

Chapter 2

Art and Architecture of Tamil Nadu

Questions and Answers

I. Choose the correct Answer:

Question 1.

Which is the oldest structural temple in south India?

- a) Shore Temple
- b) Mandagapattu
- c) Kailasanatha Temple
- d) Vaikuntha Perumal Temple

Answer:

- a) Shore Temple

Question 2.

In which year were the Mamallapuram monuments and temples notified as a UNESCO world Heritage site?

- a) 1964
- b) 1994
- c) 1974
- d) 1984

Answer:

- d) 1984

Question 3.

What was the special feature of the architecture of early Chola period?

- a) bas-reliefs
- b) vimanas
- c) corridors
- d) gopurams .

Answer:

- b) Vimanas

Question 4.

Where is the Azhakiya Nambi Temple situated?

- a) Tirukkurungudi
- b) Madurai

- c) Tirunelveli
- d) Srivilliputhu

Answer:

- a) Tirukkurungudi

Question 5.

Who built the Vaikuntha Perumal Temple?

- a) Mahendravarman
- b) Narasimhavarman
- c) Rajasimha
- d) Rajaraja II

Answer:

- d) Rajaraja II

II. Fill in the Blanks:

1. was the first rock-cut cave temple built by the Pallava king Mahendravarman.

Answer:

Mandagapattu

2. The early Chola architecture followed the style of.....

Answer:

Sembian Mahadevi

3. The most celebrated mandapam in Madurai Meenakshiamman temple is the.....

Answer:

Pudumandapam

4. Later Chola period was known for beautiful.....

Answer:

gopurams

5. Vijayanagar period's unique feature is the.....

Answer:

mandapam

III. Match the following:

A	B
1. Seven Pagodas	a) Madurai
2. Rathi mandapam	b) Darasuram
3. Iravatheswara temple	c) Tirukkurungudi
4. Adinatha Temple	d) Shore temple
5. Pudumandapam	e) Azhwar Tirunagari

Answer:

A	B
1. Seven Pagodas	d) Shore temple
2. Rathi mandapam	c) Tirukkurungudi
3. Iravatheswara temple	b) Darasuram
4. Adinatha Temple	e) Azhwar Tirunagari
5. Pudumandapam	a) Madurai

IV. Find out the wrong pair/pairs:

Question 1.

1. Krishnapuram Temple – Tirunelveli
2. Kudalazhagar Temple – Azhwar Tirunagari
3. Sethupathis – Feudatories of Madurai Nayaks
4. Jalagandeshwara temple – Vellore

Answer:

2. Kudalazhagar Temple – Azhwar Tirunagari

Question 2.

Assertion (A) : The predominance of corridors of Rameswaram Temple is striking. Reason (R) : The Temple has the largest set of corridors in the world,

- a) R is not the correct explanation of A
- b) R is the correct explanation of A
- c) A is correct but R is wrong
- d) Both A and R are wrong

Answer:

- b) R is the correct explanation of A

Question 3.

Find out the odd one out:

Srivilliputhur, Azhaharkoil, Srirangam, Kanchipuram Tiruvannamalai.

Answer:

Srivilliputhur, Azhaharkoil, Srirangam, **Kanchipuram**, Tiruvannamalai.

Question 4.

Name the epoch of the following:

- a) A.D. 600 to 850 –
- b) A.D. 850 to 1100 –
- c) A.D. 1100 to 1350 –
- d) A.D. 1350 to 1600 –

Answer:

- a) A.D. 600 to 850 – The Pallava Epoch
- b) A.D. 850 to 1100 – Early Chola Epoch
- c) A.D. 1100 to 1350 – Later Chola Epoch
- d) A.D. 1350 to 1600 – Vijaynagara /Nayak Epoch

Question 5.

Find out the correct statement/s:

- 1. The Arjuna's Penance is carved out of a granite boulder.
- 2. Meenakshi Amman temple in Madurai represents Pallava's architectural style.
- 3. The cave temple at Pillayarpatti is a contribution of Later Pandyas.
- 4. The Sethupathis as feudatories of Madurai Nayaks contributed to Madurai Meenakshiamman Temple.

Answer:

- 1. The Arjuna's Penance is carved out of a granite boulder.
- 3. The cave temple at Pillayarpatti is a contribution of Later Pandyas.

V. State true or false:

- 1. Rajasimha built the Kanchi Kailasanatha temple.

Answer:

True

- 2. Early Pandyas were the contemporaries of Later Cholas.

