

# CUET (UG) Examination Paper - 2025

NATIONAL TESTING AGENCY

## History

**SOLVED**

[This includes Questions pertaining to Domain Specific Subject only]

Time Allowed: 60 Mins.

Maximum Marks: 250

### General Instructions :

1. This Paper contains 50 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. Five (5) marks will be given for each correct answer.
3. One (1) mark will be deducted for each incorrect answer.
4. If more than one option is chosen, then it will be considered an incorrect answer.
5. Unanswered questions will be given no mark.

1. Which Jataka story describes the plight of the subjects of a wicked king: these included elderly women and men, cultivators, herders, village boys and even animals?

- (1) Panchatantra Jataka (2) Abhidhamma Jataka  
(3) Gandantindu Jataka (4) Jivika Jataka

Ans. Option (3) is correct.

**Explanation:** The Gandantindu Jataka is one of the Jataka tales (stories of the Buddha's past lives) that depicts the suffering of the subjects under a wicked king. The story describes how various segments of society—elderly men and women, cultivators, herders, village boys and even animals—suffer under the tyranny of a bad ruler. This tale serves as a moral and political critique of unjust rule, highlighting the Buddhist ideal of righteous kingship (Dhamma-based governance).

2. Identify the **correct** statements regarding Al-Biruni:

- (A) Al-Biruni was well-versed in several languages: Persian, Hebrew, Sanskrit, etc.  
(B) Al-Biruni was born in Syria.  
(C) Al-Biruni was familiar with the work of Plato and other Greek philosophers.  
(D) Al-Biruni read their work in Arabic translations.

Choose the **correct** answer from the options given below:

- (1) (A), (B) and (D) only (2) (A), (B) and (C) only  
(3) (A), (B), (C) and (D) (4) (A), (C) and (D) only

Ans. Option (4) is correct.

**Explanation:** (A) **True** — Al-Biruni was a polymath and linguist, well-versed in **Persian, Arabic, Sanskrit, Hebrew** and other languages.

(B) **False** — Al-Biruni was **born in Khwarazm** (in present-day Uzbekistan), **not Syria**.

(C) **True** — He was deeply familiar with **Greek philosophy**, including the works of **Plato, Aristotle**, etc.

(D) **True** — He accessed Greek works through their **Arabic translations**, which were widespread during the Islamic Golden Age.

3. Identify the region where the *Jotedars* were most powerful in the 18th-century:

- (1) East-Bihar (2) United-Provinces  
(3) West-Punjab (4) North-Bengal

Ans. Option (4) is correct.

**Explanation:** • **Jotedars** were **rich peasants or landholders** in Bengal who held significant control over land and rural society.

• In the **18th century**, particularly in **North Bengal**, the *Jotedars* grew in wealth and influence, often surpassing even the authority of zamindars in local areas.

• **They:**

- (a) Collected rents  
(b) Controlled village resources  
(c) Exercised power over poor peasants and sharecroppers (*bargadars*).

• The **Permanent Settlement of 1793** by the British East India Company inadvertently strengthened their position by fixing zamindari revenues, leaving space for *jotedars* to act as local strongmen and informal landlords.

4. Francis Buchanan was a physician who came to India and served in the Bengal Medical Service from:

- (1) 1784 to 1805 (2) 1794 to 1815  
(3) 1799 to 1820 (4) 1788 to 1910

Ans. Option (2) is correct.

**Explanation:** • Francis Buchanan (later Buchanan-Hamilton) was a Scottish physician and surgeon.

• He joined the Bengal Medical Service in 1794 under the East India Company.

• He conducted extensive surveys on agriculture, topography, society and economy in eastern India.

• His most notable contributions include:

1. Survey of Bengal (1807–1814)

2. Journey through Mysore and Canara (1800–1801)

• He retired from service in 1815 and returned to Britain.

5. Identify the region from which a sculpture depicting Buddha's departure from his palace was discovered and is dated c. 200 CE:

- (1) Junagarh (2) Mandor  
(3) Bodhi Gaya (4) Amaravati

Ans. Option (4) is correct.

**Explanation:** • The Amaravati Stupa (in present-day Andhra Pradesh) was a major centre of Buddhist art and architecture.

• A famous sculpture from Amaravati dated around 200 CE depicts the Great Departure of the Buddha (*Mahabhinishkramana*), i.e., his renunciation of royal life.

• Amaravati art belongs to the early historic period of Indian art, known for its detailed narrative reliefs and symbolic (aniconic) representations of the Buddha.

• This region was a flourishing Buddhist centre under the Satavahanas.

6. Which stone inscription records the history of a guild of silk-weavers who originally lived in Gujarat?

- (1) Mandasor Inscription  
(2) Parayaga Inscription  
(3) Allahabad Inscription  
(4) Vibhuti Inscription

Ans. Option (1) is correct.

**Explanation:** • The Mandasor Inscription (also spelled Mandasaur), dated around 5th century CE, records the activities of a guild of silk weavers (*tantuvaya*).

