



B.K. BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATION

SARALA BIRLA GROUP OF SCHOOLS
A CBSE DAY-CUM-BOYS' RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL

MID TERM EXAMINATION - 2026
ANSWER KEY- PAINTING (049) SET 1

Class: XI
Date: 11.09.2026
Admission no:

Time: 2 hrs.
Max Marks: 30
Roll no:

General Instructions:

- I. Section-A Attempt all 8 Questions (Each Question will carry 1 mark)
- II. Section-B Attempt all 5 Questions (Each Question will carry 2 Marks)
- III. Section-C Attempt all 2 Questions (Each Question will carry 6 Mark)

SECTION- A

Question 1. Select the right answer from the given options:

(8 X 1 Mark= 8)

1. Which of the following is a form of Visual Art:
a) Singing **b) Painting** c) Dancing d) Story telling
2. Who discovered the Bhimbetka rock shelters?
a) **Dr. V. S. Wakankar** b) Archibald Campbell c) Chitralkha d) None of them
3. The first rock painting discovery in India was made in which district?
a) Bhopal b) Almora **c) Mirzapur** d) Raisen
4. The Dancing Girl sculpture from Mohenjo-daro is made of:
a) Terracotta **b) Bronze** c) Red Limestone d) Stealite stone
5. The Lion Capital was originally erected at:
a) Ajanta b) Ellora **c) Sarnath** d) Mathura
6. The "Chauri Bearer (Yakshi)" statue is associated with:
a) Shunga Period **b) Mauryan Period** c) Gupta Period d) Kushana Period
7. The 'Padmapani Bodhisatva' painting is found in:
a) Cave 26 b) Cave 10 **c) Cave 1** d) Cave 15A
8. What painting technique is used in Ajanta Murals?
a) Oil Painting **b) Fresco-Secco** c) Fresco- Buono d) Water Painting

SECTION- B

Question 3. Answer the below questions in about 50 words each.

(5 X 2 Mark= 10)

Describe the following briefly-

1. What is the difference between Art and Craft?

Answer: **Art** is a form of creative expression that conveys emotions, thoughts, or abstract idea. It values originality, imagination, and aesthetics. Each artwork is unique for personal or emotional impact.

Craft, in contrast, emphasizes skill and techniques and is usually created with a focus on utility and functionality. Crafts can be both decorative and practical, often for everyday use or cultural purposes. Common examples include pottery, weaving and embroidery.

2. Describe in short- Wizard's Dance?

Answer: Wizard Dance is a pre-historic painting drawn on one of the Cave walls of Bhimbetka. In this painting, a special dance celebration of aboriginal people is painted. All three figures are shown in full of rhythm and movement. In the left of the painting, there is a full standing figure in a lively dancing pose. A lady figure wearing a mask with horns on her head is sitting in a dancing mood while a male having a mask with horns is dancing with full rhythm in front of her.

3. Explain in short- Pottery of the Indus Valley Civilization

Answer: Pottery from the Indus Valley is predominantly wheel-made red ware decorated with black geometrical and natural motifs, including birds, plants and fish. These vessels come in various shapes and sizes, from storage jars to small cooking pots and bowls. Some pottery was polished for a glossy finish. The painted designs reflect not only an artistic connection with nature but also an appreciation for symmetry, balance and functional beauty.

4. Write the Characteristics of – Gandhara School of Art

Answer: Gandhar is the first capital of the Kushana

Characteristics- Realistic human anatomy, draped clothing resembling Roman togas, Curly hair and naturalistic expressions.

Sculptures primarily depicted Buddha, Bodhisattvas and Buddhist scenes, merging Indian religious themes with Western artistic styles.

5. Write the introduction of- The Ajanta Caves

Answer: Ajanta caves are located in Sambhaji Nagar district of Maharashtra State and it's representing a glorious chapter in the evolution of Buddhist cultural expression. These caves are carved into a U-shaped cliff along the Waghora River. The site comprises 30 rock-cut monuments and has been declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It's discovered in 1819 by a group of British officer during a hunting expedition. They found timeless murals using fresco-secco technique and sculptures. Wall paintings and carvings that depict the life and teaching of Lord Buddha.

SECTION- C

Question 5. Answer the questions in about 80-100 words each.

(2 X 6 Mark= 12)

1. Explain the given Image based on – Name of the Sculpture, Medium, Period, Location, Artist, Size, Circa, Collection and Historical Significance.

Answer: **Name of the sculpture-** Lion Capital, **Artist-** Unknown



Medium- Polished Chunar Sandstone, **Size-** Height approx. 2.15 meter

Period- Mauryan Dynasty, **Circa-** 3rd Century BCE

Location- Sarnath, Near Varanasi, U, **Collection-** Sarnath Museum, U.P

Historical Significance- It commemorates a pivotal moment in Indian and Buddhist history-the first sermon delivered by the Gautam Buddha after attaining enlightenment, known as the Dharma Chakra Pravartana, or the Turning of the Wheel of Law. Originally placed atop a monolithic Ashokan pillar, the capital symbolized the spread of Buddhist teachings and the universal law of righteousness (Dharma).

Artistically, the Lion Capital is a remarkable example of Mauryan art, renowned for its symbolism, elegance, and refined craftsmanship. The complete structure originally comprised five components:

1. The Shaft-A tall, polished monolithic stone pillar, now broken into several parts.
2. The Lotus Bell Base-A bell-shaped structure carved as inverted lotus, symbolizing purity.
3. The Drum or Abacus-Resting above the base, it features four animals-lion, elephant, bull, and horse; each moving in a clockwise direction, separated by finely carved Dharma Chakras (Wheels of Law).
4. The Four Lions-Seated back-to-back, facing the four cardinal directions-East, West, North, and South; they represent Ashoka's sovereignty and Buddhist virtues such as courage, pride, power, and confidence.
6. The Crowning Element: The Dharma Chakra-A large wheel with 24 spokes, once mounted above the lions. It symbolizes the spread of righteousness and appears today as the Ashoka Chakra at the centre of the Indian National Flag.

2. Explain the classification of Ajanta caves based on their uses- Chaityagriha and Vihara.

Answer: The Ajanta Caves are classified into two main types based on their functions-

Chaityagriha- Meaning- The word Chaitya refers to a shrine or place of worship, and Chaitya griha means a hall with a stupa for prayer and meditation.

Purpose: The hall was used by monks and devotees to gather and worship the stupa, which symbolized the Buddha or his teachings.

Structure: Chaitya halls are large with high vaulted ceilings, and apse where the stupa is placed.

Key examples: Cave no. 9 and 10 Belongs to the Hinayana period, simpler in design.

Cave no, 19, 26 and 29 belongs to the Mahayana period, richly decorated with sculptures and Buddha images.

Viharas (Monastic Residences)

Meaning: Vihara means dwelling or residence. These caves were designed as living quarters for Buddhist monks.

Purpose: Viharas were used for study, meditation, rest and teaching.

Structure: Typically consists of a pillared hall with small cells in rooms along the walls for monks.
