



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 2

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 Literary 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 Beard Man/ Priest king 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 state of:
a) Maharashtra b) Madhya Pradesh **c) Uttar Pradesh** d) West Bengal
6. The "Chauri Bearer (Yakshi)" statue is associated with:
a) Shunga Period **b) Mauryan Period** c) Gupta Period d) Kushana Period
7. The 'Kailasa Temple" architecture is located at:
a) Ajanta **b) Ellora** c) Elephanta d) Karle- Bhaje
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 types of mediums used for Drawing- Painting and Sculptures?

Answer: Drawing & Painting Mediums- Canvas, paper, Palm Leaves, Earthenware, Rock surface, Coins, Murals, & Digital devices.

Sculptures: Sand, Snow, Wood, Terracotta, Stone, Jade/ Jute, Bronze, Metal, Plastic & Folk crafts.

2. Describe in short- Bhimbetka Caves?

Answer: Bhimbetka is located in Madhya Pradesh. These shelters represents one of the most spectacular prehistoric sites in the world. Approximately 800 shelters found and around 500 shelters were painted by ancient humans. These shelters were discovered by archaeologist Dr V.S Wakankar .

Theme- Bhimbetka paintings exhibits daily life, hunting scenes, riding, dances, musical performances, human-animal relations and body decoration.

Colours- Ancient human used natural colours like Red, Green, yellow, Orange, Blue and White.

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

Pottery from the Indus Valley is predominantly wheel-made red ware decorated with black geometric and natural motifs, including birds, plants, and fish. These vessels come in various shapes and sizes, from large storage jars to small cooking pots and bowls.

Some pottery was polished for a glossy finish, while others were used in ritual contexts. 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 Ellora Caves

Place: Ellora Caves (Maharashtra)-6th to 9th Century C.E.

Art Forms: Extensive sculpture and some mural paintings.

Total Caves: Cave no. 1- 12 Buddhist, Cave no. 13-29 Hindu and Cave no. 29-30 Jain

Themes: Divine incarnations, cosmic order, deities from multiple faiths

Notable Painting Remnants- Faded images of Vishnu, Lakshmi, and celestial figures

Notable Sculptures & Carvings-

Kailashnath Temple (Cave 16) - carved from a single rock; features Shiva, Ravana lifting Mount Kailash, Nandi mandapa, Dashavtara and Mahishasuramardini (Durga slaying buffalo demon)

Jain sculptures of Parshvanatha, Mahavira, and Yakshis

Features: Monumentality, narrative detail, multi-religious synthesis.

SECTION- C

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

(2 X 6 Mark= 12)

1. Explain- Lion Capital of Ashoka based on Medium, Location, Period , Collection and Historical Significance.

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

Medium- Polished Chunar Sandstone

Period- Mauryan Dynasty

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

Historical Significance-

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.
5. 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 Painting- Name of the Painting, Medium, Period, Location, Artist, Circa, Collection and Main features of the Painting.



Name of the Painting- Padmapani Bodhisattva

Medium- Water based natural colours on wall

Period- Vakataka Dynasty, 5th Century C.E

Location- Cave No. 1, Ajanta, Maharashtra

Artist- Unknown , **Collection-** Archaeological Survey of India

Main Features of the Painting-

1. Posture and Form: The Bodhisattva has broad shoulders and stands in a graceful tribhanga pose (three bends), adding movement and rhythm to the composition.

2. Modelling and Volume: The outlines blend softly with the body, creating a three-dimensional and naturalistic effect.

3. Ornaments and Attire- He wears a large, intricately decorated crown, slightly tilting his head to the left. A white beaded necklace hangs across his chest, drawing attention. Ribbons are tied near the armlets, and a fine spiral thread crosses his torso, indicating dimension and movement.

4. Facial Expression and Features- His eyes are half-closed, elongated, and meditative. A sharp, straight nose, natural skin tone, and well-defined lips and chin give a sense of serenity and dignity.

5. Use of Colour- Earthy and natural colours dominate the palette-light red, brown, green, and blue. Shading is done inward from the outlines, adding volume and form to the body.

6. Attention to Detail- Every part of the body-arms, chest, face, jewellery-has been rendered with equal care and refinement. The lines are rhythmic and delicate, beautifully defining the contours of the figure.