• These silk weavers originally migrated from Gujarat and eventually settled in Mandasor (Madhya Pradesh).

• The inscription reveals:

1. Their collective identity as a guild

2. Their economic prosperity

3. Their donations for temple construction, reflecting their integration into local society.

• It is an important source to understand early Indian guilds, trade and the mobility of artisan communities.

7. By the 10th-century, the compositions of the 12 Alvars were compiled in an anthology known as:

- (1) Nalpirabandham  
(2) Deviyarabandham  
(3) Alvariyarabandham  
(4) Nalayira Divyaprabandham

Ans. Option (4) is correct.

**Explanation:** • The Alvars were 12 Tamil Vaishnava saints who composed devotional hymns in praise of Lord Vishnu between the 6th and 9th centuries CE.

• These compositions were later collected into an anthology called the "Nalayira Divyaprabandham" (literally meaning "Four Thousand Divine Compositions").

• The compilation was systematised by Nathamuni, a 10th-century theologian and scholar.

• This work is foundational to the Srivaishnava tradition and a major literary and religious text in South India.

8. Most Ashokan inscriptions were in \_\_\_\_ language.

- (1) Sanskrit (2) Pali  
(3) Prakrit (4) Arabic

Ans. Option (3) is correct.

**Explanation:** • Emperor Ashoka's inscriptions, dating back to the 3rd century BCE, were primarily written in Prakrit, using the Brahmi script.

• Prakrit was the language of the common people in most regions of the subcontinent at that time.

• Ashoka deliberately chose Prakrit so that his messages of Dhamma (moral conduct) could reach and be understood by the general population.

• In some north-western regions, inscriptions were also found in Greek and Aramaic, but the majority were in Prakrit.

9. In some Harappan seals, a figure is shown seated cross-legged in a yogic posture, sometimes surrounded by animals. It has been regarded as a depiction of:

- (1) Proto Shiva (2) Proto Vishnu  
(3) Proto Rudra (4) Proto Prithvi

Ans. Option (1) is correct.

**Explanation:** • One of the most famous seals from the Indus Valley Civilisation (also known as the Pashupati Seal) depicts a horned, three-faced figure seated in a yogic posture, surrounded by animals such as elephants, tigers, rhinoceros and buffalo.

• This figure is popularly interpreted as "Proto-Shiva", i.e., an early form or precursor of the Hindu god Shiva.

• The name Pashupati (meaning "Lord of Animals") is one of Shiva's epithets.

• This seal suggests the existence of religious iconography and yogic practices even in prehistoric India.

10. 'Erythraean' was the Greek name for:
- (1) Red Sea
  - (2) Arabian Sea
  - (3) Bay of Bengal
  - (4) Indian Ocean

Ans. Option (1) is correct.

**Explanation:** • The name "Erythraean Sea" was used by **Greeks and Romans** in antiquity to refer to the **Red Sea**.  
 • The name "Erythros" meaning "red".  
 • Over time, the name was sometimes extended in classical geography to refer more broadly to the **waters of the northwestern Indian Ocean**, including the **Arabian Sea** and the **Persian Gulf**.  
 • The famous text, "Periplus of the Erythraean Sea" (1st century CE), details maritime trade between **Roman Egypt and the Indian subcontinent**, especially along the Red Sea coast and the Indian Ocean.

11. Match List-I with List-II:

List-I (Regions)		List-II (Leaders)	
A.	Kanpur	I.	Kunwar Singh
B.	Jhansi	II.	Shah Mal
C.	Bihar	III.	Nana Shahib
D.	Uttar Pradesh	IV.	Rani Lakshmi Bai

Choose the **correct** answer from the options given below:

- (1) (A) - (I), (B) - (II), (C) - (III), (D) - (IV)
- (2) (A) - (I), (B) - (IV), (C) - (II), (D) - (III)
- (3) (A) - (I), (B) - (II), (C) - (IV), (D) - (III)
- (4) (A) - (III), (B) - (IV), (C) - (I), (D) - (II)

Ans. Option (4) is correct.

**Explanation:** • **Nana Sahib** led the revolt in **Kanpur** during the Revolt of 1857.  
 • **Rani Lakshmi Bai** famously defended **Jhansi** and later fought at Gwalior.  
 • **Kunwar Singh**, a zamindar of Jagdishpur, was the main leader of the uprising in **Bihar**.  
 • **Shah Mal** was a local leader who led the peasantry in **Uttar Pradesh**, especially in the region of Baraut (near Meerut).

12. Identify the regions where archaeologists have found the terracotta models of the 'plough' and evidence of ploughed field?

- (1) Cholistan, Banawali and Kalibangan
- (2) Ganweriwala, Mitathal and Harappa
- (3) Ameri, Balakot and Siswal
- (4) Manda, Sutkangendor and Amravati

Ans. Option (1) is correct.

**Explanation:** • **Kalibangan (Rajasthan)** is one of the few Harappan sites where **clear evidence of a ploughed field** has been discovered. The field shows a crisscross pattern, suggesting **double cropping**.  
 • **Banawali (Haryana)** and **Cholistan (Pakistan)** have yielded **terracotta models of ploughs**, indicating knowledge of **agricultural technology**.

