



# B.K. BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATION

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



## PRE BOARD-1 EXAMINATION 2025-26

### HISTORY (027)

CLASS: XII  
DATE: 12/11/2025  
NAME:

MARKING SCHEME

DURATION: 3 Hrs.  
MAX. MARKS: 80  
ROLL NO: -----

### SECTION-A 1X21=21

Q1. Match the following:

1

Site	Findings
I. Balakot	a. Water Reservoir
II. Mohenjodaro	b. Citadel not walled off
III. Lothal	c. Priest King
IV. Dholavira	d. Shell

	I	II	III	IV
(A)	a	b	c	d
<b>(B)</b>	<b>d</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>b</b>	<b>a</b>
(C)	c	a	b	d
(D)	b	d	a	c

Q2. Identify the ruler of the Mauryan dynasty with the help of following information:

1

I. One of the most famous rulers known from Buddhist texts.

II. Referred to as Piyadassi and Devanampiya.

(A) Chandragupta Maurya

(B) Bindusara

**(C) Ashoka**

(D) None of these

Q3. Match the following and select the correct option.

1

List I	List II
1. Endogamy	a. It is the practice of a woman having several husbands.
2. Exogamy	b. It refers to marriage within a unit – this could be a kin group, caste, or a group living in the same locality.
3. Polygyny	c. It refers to marriage outside the unit.
4. Polyandry	d. It is the practice of a man having several wives.

Options:

**A. 1 - b, 2- c, 3 -d, 4- a**

B. 1 - a, 2- d, 3 -c, 4- b

C. 1 - c, 2- b, 3 -d, 4- a

D. 1 - d, 2- a, 3 -b, 4- c

Q4. Identify the given image from the following options.

1



**Options:**

- A. A terracotta sculpture depicting a scene from the Mahabharata  
**B. A sculpture from Amaravati depicting Buddha leaving the palace**  
 C. A chief and his follower-stone sculpture  
 D. Sandstone sculpture of a Kushana king

Q5. According to which Buddhist text Asoka distributed portions of the Buddha's relics to every important town and ordered the construction of stupas over them?

1

- A. Ashokavadana**    B. Vinaya Pitaka    C. Sutta Pitaka    D. Dipavamsa

Q6. These trees are among the most peculiar trees in kind and most astonishing in habit. They look exactly like date-palms, without any difference between them except that the one produces nut as its fruits and the other produces dates.

Which of the following traveller gave this description?

1

- A. Ibn Battuta    **B. Al-Biruni**    C. Duarte Barbosa    D. Megasthenese

Q7. Consider the following statements and select the incorrect option from the following:

1

- I. Al-Beruni was well-versed in several languages.  
 II. Al-Beruni was taken to Ghazni by Sultan Mahmud as a hostage.  
 III. Al-Beruni compared East and West, criticising India.

**Options:**

- (A) I    (B) II    **(C) III**    (D) None of these

Q8. Kabir, a prominent figure in the Bhakti tradition, emphasized:

1

- (A) Strict adherence to caste norms    (B) Ritualistic ceremonies  
**(C) Unity of God and rejection of rituals**    (D) Expansion of political power

Q9. There are two statements marked as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the appropriate option.

1

Assertion (A): Lingayats did not practice funerary rites such as cremation, prescribed in the Dharmashastras.

Reason (R): Lingayats believe that on death the devotee will be united with Shiva and will not return to this world.

**Options:**

- A. Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).**  
 B. Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).  
 C. (A) is correct but (R) is not correct.  
 D. (R) is correct but (A) is not correct

Q10. Which of the following statements is correct regarding the Amara-nayaka system?

1

- A. The Amara-nayakas belonged to Bijapur.  
 B. Amara is believed to be derived from the Hindi word samara,

C. The amara-nayakas were independent and never sent tribute to the king.

**D. They were Military commanders who got territories to govern by the Rava.**

Q11. There are two statements marked as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the appropriate option. 1

Assertion (A): Local communities of merchants were known as kudirai Chettis.

Reason (R): Kudirai Chettis were also known as horse merchants.

**Options:**

**A. Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).**

B. Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).

C. (A) is correct but (R) is not correct.

D. (R) is correct but (A) is not correct

Q12. Identify which of the following statements is correct about Ain-i-Akbari? 1

(A) Sipah-Abadi is related to civil and military administration.

(B). Mulk-Abadi gives information about the fiscal aspect of the state

(C). Manzil-Abadi is related to the royal household

**(D) All of these**

Q13. Consider the following statements regarding the criteria of classification of lands under Akbar.