Answer:

False

3. Rock-cut and structural temples are significant parts of the Pandya architecture.

Answer:

True

4. Brahadeeshwara temple was built by Rajendra Chola.

Answer:

True

5. Vijayanagar and Nayak paintings are seen at temple at Dadapuram.

Answer:

False

VI. Give short answers:

Question 1.

Write a note on Pancha Pandava Rathas.

Answer:

1. The Tamil Dravid tradition is exemplified by rock-cut- monuments.
2. Such as Draupadiratha, Dharmarajaratha, Bheemaratha, Arjunaratha, and Nagula – Sahadeva Ratha.

Question 2.

Throw light on the paintings of Sittanavasal

Answer:

- Sittanavasal is located at Pudukkottai district.
- It have outstanding early Pandya paintings.
- They painted the walls with fresh painting.
- Among the surviving ones,the lot of pond is not able for its excellent execution of colours and exposition of the scene.

Question 3.

Point out the special features of Thanjavur Big temple.

Answer:

1. The Thanjavur Big Temple completed around A.D.1010 was built by Rajaraja.

2. It was a huge temple complex.
3. The 216 feet vimana is not able as it is one of the tallest man-made shikaras in the world.
4. The huge bull statue (Nandi) is carved out of a single rock.

Question 4.

Highlight the striking features of Rameswaram Temple.

Answer:

- The Sethupathis ruled Ramanathapuram was built the temple.
- In the temple, the predominance of the corridor striking.
- It is claimed that this temple has the longest set of corridors in the world.
- The temple has three sets of corridors.
- The outer set of the corridors has a height of almost 7metres and stretches for about 120 metres.
- Many of these pillar sare decorated by ornate carvings. .

VII. Answer the following in detail:

Question 1.

The Pallava epoch witnessed a transition from rock-cut to free-standing temples – Explain.

Answer:

- The Pallava king Mahendravarman was a pioneer in rock-cut architecture.
- Rock-cut temples were initially built by carving a rock to the required design and then rocks were cut to build temples.
- Mandaga pattu temple was the first trock-cut temple built by him.
- The rock-cut cave structure has two pillar sin the front that hold it.
- All the cave temple shaves implesanctum cut on there a side of the wall with a front age – projecting mandapa(pavilion).
- The structural temples provided a wider scope to the sculptor to use his skill.

Question 2.

Discuss how the architecture of the Vijayanagara and Nayak period was different from the one of Pallavas and Later Cholas.

Answer:

- During the Vijayanagara epoch, a new form of construction emerged.
- The main features of the Vijayanagar and Nayak architecture are:
- Decorated mandapas
- Ornamental pillars
- Life-size images
- Gopuras
- Prakaras
- Music pillars
- Floral works and stone windows
- Tanks are attached to the temple
- Massive gopurarrts at four sides.
- niches with sculptures.
- These as found at
- Alakiya Nambi temple at Tirukkurungudi
- Ranganatha temple complex at Srirangam
- Adinatha temple – Azhwar Tirunagari
- Nellaiyappar temple - Tirunelveli
- The 1000-pillar mandapam – Madurai
- Meenakshi Amman temple – madurai
- Rathi Mandapam – Tirukkurungudi
- Vanamamalai Temple – Nanguneri
- The Jalagandeshwara temple – Vellore,
- The temples at Thadikompu near Dindugal.

VIII. Hots:

Question 1.

Dravidian **architecture** is of indigenous origin – Explain.

Answer:

- Dravidian architecture is of indigenous origin.
- It advanced overtime by a process of evolution.
- The earliest examples of the Tamil Dravidian architectural tradition were the 7th-century rock-cut shrines at Mahabalipuram.
- The absence of monuments in South India prior to the 7th century is attributed by scholars to temples that ought to have been built in wood, which was eventually destroyed by forces of nature.
- In TamilNadu, the evolution of temple architecture took place in five stages:
 - The Pallava Epoch.
 - Early Chola Epoch.
 - Later Chola Epoch.
 - Vijayanagara / Nayak Epoch.

- Modern Epoch.

Question 2.

Temple art was at its best during the Nayak Period – Elucidate.

