetrius c) Kanishka d) Nahapana

Answer (A)

435. In whose reign did the visit of Saint Thomas take place?

- a) Maues b) Gondophernes
c) Kanishka d) Menander

Answer (B)

436. One of them was not conquered by Kanishka from China. Identify.

- a) Khotan b) Yarkand
c) Kashgar d) Kapisa

Answer (D)

437. The Harappan town considered to be a town of the artists and craftsmen was

- a) Mohenjo-Daro b) Chanhudaro
c) Harappa d) Lothalmenials

Answer (B)

438. In the Rigveda the term Dasas and Dasyus refers to

- a) robbers b) tribals
c) non-Aryans d) menials

Answer (C)

439. Two most important acts and rituals associated with the Vedic marriage system was/were

- a) Pani-Grahana b) Septa-Padi
c) Both (a) and (b) above d) Marriage Vows

Answer (C)

440. The most important craftsman in the Vedic period was the

- a) blacksmith b) goldsmith c) carpenter d) barber

Answer (C)

441. The famous Vedic river which had long ago become extinct and now supposed to be flowing underground in Rajasthan is

- a) Sindhu b) Sabastu c) Shatudri d) Saraswati

Answer (D)

442. The word Jina from which the Jain(ism) has originated stands for

- a) great b) detached
c) non-violence d) conqueror (of senses)

Answer (D)

443. India had a brisk foreign trade with the Roman world during the _____ period

- a) Sangam b) Pallava
c) Chola d) Vijayanagar

Answer (A)

444. The Sanskrit drama which describes Chandragupta Maurya's triumph over the Nanda is

- a) Mrichhakatika b) Mudrarakshasa
- c) Devichandragupta d) Prabodhchadrodaya

Answer (B)

445. The rulers of a dynasty of the Deccan who were supposed to be Brahmanas and staunch supporters of Brahmanism were

- a) Satavahanas b) Vakatakas
- c) Rashtrakutas d) Chalukyas

Answer (A)

446. The successors of the Satavahanas in the Deccan were the

- a) Vakatakas b) Kadambas
- c) Rashtrakutas d) Chalukyas of Badami

Answer (A)

447. The painting in the Ajanta Caves shows an Indian king receiving an embassy from the king of Persia. The king receiving the embassy has been identified with

- a) Pulakesin I b) Pulakesin II
- c) Rajendra Chola d) Dhruva IV

Answer (D)

448. The last Nanda ruler of Magadha who was overthrown by Chandragupta Maurya with the help of Chanakya was

- a) Mahapadmananda b) Dhanananda
- c) Navananda d) Not known

Answer (b)

449. The Pallava king who adopted the epithet of Vichitrachitta or curious minded was

- a) Mahendravarmam I b) Narasimhavarmam I
- c) Narasimhavarmam II d) Simhavishnu

Answer (A)

450. River Chenab was known in ancient times as

- a) Parushni b) Satudri c) Himadri d) Asikru

Answer (D)

451. According to Ancient Indian legendary sources, Surabhi was a/ an

- A) wish-fulfilling tree
B) treasure in the form of a cow, churned from the cosmic ocean
C) medicine prepared by Dhanvantri
D) intoxicating drink consumed during religious ceremonies in ancient times

Answer (B)

452. Mahabharata was also known as

- a) Brihat Katha b) Rajatarangini
c) Jaya Samhita d) Purana

Answer (C)

453. Who, among the following rulers, organised the Second Buddhist Assembly?

- a) Ajatashatru b) Kalasoka c) Ashoka d) Ananda

Answer (B)

454. 'Abhijnanasakuntalam' has been reckoned as a masterpiece of

- a) Bhasa b) Kalidasa c) Asvaghosha d) Sudraka

Answer (B)

455. The worship of idols started in India in the _____ period.

- a) Pre-Aryan b) Gupta c) Maurya d) Kushan

Answer (B)

456. Among the following four works, which one is encyclopaedic in nature?

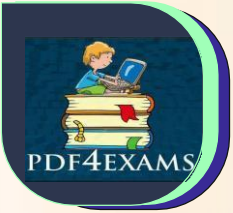
- a) Amarakosa b) Ashtanghrudaya
c) Brihat Samhita d) Siddhanta Siromani

Answer (C)