• These findings show that **agriculture was well-developed** in the Harappan civilisation and involved sophisticated tools and techniques.

13. Which British artist went on a voyage to the Pacific (1772–75) and then came to India?

- (1) Augustus Cleveland
- (2) William Hodges
- (3) Francis Hamilton
- (4) Charles Cornwallis

Ans. Option (2) is correct.

**Explanation:** • **William Hodges** was a British landscape painter and one of the **first professional artists** to visit India.  
 • He participated in **Captain James Cook's second voyage** to the Pacific (1772–75) as the expedition artist.  
 • After returning from this voyage, he later travelled to **India in 1780**, under the patronage of **Governor-General Warren Hastings**.  
 • In India, Hodges painted landscapes and monuments, especially in Bengal, helping shape European perceptions of the Indian subcontinent.  
 • His works are considered **pioneering examples of British colonial art** in India.

14. Identify the correct statements about Ibn Battuta and his travels:

- (A) Ibn Battuta's book of travels, called *Rihla*, was written in Urdu.
- (B) It provides rich and interesting details about social-cultural life in the sub-continent of 14th-century.
- (C) This Moroccan traveller was born in Tangier.
- (D) Travelling overland through Central Asia, Ibn Battuta reached Sind.

Choose the **correct** answer from the options given below:

- (1) (A), (B) and (D) only
- (2) (A), (B) and (C) only
- (3) (A), (B), (C) and (D)
- (4) (B), (C) and (D) only

Ans. Option (4) is correct.

**Explanation:** • **Statement (A) is incorrect:** *Rihla* was written in **Arabic**, not Urdu. Ibn Battuta dictated it to a scholar named **Ibn Juzayy** in Morocco.

• **Statement (B) is correct:** His travelogue gives detailed insights into **14th-century India**, including **urban life, governance, trade and culture**.

• **Statement (C) is correct:** Ibn Battuta was indeed born in **Tangier**, Morocco, in 1304 CE.

• **Statement (D) is correct:** He travelled **overland through Central Asia**, reaching **Sind** before entering India during the reign of **Muhammad bin Tughlaq**.

15. Who composed the *Fawa'id-al-Fu'ad*, a collection of conversations of Shaikh Nizamuddin Auliya?

- (1) Mir Khwurd Kirmani
- (2) Amir Hasan Sijzi Dehlavi
- (3) Abdul Haqq Dehlavi
- (4) Miya Mir

Ans. Option (2) is correct.

**Explanation:** • *Fawa'id-al-Fu'ad* is a collection of **discourses and conversations** (*malfuzat*) of the Sufi saint **Shaikh Nizamuddin Auliya**.

- It was **compiled by Amir Hasan Sijzi Dehlavi**, who was a close disciple and court poet.
- The work offers **deep insight into the Chishti Sufi tradition**, teachings and Nizamuddin's worldview in 13th-century Delhi.

16. Who declared in one of the sessions of the Constituent Assembly, that he wanted, "a strong and united Centre"?

- (1) Hansa Mehta                      (2) B.R. Ambedkar  
(3) N.G. Ranga                      (4) Baldev Singh

Ans. Option (4) is correct.

**Explanation:** • **Baldev Singh**, a prominent Sikh leader and India's first Defence Minister, **stated in the Constituent Assembly** debates that he wanted "**a strong and united Centre**."

- His statement reflected the concern of minorities, particularly Sikhs, who were negotiating **protection within a united India**, especially amidst Partition-related anxieties.

17. Who is known as the 'best-ruler' of the Satavahana dynasty?

- (1) Gotami-Putra-Siri-Gupta  
(2) Gotami-Putra-Siri-Kama  
(3) Gotami-Putra-Siri-Satakani  
(4) Gotami-Putra-Siri-Satnami

Ans. Option (3) is correct.

**Explanation:** • **Gautamiputra Satakarni** (**Gotami-Putra-Siri-Satakani**) is regarded as the **greatest ruler** of the Satavahana dynasty.

- His achievements are recorded in the **Nashik inscription** by his mother **Gautami Balashri**, which describes him as "**Ekabrahmana**", destroyer of Shakas, Pahlavas and Yavanas, and restorer of the varna system.
- He expanded the empire significantly and strengthened it after foreign invasions.

18. Which traveller gives a description on 'widespread poverty' of the early decades in 17th-century?

- (1) Pelsaert                      (2) Peter Mundy  
(3) Seydi Ali Reis                      (4) Mahmud Wali Balkhi

Ans. Option (1) is correct.

**Explanation:** • **Francisco Pelsaert**, a Dutch merchant and official of the Dutch East India Company, visited **Mughal India in the 1620s**.

- He documented the **extreme poverty** of the common people despite the **wealth and grandeur** of the Mughal court.
- In his accounts, especially in "*Remonstrantie*", he writes vividly about the **sufferings of peasants**, high taxation and the unequal distribution of wealth.

