

Online Class Test - CC3 [Post-Mauryan India]

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
JHARGRAM RAJ COLLEGE
SEMESTER 2

***Required**

1. Email address *

Candidate's details

2. Name: *

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QUESTIONS 1

Time allowed: 60 minutes.
This paper consists of 30 multiple-choice type of questions.
Each question has 4 alternative responses.
You have to choose the correct response against each question.
Answer all the questions.
All questions carry equal marks.
There is no negative marks for incorrect answers.

5. Identify the false statement about the 'Periplus of the Erythraen Sea'. 2 points

Mark only one oval.

- It was written by a Greek writer from Egypt who had travelled along the western coast of India.
- The text belong to the middle of the first century CE.
- Ancient Greeks and Roman geographers referred to the Indian Ocean, Red Sea, and the Persian Gulf as the Erythraen Sea.
- None of the above.

6. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R). Assertion (A): Nationalist historiography celebrates the establishment of Gupta rule. Reason (R): Between c. 200 BCE - 300 CE the Indian subcontinent was ruled by dynasties from Central and West Asia. In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct? 2 points

Mark only one oval.

- Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
- (A) is true, but (R) is false.
- (A) is false, but (R) is true.

7. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R). Assertion (A): Very few evidence of Roman coins have been found from North India. (R): Coinage was highly developed under the Shaka and Kushana dynasties. In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct? 2 points

Mark only one oval.

- Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
- (A) is true, but (R) is false.
- (A) is false, but (R) is true.

8. The Puranas are a useful source for studying the Satavahanas because 2 points

Mark only one oval.

- in them we find information about kings interwoven with myths and legends.
- in them we have enough myths and legends to tell us about the Satavahana period.
- their information can be compared and verified by other sources such as coins and inscriptions.
- the Puranas are the truth.

9. From the map given below it can be said that (1) cities of early historical south India were many in number. (2) Muchiri was an important port of the Chera kingdom. (3) early Tamil-Brahmi inscriptions have been found at many sites near Madurai. (4) punched marked coins were more in circulation than local coins. (5) evidence of Roman coins were found mostly around the cities of South India. Select the correct answer. 2 points



Mark only one oval.

- 1,2,3,4,5
- 1,2,3,4
- 2,3,4,5
- 2,3,4

10. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R). Assertion (A): The Khyber Pass and the Bolan Pass provided considerable scope of communications and interactions among diverse peoples in the subcontinent. Reason (R): Romila Thapar says that the major flaw of the nationalist interpretation of the post-Mauryan period is to apply the yardstick of 'foreign/foreigner'. In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct? 2 points

Mark only one oval.

- Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
- (A) is true, but (R) is false.
- (A) is false, but (R) is true.

11. Bandhogarh is located in the Rewah district of Madhya Pradesh. About 20 inscriptions were discovered here in some caves dug out of sandstone rocks. The inscriptions belong to the c. 2nd century CE and are about donations. The majority of the inscriptions record gifts of the cave shelters made by group of merchants. There is no indication that the caves were meant as shelters for ascetics, monks or nuns. In the 2nd century Bandhogarh must have been a hilly forested area. From the above it can be concluded that (1) the caves were located on a trade route. (2) the caves were an example of secular gifts. (3) the merchants mentioned in the inscription may have thought of making some provisions for shelter and rest for merchants who passed through this place. Choose the correct answer code. 2 points

Mark only one oval.

- 1 and 2
- Only 1
- 1 and 3
- 1,2 and 3

12. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R). Assertion (A): In the discussions on India's maritime trade with the Roman empire, historians tend to focus mostly on ports on the western coast of the subcontinent. Reason (R): The ports of Chandraketugarh and Tamralipti are mentioned in Ptolemy's 'Geography'. In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct? 2 points

Mark only one oval.

- Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
- (A) is true, but (R) is false.
- (A) is false, but (R) is true.