Answer:

- The main features of the Vijayanagar and Nayak architecture are decorated, mandapas, ornamental pillars, life-size images, gopuras, prakaras, music pillars,
- Floral works and stone windows during the 15th to 17th centuries.
- Tanks are attached to the temples. Gateways to temple are constructed from four directions with massive gopurams.
- The practice of fitting them with sculptures continued during the Nayak period.
- There was an increased use of major sculpted figures (relief sculptures) found at the Alakiya Nambite temple at Tirukkurungudi (Tirunelveli district) and the Gopalakrishna temple in the Ranganatha temple complex at Srirangam.
- The southern festival mandapam of Adinatha temple at Azhwar Tirunagari and the porch of the Nellaiyappar temple at Tirunelveli are other notable examples.

Important Questions and Answers

I. Choose the Correct Answer:

Question 1.

The Pallava Epoch in Tamilnadu is

- a) A.D 600-850
- b) A.D 850-1100
- c) A.D 1350-1850
- d) A.D 1100-1350

Answer:

- a) A.D 600-850

Question 2.

The Pallava king was a pioneer in rock-cut architecture.

- a) Narasimma varman
- b) Mahendravarman
- c) Simha Varman
- d) Vaathabi Kondan

Answer:

b) Mahendravarman

Question 3.

The Penance, carved on the face of a granite boulder, is a magnificent relief.

- a) Arjun's
- b) Sivam
- c) Vishnu
- d) Thirumal

Answer:

a) Arjun's

Question 4.

In the Siva temple of Pandyas, the is carved out of the mother rock.

- a) Vimanam
- b) Gopuram
- c) lutes
- d) linga

Answer:

d) linga

Question 5.

Meenakshi Amman Temple in Madurai and Nellaiappar Temple in Tirunelveli represent examples of architectural style.

- a) Pandya's
- b) Cheran
- c) Chola
- d) Vijaynagar

Answer: a) Pandya's

Question 6.

The maturity attained by architecture is reflected in the two magnificent temples of Thanjavur and Gangaikonda Cholapuram.

- a) Cheran
- b) Cholas
- c) Pandiyas
- d) Vijayanagar

Answer:

b) Cholas

Question 7.

....., near Kumbakonam, is a Later Chola period temple.

- a) Kalugumalai
- b) Arykkudi
- c) Dharasuram
- d) Thiruvadalan

Answer:

- c) Dharasuram

Question 8.

The cave temple at(near Karaikudi, TamilNadu) belonging to 13th century.

- a) Irrukkaikudi
- b) Aryakkudi
- c) Varalanpadi
- d) Pillayarpatti

Answer:

- d) Pillayarpatti

Question 9.

The practice of fitting the with sculptures continued during the Nayak period.

- a) Mandapam
- b) Gopuram
- c) lutes
- d) niches

Answer:

- d) niches

Question 10.

The Later Chola period was known for beautiful

- a) Mandapam
- b) Gopuram
- c) Nandi
- d) Theppakulam

Answer:

- b) Gopuram

II. Fill in the Blanks:

1. The epoch witnessed a transition from rock-cut to free-standing temples.

Answer:

Pallava

2. Mandagapattu temple was the first rock-cut temple built by

Answer:

Mahendravarman

3. The Kanchi was built by the Pallava king, Rajasimha.

Answer:

Kailasanatha Temple

4. The monolithic sculpture made at Mahabalipuram is

Answer:

Pancha Pandava Rathas.

5. The Mamallapuram monuments and temples were notified as a in 1984.

Answer:

UNESCO

6. Early Pandyas were the contemporaries of the

Answer:

Pallavas

7. The Vettuvankoil, a monolithic temple at, is hewn out of a huge boulder on four sides.

Answer:

Kazhugumalai

8. Many early Pandya images are unearthed now in museum at Madurai.

Answer:

Tirumalai Nayakkar

9. Sittanavasal was a residential cave of the

Answer:

Jain monks

10. For the early Chola epoch, the temple at Tamilnadu is worth mentioning.

Answer:

Tindivanam, Dadapuram

11. At the time the Big Temple of was constructed, it was a huge temple complex.

Answer:

Thanjavur

12. The Brihadeeshwara temple of, is undoubtedly as worthy a successor to the Brihadeeshwara temple of Thanjavur.

Answer:

Gangaikonda Cholapuram

13. The Kalyana mandapam at, Jalagandeshwar temple are notable examples.

Answer:

Vellore

14. At Vijayanagar epoch, the mandapam and port of at Adinatha are special features.

Answer:

Azhwar temple

15. The Sethupathis ruledand contributed to the Ramanathaswamy temple architecture.

Answer:

Ramanathapuram

III. Match the following:

A	B
1. Dwarapalas	a) Mandivarman-II
2. Vaigunda Perumal Kovil	b) Monolithic temple
3. Arjuna's Penance	c) Sittanavasal paintings
4. Kazhugumalai	d) Gate Keepers
5. Pudukottai	e) 100ft long, 45ft wide

Answer:

A	B
1. Dwarapalas	d) Gate Keepers
2. Vaigunda Perumal Kovil	a) Mandivarman-II
3. Arjuna's Penance	e) 100ft long, 45ft wide
4. Kazhugumalai	b) Monolithic temple
5. Pudukottai	c) Sittanavasal paintings

IV. Find out the wrong pair/pairs:

Question 1.