19. Who introduced the Subsidiary Alliance in Awadh (1801)?

- (1) Lord Hardinge                      (2) Lord Hastings  
(3) Lord Wellesley                      (4) Lord Cornwallis

Ans. Option (3) is correct.

**Explanation:** • The **Subsidiary Alliance system** was introduced by **Lord Wellesley**, the Governor-General of India (1798–1805).

- Under this system, Indian princely states were forced to maintain British troops at their own expense, **surrender control of foreign policy** and accept a British Resident.
- In **1801**, Nawab Saadat Ali Khan II of **Awadh** was forced to sign a Subsidiary Alliance, marking a significant **expansion of British control** in North India.

20. Ibn Batutta returned to his home in \_\_\_\_\_, about thirty-years after he had set out.

- (1) 1355                      (2) 1334  
(3) 1354                      (4) 1356

Ans. Option (3) is correct.

**Explanation:** • **Ibn Battuta**, the Moroccan traveller, began his journey in **1325** from Tangier.

- He travelled extensively through Africa, the Middle East, Central Asia, India, Southeast Asia and China.
- After nearly **30 years of travel**, he finally **returned home in 1354 CE** to Morocco, where he dictated his experiences into a book known as the "**Rihla**".

21. Identify the year of Champaran Movement:

- (1) 1917                      (2) 1918  
(3) 1921                      (4) 1922

Ans. Option (1) is correct.

**Explanation:** • The **Champaran Satyagraha** was the **first civil disobedience movement** led by **Mahatma Gandhi** in India.

- It was launched in **1917** in the **Champaran district of Bihar** to address the grievances of **indigo cultivators** forced into the oppressive **Tinkathia system** (cultivating indigo on 3/20th of land).
- Gandhi's peaceful resistance and fact-finding mission led to the **abolition of the system**, marking his emergence as a national leader.

22. Which Mughal chronicle mentions the irrigation devices of Northern India?

- (1) Akbar Nama                      (2) Babur Nama  
(3) Ain-i Akbari                      (4) Shah Nama

Ans. Option (3) is correct.

**Explanation:** • The **Ain-i Akbari**, written by **Abul Fazl**, is a part of the larger historical work *Akbarnama*.

- It provides **detailed descriptions of administration, economy and culture** under Akbar's rule.
- It specifically mentions **irrigation devices like Persian wheels, canals and wells** used in **Northern India**.



• This document is an invaluable **source on Mughal agrarian practices.**

**23.** In 1565, who led the Vijayanagara army into battle at 'Rakshasi-Tangadi'?

- (1) Rama Raya (2) Krishnadeva Raya  
(3) Deva Raya (4) Harihara II

**Ans. Option (1) is correct.**

**Explanation:** • The **Battle of Rakshasi-Tangadi** (also known as the **Battle of Talikota**) was fought in **1565** between the **Vijayanagara Empire** and the **combined forces of the Deccan Sultanates** (Ahmednagar, Bijapur, Golconda, Bidar and Berar).

• **Rama Raya**, the regent of Vijayanagara and a powerful commander, led the army in this battle.

• Unfortunately, he was captured and executed during the battle, which led to a **crushing defeat** and the **eventual decline of the Vijayanagara Empire.**

**24.** When was the Constitution of India signed?

- (1) December 1949 (2) January 1949  
(3) January 1947 (4) August 1947

**Ans. Option (1) is correct.**

**Explanation:** • The **Constitution of India** was **adopted on 26th November 1949** by the Constituent Assembly.

• However, it was **officially signed by the members on 24th January 1950**, two days before it came into effect on **26th January 1950** (celebrated as Republic Day).

• Hence, **December 1949** is marked as the month of finalisation and formal signing before enforcement.

**25.** Match List-I with List-II:

List-I (Raw-Materials)		List-II (Regions)	
A.	Lapis Lazuli	I.	Khetri
B.	Carnelian	II.	South Rajasthan
C.	Copper	III.	Shortughai
D.	Steatite	IV.	Lothal

Choose the **correct** answer from the options given below:

- (1) (A) - (I), (B) - (II), (C) - (III), (D) - (IV)  
(2) (A) - (I), (B) - (III), (C) - (II), (D) - (IV)  
(3) (A) - (I), (B) - (II), (C) - (IV), (D) - (III)  
(4) (A) - (III), (B) - (IV), (C) - (I), (D) - (II)

**Ans. Option (4) is correct.**

**Explanation:**

Raw material	Correct region	Explanation
A. Lapis-lazuli	Shortughai (Badakhshan, Afghanistan)	The only known Harappan-period source; lapis beads reached Mohenjo-daro via overland trade.
B. Carnelian	Lothal (Gujarat)	Lothal's bead-making workshops specialised in carnelian, obtained from the nearby Narmada basin.
C. Copper	Khetri (Rajasthan)	The Aravalli copper belt supplied ingots and tools to many Indus sites.
D. Steatite	South Rajasthan	Steatite (soapstone) quarries in the Aravallis yielded raw material for micro-beads and seals.