457. Which of the following was not the work of Kalidasa?

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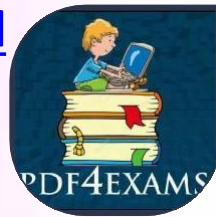


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- a) Raghuvamsa b) Sakuntalam
c) Kumarasambhavam d) Kadambari

Answer (D)

458. Kailasa Temple, one of the largest monolithic structures, is in

- a) Ajanta Caves b) Elephanta Caves
c) Ellora Caves d) Nalanda Caves

Answer (C)

459. The term "Tirthankaras" is associated with

- a) Hinduism b) Jainism
c) Buddhism d) Zoroastrianism

Answer (B)

460. Who possibly ruled the Indus people?

- a) an assembly of elders b) merchants
c) kings d) priests

Answer (B)

461. Which of the following metals was not known to the Indus Valley people?

- a) tin b) lead c) iron d) copper

Answer (C)

462. A 'Sabha' in the Vedic period was a/an

- A) Institution of professional men in villages
B) Royal Court
C) Mantri Parishad
D) National Assembly of all Citizens of the State.

Answer (D)

463. The last in the succession of Jaina Tirthankaras was

- a) Parsvanatha b) Rishabha
c) Mahavira d) Manisubruta

Answer (C)

464. The Indus Valley Civilisation type was found in

- a) Sumer
- b) Egypt
- c) China
- d) All the three

Answer (D)

465. In Jainism, 'perfect knowledge' is referred to as

- a) Jina
- b) Ratna
- c) Kaivalya
- d) Nirvana

Answer (C)

466. The Buddhist sect Mahayana formally came into existence during the reign of

- a) Ajatashatru
- b) Ashoka
- c) Dharmapala
- d) Kanishka

Answer (D)

467. The first one, among the following, to deal with music was

- a) Rig Veda
- b) Yajur Veda
- c) Sama Veda
- d) Atharva Veda

Answer (C)

468. The name of the Indian Astronomer (who knew five astronomical systems), who lived in the 6th century was

- a) Varahamihirab) Bhandarkar
- c) Pujyapada
- d) Prasastapada

Answer (A)

469. Banabhatta, a great scholar, lived during the reign of

- a) Ashoka
- b) Harsha
- c) Kanishka
- d) Chandragupta II

Answer (B)

470. Which Avtar of Vishnu tricked Mahabali and claimed earth and heaven from him?

- a) Vaman
- b) Narasimha
- c) Matsya
- d) Kurma

Answer (A)

471. The official language of the Mauryan Court was

- a) Magadhi
- b) Prakrit
- c) Mythili
- d) Sanskrit

Answer (A)

472. The sculpture with three faces of Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva known as "Trimurthi" appears in the

- a) Ajanta Caves b) Ellora Caves
- c) Kalva Caves d) Elephanta Caves

Answer (D)

473. The fourth age of the aeon (mahayuga) is

- a) Kali b) Dvapara c) Treta d) Kreta

Answer (A)

474. The ammonite (Salagrama), a fossilized shellfish, was recognized by Hindus as one of the symbols of

- a) Brahma b) Hanuman c) Shiva d) Vishnu

Answer (D)

475. The main inspiration of the Kalki (avatar) may have come from Buddhism, which taught the coming of _____ Buddha, long before the Vaishnavites devised the Kalkin.

- a) Kanakamuni b) Kasyapa
- c) Krakucchanda d) Maitreya

Answer (D)

476. The first Iranian ruler who brought some parts of India under his sway was

- a) Darius I b) Cyrus c) Cambysis d) Shaharsh

Answer (A)

477 The first metal used by man was

- a) Copper b) Iron c) Aluminium d) Gold

Answer (A)

478. Which of the following philosophies was preached by Adi Sankara?

- a) Raja Yoga b) Snakhya Yoga
- c) Advaita d) Dvaita

Answer (C)

479. Which one of the following was not common between the Indus

- a) meat eating b) cattle rearing
- c) use of cotton clothes d) worship of Mother-Goddess

Answer (D)

480. Hastinapura of Mahabharata fame was located on the banks of the river

- a) Beas b) Sutlej c) Ganga d) Yamuna

Answer (C)

481. The nucleus of the Mauryan system of government was the

- a) Bureaucracy b) Councillors
c) King d) Sabha

Answer (C)