Find out the wrong pair/pairs

1. Iravatheswara – Indira's elephant
2. Pillayarpatti – A beautiful Ganesha
3. Rameshwaram Temple – Theppakulam
4. 1000 pillar mandapams – Meenakshi Amman Temple
5. Gangai Konda Solapuram – Chola Capital

Answer:

3. Rameshwaram Temple – Theppakulam

Question 2.

Assertion (A) : The Thanjavur Big Temple is one of the highest temple in the World.

Reason (R) : Due to its massive height, the shikhara is called the Dakshina Meru.

- a) R is not the correct explanation of A
- b) R is the correct explanation of A
- c) A is correct but R is wrong
- d) Both A and R are wrong

Answer:

- b) R is the correct explanation of A

Question 3.

Find the odd one out:

Arjuna's Penance, Rock, cut, temple, Kailasanathar temple, Palani Malai temple

Answer:

Arjuna's Penance, Rock, cut, temple, Kailasanathar temple, **Palani malai temple**.

Question 4.

Find out the correct statement/s.

1. In Dharasuaram near Kumbakonam Vyayanagar King's temple is situated.
2. Rock-cut and structural temples are significant part of Pandya architecture.
3. The maturity attained by Pallava's architecture is reflected in the two magnificent temples of Thanjavur and Gangai Konda Cholapuram.
4. The Temple at Dadapuram, near Tindivanam in Tamilnadu is worth mentioning of Later Chola Epoch.

Answer:

2. Rock-cut and structural temples are significant part of Pandya architecture.

V. State true or false:

1. Mahabalipuram (Mamallapuram) is built of cut stones rather than carved out of caves.

Answer:

True

2. Pandyas installed Nandi in the sanctums in their cave temples.

Answer:

false

3. The Puddukottai Sittanavasal Lotus Pond is the excellent execution.

Answer:

True

4. Tanjavur served as the Chola capital for about 250 years, until the decline of the Cholas and the rise of the Pandyas.

Answer:

False

VI. Give short answers:

Question 1.

Write short note about the specialities of Mamallapuram.

Answer:

The Mamallapuram monuments and temples, including the Shore Temple complex, were notified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1984.

Question 2.

Write about Kazhugumalai sculpture.

Answer:

- The Vettuvankoil, a monolithic temple at Kazhugumalai, is hewn out of a huge boulder on four sides.
- At the top of the temple, sculptures of Uma Maheswarar, Dakshinamoorthy, Vishnu and Brahma are found.

Question 3.

Write about Pillayarpatti Karpaka Vinayagar temple.

Answer:

- The cave temple at Pillayarpatti (near Karaikudi, TamilNadu) belonging to 13th century.
- This temple is important both for its sculptures and for an inscription.
- A beautiful Ganesha is carved facing the entrance. .

Question 4.

What are the specialities of Ganga – kondacholapuram?

Answer:

- Gangaikonda Cholapuram served as the Chola capital.
- It was built by Rajendra Chola.
- The height of the temple is 55 metres.
- The sanctum has two storeys.
- The outer wall has many projections with niches and recesses on three sides.

VII. Answer the following in detail:**Question 1.**

Mention the places of Pallavas Creation.

Answer:

- Mahendravadi – Pallavaram
- Mahabalipuram – Thirukazhukundram
- Vallam – Mammandur
- Mandagapattu – Melaiserri
- Kanchi – Chengalpattu.

Question 2.

List out the Vijayanagar temple of Tamilnadu Architecture.

Answer:

- Kanchi – Vaikuntha Perumal Temple.
- Tirunelveli – Nellaiappar Temple Corridor.
- Vellore – Jalagandeshwar Temple.
- Azhwar Tirunagari – Adinatha Temple.
- Thanjavur – Brihadeeshwara Temple.
- Madurai – Meenakshi Amman Temple