1. Polaj is land which is annually cultivated for each crop in succession and is never allowed to lie fallow.

2. Parauti is land left out of cultivation for a time that it may recover its strength.

3. Chachar is land that has lain fallow for three or four years.

4. Banjar land was also called jins-i-kamil.

Which of the following statements is/are correct? 1

A. 1, 2, 3, 4

**B. 1, 2, 3**

C. 1, 2, 4

D. 2, 3, 4

Q14. The land estates of the Zamindars could be auctioned in the conditions: 1

**(A) Failing to pay the revenue regularly.**

(B) Failing to improve the agricultural land.

(C) Abusing the raiyats and their female members of the family.

(D) Failing to give Nazaranas and precious gifts to Taluqdars of his zamindars.

Q15. Who was Augustus Cleveland? 1

(A) The Governor General of the company.

**(B) The Collector of Bhagalpur.**

(C) The most powerful English Zamindar of Rajmahal hills.

(D) None of the above.

Q16. Choose the correct chronological order of the events following events out of the options given below: 1

1. The sepoys arrived at the gates of the Red Fort early in the morning.

2. They first seized the bell of arms and plundered the treasury.

3. Late in the afternoon of 10 May 1857, the sepoys in the cantonment of Meerut broke out in mutiny.

4. Awadh was formally annexed to the British Empire.

**Options:**

A. 1, 2, 3, 4

B. 2, 1, 3, 4

C. 3, 2, 1, 4

**D. 4, 3, 2, 1**

Q17. . What was the significance of the proclamation issued by Bahadur Shah II during the Revolt of 1857? 1

(A) Declaring war against the British

(B) Announcing the formation of a new state

**(C) Symbolic gesture of Mughal rule restoration**

(D) Seeking support from foreign powers

Q18. Name the historian who remarked that South Africa was the making of the Mahatma. 1

A. Sumit Sarkar

B. Sekhar Bandyopadhyay

**C. Chandran Devanesan**

D. David Hardiman

Q19. Arrange the following: 1

I. Direct action day.

II. Chauri-Chaura incident.

III. Proclamation of Purna Swaraj.

IV. Boycott of Simon Commission.

**Options:**

(A) (i), (ii), (iii), (iv)

(B) (ii), (i), (iv), (iii)

(C) (iv), (iii), (ii), (i)

**(D) (ii), (iv), (iii), (i)**

Q20. Which of the following statements is incorrect regarding the making of the Constituent Assembly?1

(A) The members of the Constituent Assembly were elected on the basis of the provincial elections of 1946.

**(B) The Muslim League and the Congress had equal representatives in the Constituent assembly.**

(C) The Assembly had representatives of the princely states.

(D) The total membership of the Constituent Assembly was 300.

Q21. One among the following group initially refused to join the Constituent Assembly, as they believed that it was a British creation.

Choose the correct option: 1

**A. Socialists**

B. Tribals

C. Backward Classes

D. Anglo-Indian

**SECTION-B 3X6=18**

Q22. How do archaeologists trace socio-economic differences in Harappan society? What are the differences that they notice? 3

Ans. i. The socio-economic differences in the Harappan society were traced on the basis of studying the burial systems and the luxuries possessed by different groups.

ii. In the Harappan society there was a general tradition that the dead people were buried in the pits. Some of the pits was also filled with pottery and other ornaments.

iii. The artefacts discovered from the Harappan site is divided into two categories. These two categories are utilitarian and luxuries. The utilitarian objects are used for daily chores and are made of stone and clay. On the other hand the luxury items are made from valuable materials like faience.

Q23. What were the elements of the practice of Sati that drew the attention of Bernier? 3

Ans. i. Bernier used the example of practice of Sati to shows the difference in the in the way women is treated in the Eastern and Western society:

ii. In this practice a women whose husband has died was made to sit on the holy pyre of her husband.

iii. The people who witnessed all these events showed no mercy for the women.

All these events took place without the concern of the women.

**OR**

Compare and contrast the perspectives from which Ibn Battuta and Bernier wrote their accounts of their travels in India.

Ans. i. Ibn Battuta was an extensive Moroccan traveler. His ideology was that a person can gain much wider experience during travelling rather than reading books.

ii. He used to record observations made by him during his travel to different parts of India.

iii. One of the features of his writing was that he highlighted several unfamiliar things to gain the attention of the people.

i. Francois Bernier had made a comparison of the social and political life of the people in India with the people living in France.

ii. His focus was on the conditions which was considered depressing. His idea was to influence the policies of the intelligentsia.

iii. He compared the situation of the Mughal Empire with the Europe.