482. Indus Valley Civilization is called the protohistoric civilization because its people knew

- a) art b) writing c) copper d) pottery

Answer (B)

483. Megasthenes' "Indica" deals with the history of the

- a) Guptas b) Satavahanas
c) Cholas d) Mauryas

Answer (D)

484. Which ancient Indian University has been acclaimed as "the Oxford of Buddhist India"?

- a) Odantapuri b) Vikramasila
c) Nalanda d) Taxila

Answer (C)

485. Aryabhata and Varahamihira lived during the

- a) Maurya Period b) Gupta Period
c) Nanda Period d) Sunga Period

Answer (B)

486. Earlier mathematicians (ie those who came before medieval Indian mathematicians) had taught that $x^2 = x$; who among the following proved that it was infinity?

- a) Aryabhata b) Bhaskara c) Brahmagupta d) Mahavira

Answer (B)

487. Who among the following is known for his work on medicine during the Gupta Period?

- a) Saumilla b) Sudraka c) Shaunaka d) Susruta

Answer (D)

488. Kapilavasthu is associated with

- a) Emperor Ashoka b) Sri Krishnadeva Raya c) Lord Mahavira d) Lord Buddha

Answer (D)

489. The ninth incarnation (Avtar) of Vishnu was

- a) Parasurama b) Buddha c) Krishna d) Rama

Answer (B)

490. 'Ayurveda' has its origin in

- a) Rig Veda b) Sama Veda
c) Yajur Veda d) Atharva Veda

Answer (D)

491. Who wrote 'Kiratarjuniyam'?

- a) Bhasa b) Bhartruhari
c) Bhavabhuti d) Bharavi

Answer (D)

492. The author of 'Sivaje-Chinthamani, considered to be a Tamil epic' was a

- a) Buddhist b) Hindu c) Jaina d) Muslim

Answer (C)

493. Who wrote 'Kiratarjuniyam'?

- a) Bhasa b) Bhavabhuti c) Bhartruhari d) Bharavi

Answer (D)

494. Who was the author of Amuktamalyada?

- a) Bhoja b) Harshavardhana
c) Krishnadeva Raya d) Amoghavarsha

Answer (C)

495. One of the founder kings of a ruling dynasty of North India elected by the people was

- A) Chandradeva of the Gahadavala dynasty

- B) Gopala of the Pala dynasty
- C) Ajayaraj of the Chauhan dynasty
- D) Jeja or Jejjia of the Chandeka dynasty

Answer (B)

496. Two great Buddhist universities of Nalanda and Vikramshila were patronised by the

- a) Palas b) Paramaras
- c) Chandelas d) All the above

Answer (A)

497. The Chahamana (or Chauhan) king who founded the city of Ajmer and made it his capital was

- a) Ajayaraj b) Vigraharaj IV
- c) Vigraharaj III d) Prithviraj III

Answer (A)

498. Three most important cities associated with the Chandelas were

- A) Khajuraho, Mahoba (or Mahotsvanagar) and Kalanjar
- B) Dhara, Kalanjar, and Chhatarpur
- C) Tripuri, Kalanjar and Khajuraho
- D) Mahoba, Banda and Chhatarpur

Answer (A)

499. The temples of Khajuraho built by Chandela kings in the 11th century are?

- A) Shaiva temples
- B) Jain temples
- C) Both (a) and (b) above
- D) Buddhist, Jain and Shaiva temples

Answer (C)

500. Kalhana's Rajatarangini is a work on the history of

- a) Kashmir b) Malwa c) Bengal d) Gujarat

Answer (A)

501. The single most important factor responsible for the transformation of Ancient Indian society into medieval society was the

- a) practice of land grants
- b) decline of trade
- c) proliferation of castes
- d) rigidity of the caste system

Answer (A)

502 India's earliest contact with Islam was established through

- A) Turkish invasions of the 11th-12th centuries
- B) Arab invasion of Sindh in the 7th century
- C) Sufi saints and Arab travellers
- D) Arab merchants of Malabar coast

Answer (D)

503. Of the four main Chalukya dynasties of early medieval India Pulakesin II, who defeated Harsha, belonged to Chalukya dynasty of

- a) Anhilwad (Gujarat)
- b) Badami or Vatapi
- c) Vengi
- d) Kalyani

Answer (B)