**26.** Who composed the *Natyashastra* in Sanskrit?

- (1) Panini (2) Ashvaghosh  
(3) Charaka (4) Bharata

**Ans. Option (4) is correct.**

**Explanation:** • The *Natyashastra* is an ancient Sanskrit treatise on performing arts — **drama, dance and music.**

• It was **composed by Bharata Muni**, most likely between **200 BCE and 200 CE.**

• The text is regarded as the **foundation of classical Indian performing arts**, outlining **rasa theory**, stage design, gestures, music and actor training.

**27. Match List-I with List-II:**

List-I (Ruler)		List-II (Dynasty)	
A.	Asoka	I.	Maurya
B.	Kanishka	II.	Gupta
C.	Samudragupta	III.	Kushana
D.	Rudradaman	IV.	Shaka

Choose the **correct** answer from the options given below:

- (1) (A) - (I), (B) - (II), (C) - (III), (D) - (IV)  
 (2) (A) - (I), (B) - (III), (C) - (II), (D) - (IV)  
 (3) (A) - (I), (B) - (II), (C) - (IV), (D) - (III)  
 (4) (A) - (III), (B) - (IV), (C) - (I), (D) - (II)

**Ans. Option (2) is correct.**

**Explanation:** • **Asoka → Maurya Dynasty**  
 One of the greatest rulers of the Maurya Empire (268–232 BCE), known for spreading Buddhism.  
 • **Kanishka → Kushana Dynasty**  
 A powerful emperor of the Kushana dynasty (1st–2nd century CE), known for promoting Mahayana Buddhism and the Gandhara art.  
 • **Samudragupta → Gupta Dynasty**  
 A Gupta emperor (c. 335–375 CE), known as the “Napoleon of India” for his military conquests.  
 • **Rudradaman → Shaka Dynasty**  
 A ruler of the Western Kshatrapas (Shaka) dynasty in the 2nd century CE; known for the Junagadh inscription.

**28. The most important idea in \_\_\_\_\_ is that the entire world is animated.**

- (1) Buddhism (2) Hinduism  
 (3) Jainism (4) Shaivism

**Ans. Option (3) is correct.**

**Explanation:** In **Jainism**, the central idea is **animism**—that **every object**, whether **living or non-living**, possesses a **soul (jiva)**. This leads to the principle of **ahimsa (non-violence)** in the most extreme form, as even elements like air, water, fire and earth are believed to have life. This worldview is what makes Jainism highly rigorous about non-violence—even to microscopic beings.

**29. Identify the most famous court-historian during Akbar's reign:**

- (1) Mir Samad (2) Mir Hasan  
 (3) Abu'l Fazl (4) Abu'l Nizami

**Ans. Option (3) is correct.**

**Explanation:** **Abu'l Fazl** was the most eminent **court historian and scholar** during the reign of **Emperor Akbar**. He was one of the **Navaratnas (Nine Jewels)** in Akbar's court. **He authored two major works:**  
 • **Akbarnama:** The official biography of Akbar, in three volumes.

• **Ain-i Akbari:** A detailed administrative document, part of the *Akbarnama*, providing an extensive description of the Mughal Empire's structure, revenue system, military and culture. He was the brother of famous Sufi and poet **Faizi**.

**30. Identify the correct statements regarding the Harappan seals and sealings:**

- (A) The Harappan seal is possibly the most distinctive artefact of Harappan or Indus Valley civilization.  
 (B) Seals and sealing were used to facilitate long-distance communication.  
 (C) Harappan seals usually have a line of writing, probably containing the name and title of the owner.  
 (D) The sealing also conveyed the identity of the sender.

Choose the **correct** answer from the options given below:

- (1) (A), (B) and (D) only (2) (A), (B) and (C) only  
 (3) (A), (B), (C) and (D) (4) (B), (C) and (D) only

**Ans. Option (3) is correct.**

**Explanation:** All four statements are correct based on archaeological findings and scholarly consensus:

- (A) Harappan seals (often made of steatite) are among the **most distinctive artefacts**, frequently found in excavations.  
 (B) They were likely used in **trade and long-distance communication**, especially with Mesopotamia (e.g., seal impressions found at Ur).  
 (C) Seals usually had **inscriptions**, believed to be names/titles (though the script is undeciphered).  
 (D) The impression on clay (sealing) would bear the sender's seal, hence indicating **identity**.

**31. Nayanars were devotees of \_\_\_\_\_.**

- (1) Vishnu (2) Lakshmi  
 (3) Narayana (4) Shiva

**Ans. Option (4) is correct.**

**Explanation:** • The **Nayanars** were a group of **Shaivite saints** from Tamil Nadu who were **devotees of Lord Shiva**.

- They lived between the 6th and 9th centuries CE.
- Their devotional hymns in praise of Shiva contributed to the growth of **Bhakti movement** in South India.
- Famous among them were **Appar, Sambandar** and **Sundarar**.

