

CBSE
Class XII History
Sample Paper – 1

Time: 3 hrs

Total Marks: 80

General Instructions:

- Answer all the questions. Some questions have choice. Marks are indicated against each question.
 - Answers to questions carrying 2 marks (**Part-A** Question Nos. 1 to 3) should not exceed 30 words each.
 - Answers to questions carrying 4 marks (**Part-B Section-I** Question Nos. 4 to 9) should not exceed 100 words each. Attempt any 5 questions from this part. (**Part-B Section-II** Question No. 10) is a value-based question which is a compulsory question.
 - Answers to questions carrying 8 marks (**Part-C** Question Nos. 11 to 14) should not exceed 350 words each. Attempt any 3 questions from this part.
 - Answers to questions carrying 7 marks (**Part-D**, Source-based questions [No internal choice] Question Nos. 15 to 17)
 - Attach map with the answer sheet (**Part E**).
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PART-A

Answer all the questions given below:

2 × 3 = 6

1. Give two important ways used by archaeologists to track socioeconomic differences in Harappan society. (2)
2. Discuss any four pillars of Islam. (2)
3. Give any two problems faced during the census operation in India. (2)

Part-B (Section-I)

4 × 5 = 20

Answer any five of the following questions:

4. What was the divine order? Discuss the right occupation as prescribed by the Dharmashastras. (4)
5. Discuss the important ideas of Jainism and Buddhism. (4)
6. What were the problems faced by Al-Biruni in understanding Indian social and Brahmanical practices? Mention any two sources which provided him support. (4)
7. What was the status of women in agrarian society? (4)
8. Discuss four important challenges faced by the Constituent Assembly while drafting the Constitution of India. (4)

9. Explain how Magadha emerged as the most powerful Mahajanapada. (4)

SECTION-II **4 × 1 = 4**
Value-Based Question (Compulsory)

10. Read the following passage and answer the question which follows: (4)
For the success of democracy, one must train himself in the art of self-discipline. In most democracies, one must only care less about the country and its people as a whole and very less for himself.
How is self-discipline related to democracy and the overall development of the country?

PART-C **8 × 3 = 24**
Long Answer Questions

11. What was the two-nation theory? Discuss partition as a holocaust for India. (8)
Or
'Oral testimonies are an informative source to study the Partition of India'.
Elaborate.
12. What was the land revenue system as started by the Mughals? (8)
Or
Discuss the role of Zamindars in handling agrarian relations in the Mughal Empire.
13. How do we study about colonial cities? Explain in detail. (8)
Or
Mahatma Gandhi was an unchallenged leader who drove India to its Independence.
How do we gather information about Mahatma Gandhi?

PART-D
Source-based Questions **7 × 3 = 21**

14. Read the following excerpt carefully and answer the questions which follow:

The Divine Order

To justify their claims, Brahmins often cited a verse from a hymn in the Rig Veda known as the *Purusha sukta*, describing the sacrifice of Purusha, the primeval man. All the elements of the Universe, including the four social categories, were supposed to have emanated from his body: The Brahmin was his mouth, of his arms was made the Kshatriya. His thighs became the Vaishya, of his feet the Shudra was born.

- a. What was the hierarchical order in which society was divided? (2)
b. Discuss the right occupation according to the divine order. (3)
c. What was gotra? What were its two important components? (3)

15. Read the following excerpt carefully and answer the questions which follow:

How artefacts are identified

Processing of food required grinding equipment as well as vessels for mixing, blending and cooking. These were made of stone, metal and terracotta. This is an excerpt from one of the earliest reports on excavations at Mohenjo-Daro, the best-known Harappan site: Saddle querns ... are found in considerable numbers ... and they seem to have been the only means in use for grinding cereals. As a rule, they were roughly made of hard, gritty, igneous rock or sandstone and mostly show signs of hard usage. As their bases are usually convex, they must have been set in the earth or in mud to prevent their rocking. Two main types have been found: those on which another smaller stone was pushed or rolled to and fro, and others with which a second stone was used as a pounder, eventually making a large cavity in the nether stone. Querns of the former type were probably used solely for grain; the second type possibly only for pounding herbs and spices for making curries. In fact, stones of this latter type are dubbed 'curry stones' by our workmen, and our cook asked for the loan of one from the museum for use in the kitchen.

- a. What was required for processing food? (2)
- b. What were vessels made of? Give any four raw materials. (2)
- c. 'Chanudaro was an important centre for craft production'. Discuss. (3)

16. Read the following excerpt carefully and answer the questions which follow:

What 'recovering' women meant

Here is the experience of a couple, recounted by Prakash Tandon in his *Punjabi Century*, an autobiographical social history of colonial Punjab:

In one instance, a Sikh youth who had run amuck during the Partition persuaded a massacring crowd to let him take away a young, beautiful Muslim girl. They got married, and slowly fell in love with each other. Gradually memories of her parents, who had been killed, and her former life faded. They were happy together, and a little boy was born. Soon, however, social workers and the police, labouring assiduously to recover abducted women, began to track down the couple. They made inquiries in the Sikh's home-district of Jalandhar; he got scent of it and the family ran away to Calcutta. The social workers reached Calcutta. Meanwhile, the couple's friends tried to obtain a stay-order from the court, but the law was taking its ponderous course. From Calcutta the couple escaped to some obscure Punjab village, hoping that the police would fail to shadow them. But the police caught up with them and began to question them. His wife was expecting again and now nearing her time. The Sikh sent the little boy to his mother and took his wife to a sugarcane field. He made her as comfortable as he could in a pit while he lay with a gun, waiting for the police, determined not to lose her while he was alive. In the pit he delivered her with his own hands. The next day she ran high fever, and in three days, she was dead. He had not dared to take her to the hospital. He was so afraid the social workers and the police would take her away.

- a. What were the bases of the Partition of India? (2)
- b. Why was the Partition often regarded as a nightmare? (2)
- c. Women on both sides of the border were the most critical. Explain (3)

Map Work

17.1 On the given political map of India, mark and label the following: (2)

- a. Kot Diji
- b. Taxila

17.2 On the same map, three important centres of the revolt of 1857 have been marked as 1, 2 and 3. Identify them and write their names on the lines drawn near them. (3)