504. Most of the rock-cut caves, chaityas, monasteries, temples, etc. at Ajanta and Ellora were built during the period of

- a) Chalukyas of Badami
- b) Rastrakutas of Manyakheda
- c) Both (a) and (b) above
- d) Imperial Guptas

Answer (C)

505. The capital of the Pallavas was

- a) Madurai
- b) Mahabalipuram
- c) Kanchi or Conjeevaram
- d) Thanjavur

Answer (C)

506 The foundation of the Dravidian style of architecture in South India was laid by

- a) Pandyas
- b) Pallavas
- c) Cholas
- d) Chalukyas of Kalyani

Answer (B)

507. The Pallava king responsible for carving the Rathas of Mahabalipuram was

- a) Simhavarma b) Mahendravarman-I
- c) Nandivaraman-II d) Narsimhavarman

Answer (D)

508. The Cholas were the only known rulers in the history of India to have undertaken successful overseas naval expeditions. Who of the following Chola rulers successfully invaded Laccadives, Maldives, Sri Lanka and Sumatra?

- a) Parantaka-I b) Rajaraja-I
- c) Rajendra-I d) Both (b) and (c) above

Answer (C)

509. The Chola king, who after successfully raiding Bengal took the title of Gangaikonda and also founded a new capital (Gangaikonda)

- a) Rajaraja-I b) Rajendra-I
- c) Rajadhiraj-I d) Rajendra-II

Answer (B)

510 The chief feature(s) of the Chola architecture was/were

- A) replacement of bricks by stone structure
- B) massive vimanas or towers
- C) temples became vast complexes
- D) spacious courtyards

Answer (B)

511. The masterpiece of Chola sculpture is the famous Nataraja or the Dancing Shiva image at

- a) Thanjavur b) Chidambaram
- c) Kalahasti d) Sei-Sailam

Answer (B)

512. A contemporary rival dynasty of the Cholas in South India was

- A) Chalukyas of Vengi
- B) Pandyas of Madurai
- C) Chalukyas of Kalyani

D) Cheras

Answer (C)

513. After the decline of the Chalukya kingdom of Kalyani at the close of the 12th and of the Chola kingdom at the beginning of the 13th century, the new kingdoms which arose in South India were

- A) Yadavas of Devagiri and Kakatiyas of Warangal
- B) Hoysalas of Dwarsamudra and Pandiyas of Madurai
- C) Both (a) and (b) above
- D) Vijayanagar and Bahamani kingdoms

Answer (C)

514. The most important current(s) in the social life of early medieval India was/were

- A) re assimilation of foreigners into the Hindu society as Rajputs
- B) rigidity of the caste system
- C) birth, occupation or profession and place of residence as new determinants of caste
- D) All the above

Answer (D)

515. Primitive man first learnt to

- (A) make fire
- (B) tame animals
- (C) make a wheel
- (D) grow grain

Answer (A)

516. The founder of the Gupta dynasty was

- (A) Bukka
- (B) Samudragupta
- (C) Srigupta
- (D) Vindhya Shakti

Answer (C)

517. Where is Harappa situated?

- (A) Harappa lies in Sri Lanka
- (B) Harappa lies in India
- (C) Harappa lies in Pakistan
- (D) Harappa lies in Nepal

Answer (C)

518. Which was the port town of the Indus Valley Civilization?

- (A) Lothal (B) Kalibangan
(C) Ropar (D) Mohenjodaro

Answer (A)

519 The main focus of the Rigvedic culture was

- (A) the Indo-Gangetic Valley
(B) the Punjab and Delhi region
(C) the Indus Valley
(D) the region between the Swat and the Indus

Answer (C)

520 Whose view was this?

"The Indus people belonged to the Dravidian Race"

- (A) D. D. Kosambi
(B) R. D. Banerjee
(C) Sir John Marshall
(D) Sir Mortimer Wheeler

Answer (B)

521. Whose history has been deciphered from the Allahabad Pillar inscription?

- (A) Asoka (B) Samudragupta
(C) Harshavardhana (D) Kharavela

Answer (B)

522. The first Chinese traveller who visited India was

- (A) Itsing (B) Hiuen Tsang
(C) Fa-Hien (D) None of them

Answer (C)

523. Consider the following statements :

Assertion (A) :Hiuen Tsang came India during Harsha's rule.