**32. When did the Deccan Riots Commission presented a report to the British Parliament?**

- (1) 1871 (2) 1889  
 (3) 1878 (4) 1874

**Ans. Option (3) is correct.**

**Explanation:** • The Deccan Riots Commission was appointed in 1875 after a series of peasant revolts against moneylenders in Maharashtra.  
• The report was completed and presented to the British Parliament in 1878 to analyse the causes of rural unrest and suggest remedies.  
• The findings led to the Deccan Agriculturists Relief Act of 1879 to address exploitative moneylending.

**33. Match List-I with List-II:**

List-I (Travellers)		List-II (Countries)	
A.	Duarte Barbosa	I.	Portugal
B.	Marco Polo	II.	Spain
C.	Antonio Monserrate	III.	Italy
D.	Peter Mundy	IV.	England

Choose the **correct** answer from the options given below:

- (1) (A) - (I), (B) - (II), (C) - (III), (D) - (IV)  
 (2) (A) - (I), (B) - (III), (C) - (II), (D) - (IV)  
 (3) (A) - (I), (B) - (II), (C) - (IV), (D) - (III)  
 (4) (A) - (III), (B) - (IV), (C) - (I), (D) - (II)

**Ans. Option (2) is correct.**

**Explanation:**

Traveller	Country	Explanation
Duarte Barbosa	Portugal	A Portuguese writer and explorer; visited India in the early 16th century.
Marco Polo	Italy	A Venetian (Italian) merchant who travelled to Asia in the 13th century.
Antonio Monserrate	Spain	A Spanish Jesuit missionary who came to Akbar's court.
Peter Mundy	England	An English traveller who visited India during the 17th century.

**34. Who wrote the earliest histories of the uprising (1857), noting that, 'the panchayats were a nightly occurrence in the Kanpur Sepoy lines'?**

- (1) James Outrum (2) Charles Mason  
 (3) Charles Ball (4) Captain Hearsey

**Ans. Option (3) is correct.**

**Explanation:** • Charles Ball authored one of the earliest and most detailed histories of the 1857 uprising titled "*The History of the Indian Mutiny*".  
• He made a specific observation regarding panchayats (gatherings of sepoys) being a regular feature in the Kanpur Sepoy lines, indicating the collective decision-making of Indian soldiers during the revolt.

**35. Arrange the following events in a chronological order:**

- (A) Ryots in Deccan villages rebel  
 (B) Santhal Rebellion  
 (C) Permanent Settlement in Bengal  
 (D) First revenue settlement in the Bombay Deccan

Choose the **correct** answer from the options given below.

- (1) (A), (B), (C), (D) (2) (A), (C), (B), (D)  
 (3) (B), (A), (D), (C) (4) (C), (D), (B), (A)

**Ans. Option (4) is correct.**

**Explanation:** (C) Permanent Settlement in Bengal (1793)

• Introduced by Lord Cornwallis under the British East India Company.  
 • Fixed land revenue and made zamindars permanent proprietors.

(D) First Revenue Settlement in the Bombay Deccan (early 19th century)

• Introduced under British rule; Ryotwari system by Thomas Munro in Madras and Bombay regions.

(B) Santhal Rebellion (1855–56)

• Tribal uprising against exploitative practices of landlords, moneylenders and the British.

(A) Ryots in Deccan villages rebel (1875)

• Known as the Deccan Riots, peasants revolted against moneylenders due to increasing debt.

**36. Who remarked that South Africa was "the making of the Mahatma"?**

- (1) Bipin Chandra Pal  
 (2) Lala Lajpat Rai  
 (3) Louis Fischer  
 (4) Chandran Devanesan

**Ans. Option (4) is correct.**

**Explanation:** • Chandran Devanesan, a noted Indian Christian scholar and educationist, made the observation that "**South Africa was the making of the Mahatma**".

• This statement signifies how **Mahatma Gandhi's political and ideological transformation** began during his stay in South Africa (1893–1914), where he fought against racial discrimination and developed the method of **Satyagraha (non-violent resistance)**.

**37. Identify the incorrect statements regarding the travellers in Medieval India:**

- (A) Jean-Baptiste Tavernier travelled to India atleast seven times.  
 (B) Manucci, the french doctor, never returned to Europe and settled down in India.  
 (C) Francois Bernier was closely associated with the Mughal court.  
 (D) Danishmand Khan, was a syrian noble at the Mughal court.

Choose the **correct** answer from the options given below:

- (1) (A), (B) and (D) only (2) (A), (B) and (C) only  
(3) (A), (B), (C) and (D) (4) (B), (C) and (D) only

Ans. Option (1) is correct.

**Explanation:** (A) **Incorrect** – Jean-Baptiste Tavernier visited India **six times**, not seven.

(B) **Incorrect** – Niccolao Manucci stayed in India for a long time and wrote *Storia do Mogor*. However, he **did eventually return to Europe**.

(C) **Correct** – Francois Bernier was **indeed closely associated** with the Mughal court, especially during Aurangzeb's reign.