13. In 1911, Pandit Radha Krishna, an enthusiastic collector of antiquities, discovered an unusual stone image in the midst of agricultural fields on a mound called Tokri Tila. The head and arms of the statue were missing. A Brahmi inscription at the base indicated that this was a stone portrait of Kanishka I. The mound mentioned above was located at _____ 2 points

Mark only one oval.

- Mat
- Mathura
- Sanghol
- Mahavan

14. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R). Assertion (A): Archaeological evidence does not match the description of cities given in the Sangam poems. Reason (R): Some archaeological sites such as Madurai and Kanchipuram have been continuously occupied till the present. In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct? 2 points

Mark only one oval.

- Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
- (A) is true, but (R) is false.
- (A) is false, but (R) is true.

15. Identify the false statement. 2 points

Mark only one oval.

- Long distance trade was not dependent on the local exchange networks in the Deccan.
- Whether found in the north or south the punch marked coins carried a standard weight.
- In the Tamizakham there were several routes which connected the centres of ruling megalithic chiefs.
- Satavahana rulers established watersheds on the trade routes and appointed officials for the up keep of them.

16. Consider the following statements: (1) A.K. Ramanujan describes 'puram' poetry as public poetry. (2) K. Zvelebil thinks that 'Shilappadikaram' was written for an elite and educated audience. (3) Due to their varied themes and authorship, Sangam literature offers a good idea of everyday life in the time when they were composed. Which of the following is/are false? 2 points

Mark only one oval.

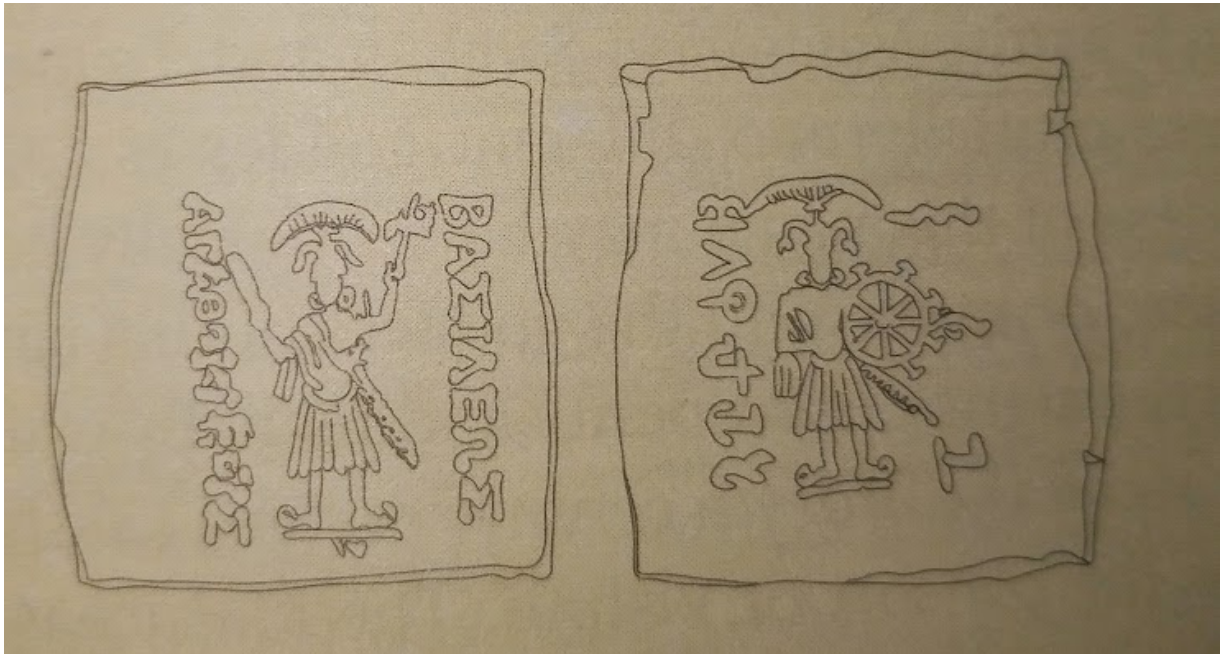
- 2 only
- 1 and 3
- 3 only
- None of the above.

17. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R). Assertion (A): Indo-Roman trade was not a direct trade between the Indians and Romans, but involved the participation of middlemen from many regions, including the Arabs and Greeks of Egypt. Reason (R): As knowledge and utilization of the monsoon winds grew, the sea borne route gradually shifted more to the southern part of the west coast of India. In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct? 2 points

Mark only one oval.

- Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
- (A) is true, but (R) is false.
- (A) is false, but (R) is true.

18. Below is the line drawing of a type of coins found at Ai-Khanoum (Bactria). The legends on the coins give the name Agathocles. The die-struck silver coins have an irregular square shape. Their weight range is similar to that of Indian punch-marked coins. The obverse and reverse of these coins bear images of Vasudeva Krishna and Balarama. In the context of the above it can be inferred that (1) these coins can be an important source for the early history of the worship of Balarama and Vasudeva Krishna. (2) the 'chakra' and 'hala' symbols of the coins make the identification of the two figures possible. (3) these coins indicate that the worship of these gods had spread far beyond Mathura. (4) the fact that these gods appear on the coins of an Indo-Greek king indicates that their cults were important enough to receive royal recognition. Select the correct answer. 2 points



Mark only one oval.

- 1,2,3,4
- 1,3,4
- 1,2,3
- 2,4

19. A Nashik inscription belonging to the time of Kshatrapa ruler Nahapana records a permanent investment of 3000 karshapanas made by the king's son-in-law, Ushavadata. 2000 karshapanas were invested by him with a weaver's guild of Govardhana at 1% annual rate of interest, 1000 karshapanas were invested with another weaver's guild of the place at the interest rate of $\frac{3}{4}\%$ per month. The interest of the first investment was to be used to provide cloth worth 12 karshapanas for each of the 20 monks who lived in a monastery, while that from the second was to provide them with meals. From the above passage it can be inferred that (1) the rates of interest on the monetary investment mentioned can be calculated. (2) two weaver's guilds of the same town were offering different interest rates. (3) the guild that was to provide cloth to the monks probably offered higher rate of interest. (4) Ushavadata was a follower of Buddhism. Select the correct option. 2 points

Mark only one oval.

- 1,2,3,4
- 1,2,3
- 1,2,4
- 2,3

20. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R). Assertion (A): Romila Thapar has called Malabar black pepper as 'black gold'. Reason (R): Pliny informs that Malabar black pepper was sold to the Roman Empire at very high prices. In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct? 2 points

Mark only one oval.

- Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
- (A) is true, but (R) is false.
- (A) is false, but (R) is true.

21. Consider the following two statements: (I) The Sangam literature belongs to a uniform period. (II) The term Sangam literature is inappropriate. Choose the correct answer. 2 points

Mark only one oval.

- I is true and II is false.
- I is false and II is true.
- Both I and II are true.
- Both I and II are false.

22. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R). Assertion (A): The transition from pre-state polity to the emergence of the Satavahana monarchy is not yet clearly understood. Reason (R): The rise of the Satavahana as the first imperial power of the Deccan played an important role in the emergence of cities. In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct? 2 points

Mark only one oval.

- Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
- (A) is true, but (R) is false.
- (A) is false, but (R) is true.

23. Which of the following about ancient Indian guilds is incorrect? 2 points

Mark only one oval.

- Guild laws were protected by the state.
- In several cities guilds had issued coins.
- Guilds had to take permission from the state before changing their locations.
- None of the above.

24. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R). Assertion (A): Roman amphorae may have contained wine for local elites rather than for Roman traders living at Indian sites. Reason (R): Roman amphorae jars were found at the archaeological site of Arikamedu. In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct? 2 points

Mark only one oval.

- Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
- (A) is true, but (R) is false.
- (A) is false, but (R) is true.