Reason (R) : His main objective was to visit Buddhist shrines.

Now select your answer according to the coding scheme given below :

- A) Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
B) Both (A) and (R) are correct, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)
C) (A) is correct, but (R) is wrong
D) Both (A) and (R) are correct

Answer (A)

524. Choose the correct statement :

- (A) Buddhism revived during Guptas
(B) Jainism revived during Guptas
(C) Hinduism revived during Guptas
(D) Guptas patronised no religion

Answer (C)

525 Which one of the following is correctly matched?

- (A) Hijri Era - 662 AD
(B) Saka Era - 78 AD
(C) Chalukya Era - 682 AD
(D) Ballala Era - 1076 AD

Answer (B)

526. Which of the following statements about Kanishka is incorrect?

- (A) He was a great conqueror
- (B) He founded an era
- (C) He propagated Buddhism
- (D) None of these

Answer (D)

527. Which of the following temples was built by the Cholas?

- (A) Shore Temple at Mahabalipuram
- (B) Brihadeswara Temple at Thanjavur
- (C) Sun Temple at Konark
- (D) Meenakshi Temple at Mudurai

Answer (B)

528. Consider the following statements :

Assertion (A) : The Harappan culture is known as Indus Valley Civilization.

Reason (R) : The Harappan culture flourished on the banks of the river Indus.

Now select the answer according to the coding given

- (A) Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
- (B) Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)
- (C) (A) is true but (R) is false
- (D) (A) is false, but (R) is true

Answer (A)

529. Match list I correctly with list II and select your answer using the codes given below :

List - I		List - II	
a) Gandhara art	1)	Sungas	
b) Bharhut	2)	Rashtrakutas	
c) Kailasanatha temple	3)	Guptas	
d) Deogarh temple	4)	Kushanas	

Codes :

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

Answer (A)

530. Which one of the following is correctly matched?

- (A) Arthashastra - Megasthenes
 (B) My Experiments With Truth - Ambedkar
 (C) Harshacharita - Kautilya
 (D) Kalidas - Kumarasambhava

Answer (D)

531. The Rigveda consists of

- (A) 1028 hymns (B) 1000 hymns
 (C) 2028 hymns (D) 1038 hymns

Answer (A)

532. Who built Kallanai across the river Kaveri?

- (A) RajarajaChola I (B) KarikalaChola
 (C) RajendraChola I (C) Senguttuvan

Answer (B)

533. Mahabalipuram was established by the

- (A) Pandyas (B) Pallavas
(C) Cholas (D) Chalukyas

Answer (B)

534. The Indus Valley people were the worshippers of

- (A) Indra (B) Varuna
(C) Mother Goddess (D) Mitra

Answer (C)

535. Who wrote Ramayana?

- (A) Rama (B) Valmiki
(C) Vyasa (D) Lakshmnana

Answer (B)

536. The tittle Vikramaditya was taken by

- (A) Chandragupta Maurya (B) Asoka
(C) Chandragupta II (D) Samudragupta

Answer (C)

537. 'Harisena' belonged to the period of

- (A) Asoka (B) Chandragupta I
(C) Samudragupta (D) Harshavardhana

Answer (C)

538 Earliest civilization of India is

- (A) Aryan civilization
(B) Vedic civilization

(C) Indus Valley civilization

(D) Dravidian civilization

Answer (C)

539 Choose the correct answer :

(A) The Vedic literature is formed of Jnana Kanda

(B) The Vedic literature is formed of Karma Kanda

(C) The Vedic literature is formed of Jnana and Karma Kanda

(D) The Vedic literature is formed of Bhakti Yoga

(E) Answer (C)

540. Niskama karma is the teaching of

(A) Upanishads

(B) Vedas

(C) Agamas

(D) Bhagavat Gita

Answer (C)

541. The all-pervading power is

(A) Parasakti

(B) Parabrahman

(C) Vishnukarta

(D) Vishwakarma

Answer (B)

542. Buddha is otherwise called as

(A) Rahula

(B) Gautama

(C) Vardhamana

(D) Siddhartha

Answer (D)

543. The Matijana is always

- (A) Mediate knowledge
- (B) Immediate knowledge
- (C) Verbal knowledge
- (D) Perceptual knowledge

Answer (B)