(D) **Incorrect** – Danishmand Khan was not a **Syrian noble**; he was a **Persian scholar and a Mughal courtier**, not Syrian.

38. Who was M.K. Gandhi's political mentor?

- (1) Bal Gangadhar Tilak  
(2) Gopal Krishna Gokhale  
(3) Lala Lajpat Rai  
(4) Aurobindo Gosh

Ans. Option (2) is correct.

**Explanation:** • **Gopal Krishna Gokhale** was a moderate leader in the Indian National Congress and played a vital role as a mentor to Mahatma Gandhi.

• Gandhi **acknowledged** Gokhale as his **political guru**, admiring his moderation, deep understanding of Indian society and constitutional approach to reforms.

• Upon returning from South Africa in 1915, **Gandhi spent time with Gokhale**, who guided him in understanding Indian politics and the socio-economic issues of the country.

39. Who founded the Mauryan Empire in c. 321 BCE?

- (1) Asoka  
(2) Bimbisara  
(3) Kautilya Maurya  
(4) Chandragupta Maurya

Ans. Option (4) is correct.

**Explanation:** • **Chandragupta Maurya** founded the **Mauryan Empire** around **321 BCE**, after overthrowing the Nanda Dynasty.

• With the guidance of his advisor **Chanakya (Kautilya)**, he established a vast empire that covered large parts of the Indian subcontinent.

• He laid the foundation of a **centralised administration** and was succeeded by **Bindusara**, and later by **Ashoka the Great**.

40. Identify the name of the Governor-General who described the kingdom of Awadh as "a cherry that will drop into our mouth one day":

- (1) Lord Malcolm (2) Lord Dalhousie  
(3) Lord Mayo (4) Lord Canning

Ans. Option (2) is correct.

**Explanation:** • **Lord Dalhousie**, the Governor-General of India (1848–1856), is famously known for his **Doctrine of Lapse** policy.

- He viewed Awadh (Oudh) as a rich, strategic region and made the statement that it was "**a cherry that will drop into our mouth one day**", indicating his intent to annex it without conflict.
- Awadh was eventually annexed in **1856** on the grounds of alleged misgovernance.

## Comprehension

Read the passage and answer the questions:

### Vijayanagara Empire

The first dynasty, known as the Sangama dynasty, exercised control till 1485. They were supplanted by the Saluvas, military commanders, who remained in power till 1503 when they were replaced by the Tuluvas. Krishnadeva Raya belonged to the Tuluva dynasty. Krishnadeva Raya's rule was characterised by expansion and consolidation. This was the time when the land between the Tungabhadra and Krishna rivers was acquired (1512), the rulers of Orissa were subdued (1514) and severe defeats were inflicted on the Sultan of Bijapur (1520). Although the kingdom remained in a constant state of military preparedness, it flourished under conditions of unparalleled peace and prosperity. Krishnadeva Raya is credited with building some fine temples and adding impressive gopurams to many important south Indian temples. He also founded a suburban township near Vijayanagara called Nagalapuram after his mother. Some of the most detailed descriptions of Vijayanagara come from his time or just after. Strain began to show within the imperial structure following Krishnadeva Raya's death in 1529. His successors were troubled by rebellious nayakas or military chiefs. By 1542 control at the centre had shifted to another ruling lineage, that of the Aravidu, which remained in power till the end of the seventeenth century. During this period, as indeed earlier, the military ambitions of the rulers of Vijayanagara as well as those of the Deccan Sultanates resulted in shifting alignments. Eventually this led to an alliance of the Sultanates against Vijayanagara.

41. Identify the township named after Krishnadeva Raya's mother during his reign?

- (1) Vijayanagara (2) Hampi  
(3) Orissa (4) Nagalapuram

Ans. Option (4) is correct.

**Explanation:** Krishnadeva Raya named a suburban township near Vijayanagara Empire (1509–1529 CE) as Nagalapuram in honour of his mother. This is clearly stated in the passage.

42. Who inflicted severe defeats on the Sultan of Bijapur (1520)?

- (1) Rama Raya (2) Krishnadeva Raya  
(3) Harihara (4) Hoysalas

Ans. Option (2) is correct.



**Explanation:** According to the passage, Krishnadeva Raya, the most prominent ruler of the Tuluva dynasty, led significant military campaigns during his reign.

It was during his time that the Sultan of Bijapur was inflicted with severe defeats in the year 1520. This highlights his role in expanding and consolidating the Vijayanagara Empire.

43. 'Gopurams' are important feature of which building during Krishnadeva Raya's rule?

(1) Forts (2) Roads  
(3) Temples (4) Tanks

Ans. Option (3) is correct.

**Explanation:** During the reign of Krishnadeva Raya, temple architecture reached great heights in the Vijayanagara Empire. He is credited with building fine temples and adding impressive 'gopurams' (ornate monumental towers at the entrance) to many important South Indian temples. These structures symbolised both religious devotion and royal patronage.