25. The Sangam literature and archaeological evidence point to the emergence of cities in the far south. (1)_____ was a port town in the Kaveri delta under the Cholas. To the north was (2)_____ which was a major city having its inland riverine port of Nirappeyuru. The Pandya country had its most important urban centre at (3)_____, praised in the Sangam texts. 2 points

Mark only one oval.

- (1) Kaveripattinam (2) Kanchipuram (3) Madurai
- (1) Puhar (2) Kanchipuram (3) Madurai
- (1) Kaveripattinam (2) Puhar (3) Kanchipuram
- (1) Kaveripattinam (2) Madurai (3) Kanchipuram

26. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R). Assertion (A): The movement of the Kushanas first into lower Indus and later into Malwa was motivated by economic need. Reason (R): The period between 200 BCE and 300 CE was a period of trade and considerable economic prosperity in these areas. In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct? 2 points

Mark only one oval.

- Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
- (A) is true, but (R) is false.
- (A) is false, but (R) is true.

27. Which of the following ancient urban centres was not located in Bengal? 2 points

Mark only one oval.

- Sisuplagarh
- Pundranagara
- Kotivarsha
- Mangalkot

28. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R). Assertion (A): Kharavela conducted many military expeditions in various directions. Reason (R): Kharavela was a Jain as was evident from the Hathigumpha inscriptions. In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct? 2 points

Mark only one oval.

- Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
- (A) is true, but (R) is false.
- (A) is false, but (R) is true.

29. Which of the following statements about the ancient city of Mathura is incorrect? 2 points

Mark only one oval.

- Mathura was a famous cultural centre associated with Buddhism, Jainism and brahmanical cults.
- During the Saka-Kushana rule Mathura became politically integrated to the north-western part of the subcontinent.
- Mathura was known for its high agricultural productivity and excellent craft.
- Mathura was a nodal point in the extensive overland trade network in north India.

30. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other labelled as Reason (R). Assertion (A): Gondopherenes was one of the three kings of the East, who play an important role in Christian tradition. Reason (R): St. Peter travelled from Israel and came to the court of Gondhopherenes. In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct? 2 points

Mark only one oval.

- Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
- (A) is true, but (R) is false.
- (A) is false, but (R) is true.

31. There is a Jataka story of four sisters who, after the death of their father, travelled to many cities for the purpose of philosophical debate. They carried along with them the branches of a jamboline tree. Arriving at Shravasti, they planted the branches outside the city gates and announced that if anybody dared to uproot them, they would have to engage with them in public debate. In the context of the above passage, which of the following can be true? (1) Such incidents in the Jataka stories need not necessarily represent historical fact. (2) The characters and situations of the story do tell us about travel and travellers in early historical India. (3) The Jatakas are a source of social history. (4) The story can be used as source on urbanisation in northern India in the post-Mauryan period. 2 points

Mark only one oval.

- 1,2,3,4
- 2,4
- 1,2,4
- 1,3

32. Consider the following two statements: (1) Kashmir was under Kanishka's rule. (2) No Kushana inscriptions are found from Kashmir. Which of the following is true? 2 points

Mark only one oval.

- Only 1
- Only 2
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

33. In the back wall of a cave are traces of relief sculptures of eight life-size figures. The only features of the sculptures that can now be made out are the feet. The names of the figures are carved in large Brahmi letters over their heads. On the left and right side walls of the same cave is a long inscription of queen Nayanika. The cave is located at _____ .

Mark only one oval.

- Naneghat
- Nashik
- Karle
- Paithan

34. Which of the following statements about the historiography of post-Mauryan India is true? 2 points

Mark only one oval.

- Sudhakar Chattopadhyaya termed the post-Mauryan period as the 'dark age' in sharp contrast to the glorious Maurya and Gupta age.
- For nationalist historiography absence of a centralising paramount political power in the post-Mauryan phase meant political instability.
- V.A. Smith in his 'Early History of India' devotes only two pages to Indo-Roman trade, but two whole chapters to Alexander's campaigns in India.
- All of the above.

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