544. Who was called the Indian Napoleon?

- (A) Asityasena (B) Chandragupta I
- (C) Samudragupta (C) Vasudeva

Answer (C)

545. The Aryans came to India from

- (A) Eastern Europe (B) Central Asia
- (C) South-East Asia (C) China

Answer (B)

546. The preacher of the three fold path of Right belief, Right knowledge and Right conduct was

- (A) Mahatma Gandhi (B) Gautama Buddha
- (C) Mahavir (D) Shankaracharya

Answer (C)

547. Kautilya's book was

- (A) Indica (B) Harshacharita
- (C) Arthashastra (D) Vedic literature

Answer (C)

548 Who made the transition from the Palaeolithic to the Neolithic age?

- (A) Making a fire (B) Making wheels
(C) Growing grains (D) Learning a script

Answer (B)

549. Which of the following is wrongly matched?

- (A) Mesolithic period - Microlithic industry
(B) Paleolithic period - Wandering life
(C) Neolithic period - Settled life
(D) Chalcolithic period - Food producing stage

Answer (D)

550. Which one of the following does not belong to the "Three Ratnas" of Jainism?

- (A) Full Knowledge (B) Meditation
(C) Good action (D) Liberation

Answer (D)

551. The division of Mauryan Society into seven classes was particularly mentioned in

- (A) Kautilya's Arthashastra
(B) Asokan edicts
(C) The puranas
(D) The Indica of Megasthenes

Answer (D)

552. The most famous administrative unit of the chola age was

- (A) Village assemblies (B) army
(C) foreign affairs (D) revenue department

Answer (A)

553. The earliest mention of medicine occurs in which of the following Vedas?

- (A) Rigveda (B) Samveda
(C) Yajurveda (D) Ayurveda

Answer (D)

554. Ashrams or four stages of life came to be well established during which period?

- (A) Pre-Vedic period (B) Rigvedic period
(C) Later-Vedic period (D) None of these

Answer (C)

555. What does the Rigveda contain?

- (A) Collection of prayers
(B) Collection of stories and events
(C) Collection of a chronological sequence of dynasties
(D) Collection of magic rituals

Answer (A)

556. Which among the following geographical areas was not inhabited by the early Aryans?

- (A) Baluchistan
(B) Eastern Afghanistan
(C) Punjab

(D) Fringes of Western Uttar Pradesh

Answer (A)

557. The root cause for all sufferings of mankind according to the preaching of Buddha is

- (A) anger
- (B) lust
- (C) pride
- (D) desire

Answer (D)

558. The basic social organisation of the Rigvedic people was

- (A) Matriarchal family
- (B) Patriarchal family
- (C) Both Matriarchal and Patriarchal families
- (D) None of these

Answer (B)

559. Who was called as Indian Napoleon?

- A) Ashoka
- B) Bana
- C) Kanishka
- D) Samudhra Gupta

Answer (D)

560. The pottery of Indus Valley Civilization is

- (A) Grey ware
- (B) Black on red ware
- (C) Northern black polished ware
- (D) Black and red ware

Answer (D)

561. Iron was first introduced in India by

- (A) Aryans
- (B) Dravidians
- (C) Persians
- (D) Sumerians

Answer (A)

562. The Indus Valley Civilization was specialised in

- (A) town planning
- (B) architecture
- (C) craftsmanship
- (D) all of these

Answer (D)

563. Which God was worshipped by the Indus Valley people?

- (A) Indra
- (B) Varuna
- (C) Vishnu
- (D) None of them

Answer (D)

564. The Indus valley people imported from abroad

- (A) wheat
- (B) wine
- (C) silver
- (D) silk

Answer (C)

565 The last mauryan ruler was over thrown by

- A) Agnimitra B) Kharavela
C) Pushyamitra D) DhanaNandha

Answer (C)

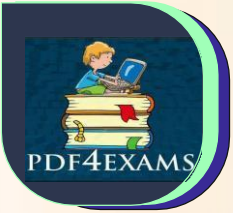
566. Who was the Vice – Chancellor of Nalandauniversity when Huan Tsang visited India?

- A) Kalidasa B) Kambar
C) Dharm Balar D) Panar

Answer (C)

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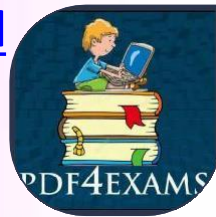


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