44. Which was the second dynasty of the Vijayanagara Empire?

(1) Sangama Dynasty (2) Tuluvas Dynasty  
(3) Saluvas Dynasty (4) Aravidu Dynasty

Ans. Option (3) is correct.

**Explanation:** As per the passage, after the Sangama dynasty (first), the Saluvas came to power in 1485. Hence, the Saluvas were the second ruling dynasty of the Vijayanagara Empire.

45. The 'Raichur-Doab' is the land between which among the following rivers:

(1) Tungabhadra and Kaveri  
(2) Tungabhadra and Krishna  
(3) Krishna and Kaveri  
(4) Tungabhadra and Shipra

Ans. Option (2) is correct.

**Explanation:** The Raichur Doab is the fertile land located between the Tungabhadra and Krishna rivers. It was a strategically important region that saw frequent conflict between the Vijayanagara Empire and the Bahmani Sultanate. Krishnadeva Raya successfully acquired the region in 1512, marking a significant military achievement.

### Comprehension

Read the passage and answer the questions:

#### The Making and Unmaking of the Non-Cooperation

During the Great War of 1914-18, the British had instituted censorship of the press and permitted detention without trial. Now, on the recommendation of a committee chaired by Sir Sidney Rowlatt, these tough measures were

continued. In response, Gandhiji called for a countrywide campaign against the "Rowlatt Act". In towns across North and West India, life came to a standstill, as shops shut down and schools closed in response to the bandh call. The protests were particularly intense in the Punjab, where many men had served on the British side in the War - expecting to be rewarded for their service. Instead they were given the Rowlatt Act. Gandhiji was detained while proceeding to the Punjab. The situation in the province grew progressively more tense, reaching a bloody climax in Amritsar in 1919, when a British Brigadier ordered his troops to open fire on a nationalist meeting. More than four hundred people were killed in what is known as the Jallianwala Bagh massacre. It was the Rowlatt satyagraha that made Gandhiji a truly national leader. Emboldened by its success, Gandhiji called for a campaign of "non-cooperation" with British rule. Indians who wished colonialism to end were asked to stop attending schools, colleges and law courts, and not pay taxes. In sum, they were asked to adhere to a "renunciation of (all) voluntary association with the (British) Government". If non-cooperation was effectively carried out, said Gandhiji, India would win swaraj within a year.

46. 'Detention without Trial' was a feature of which act?

(1) Non-Cooperation Act  
(2) Interim Government Act  
(3) Rowlatt Act  
(4) Reward Act

Ans. Option (3) is correct.

**Explanation:** The Rowlatt Act (1919) allowed the British government to **detain individuals without trial** on mere suspicion of sedition. It violated basic civil liberties and led to **nationwide protests**, culminating in Gandhi's **Rowlatt Satyagraha** and eventually the **Jallianwala Bagh massacre**.

47. The main institutional feature of the 'Rowlatt Act' introduced by the British was:

(1) Reward for Services (2) Censorship of Press  
(3) Bandh Call (4) Public Welfare

Ans. Option (2) is correct.

**Explanation:** The Rowlatt Act (1919) empowered the British government to detain individuals without trial and imposed strict censorship on the press. This act was highly unpopular and led to widespread protests across India, culminating in Gandhi's Rowlatt Satyagraha.

48. Identify the month and year of 'Jallianwala Bagh Massacre':

(1) March 1919 (2) April 1919  
(3) April 1918 (4) March 1914

Ans. Option (2) is correct.

**Explanation:** The Jallianwala Bagh Massacre took place on **13th April 1919** when British troops led by General Dyer opened fire on a peaceful crowd protesting the Rowlatt Act in Amritsar. This tragic event marked a significant turning point in India's struggle for independence.

**49.** In which region of West-India were the protests about the 'Rowlatt Act' most intense?

- (1) Punjab                      (2) Delhi  
(3) Bengal                     (4) United-Provinces

**Ans. Option (1) is correct.**

**Explanation:** From the given passage, The protests were particularly intense in the Punjab. This was happening because of the below facts.  
**01-** Punjab saw massive unrest and mobilisation.  
**02-** Leaders like Dr. Saifuddin Kitchlew and Dr. Satyapal led protests in Amritsar.  
**03-** The government responded with repressive measures, culminating in the Jallianwala Bagh massacre on 13 April 1919, where hundreds of peaceful protesters were massacred by British troops under the command of General Dyer.

**50.** Identify the timeline of the 'First World War':

- (1) 1912–14                      (2) 1913–16  
(3) 1914–18                     (4) 1914–20

**Ans. Option (3) is correct.**

**Explanation:** The First World War, also known as the **Great War**.

**Time-line Highlights:**

**(a) Start:** 28 July 1914

Triggered by the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria.

**(b) Major Powers Involved:**

➤ Allied Powers: Britain, France, Russia (later joined by the USA in 1917)

➤ Central Powers: Germany, Austria-Hungary, Ottoman Empire

**(C) End:** 11 November 1918

➤ Known as **Armistice Day**, when fighting ceased with the signing of the armistice.



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360