Q24. What were the similarities and differences between the Be Sharia and Ba Sharia Sufi traditions? 3

Answer-

<b>Meaning of the term</b>	“Without Sharia” (literally “be” = without)	“With Sharia” (literally “ba” = with)
<b>Relation to Sharia</b>	This tradition prioritizes the mystical experience over strict adherence to Sharia law.	This tradition strictly adheres to Islamic law alongside mystical practices.
<b>Practice</b>	More flexible with formal Islamic rituals; focuses on direct spiritual experience and personal realization.	More orthodox in following Islamic law and rituals, balancing law with spiritual practice.

Q25. Examine the evidence that suggests that land revenue was important for the Mughal fiscal system. 3

Ans. Land revenue was the main source of income for the Mughal Empire.

i. There was an efficient administrative system to maintain the affairs related to the land revenue. ii. There was diwan who managed the fiscal system of the empire.

iii. The information about the agricultural production was collected before the fixing of the revenue.

iv. Amil-Gulzar was the revenue collector who gave the choice to the farmers to pay in cash or kind.

Q26. Why were Jotedars a powerful figure in many areas of rural Bengal? 3

Ans. i. Jotedars were rich peasants of Bengal who owned big plots of land.

ii. The Jotedars controlled trade and commerce including money-lending business at the local level.

iii. In order to weaken the zamindars, the Jotedars would mobilise ryots not to pay or delay payment towards land revenue.

iv. The Jotedars lived in villages only. Hence, they were in a better position to interact with and influence the peasants.

Q27. Discuss the evidence that indicates planning and coordination on the part of the rebels. 3

Ans. i. Lines of communication: There was communication between the sepoys lines of various cantonments. For example, after the 7th Awadh Irregular Cavalry had refused to use new cartridges, they wrote to the 48th Native Infantry that, “they had acted for the faith and awaited the 48th’s orders.”

ii. Sepoys or their emissaries moved from one station to another: Mutinies were organised is evident from the incident relating to protection given to captain Hearsey by his Indian subordinates during the mutiny. In this case, it was decided that the matter would be decided by a panchayat composed of native officers drawn from each regiment.

iii. It proves that the mutinies were well-organised. Charles Ball had also noted that panchayats were a nightly occurrence in the Kanpur sepoys lines.

### SECTION-C 8X3=24

Q28. Discuss the development in sculpture and architecture associated with the rise of Vaishnavism and Shaivism. 8

Answer-

• i. Vaishnavism and Shaivism are the two branches of Hinduism. In case of Vaishnavism, Lord Vishnu was regarded as the chief deity. In case of Shaivism Lord Shiva was regarded as the chief deity.

- ii. Both traditions were part of the Bhakti movement. Bhakti movement emphasised on the love and devotion of the devotee to the God.
- iii. This tradition of Vaishnavism and Shaivism also impacted the tradition of architecture and sculpture. The temples developed the house deities.
- iv. The initial temples were small and simple. It was a small room called Garbhagriha. Later it expanded, a tall structure was built on the garbhagriha. It was called Shikhara.
- v. The walls of the temple were decorated with sculptures. Soon temples were built that had huge entrance and big halls for the comfort of visitors.
- vi. Many of these were temples were carved out of the rocks. These artificial caves were turned into temples.
- vii. A good example of the rock-cut temple is the Kailash Nath Temple of the 8th century. It was carved out of a single piece of rock.
- viii. Sculpture was yet another way of expression. Deities were given many shapes and forms in Sculpture.

### OR

Explain the significance of stupas in ancient Indian society by discussing how stupas were constructed and the reasons behind their construction.

Answer-

- i. About 200 years after the time of Buddha King Ashoka erected a pillar at Lumbini. This was to announce the visit of Buddha to this place.
- ii. Stupas were the mounds put on the bodily remains of the body of Lord Buddha or of any object that was used by him.
- iii. At the place of Stupas such objects were buried. These were places of great respect under the tradition of Buddhism.
- iv. Ashoka gave Buddha relics to all major cities, and later, stupas were built at these places.
- v. The most important stupas are at Sanchi, Bharhut, and Sarnath.
- vi. The structure of Stupa is like dome or hemisphere. On the top of it there would be a balcony called a Harmika. This balcony represents abode of god.
- vii. The Harmika was covered with an umbrella. There used to be railings around the balcony.
- viii. The construction of Stupas was made possible by the contribution of many. On the forefront were the Monarchs.
- ix. Apart from the monarchs, merchants, artisans and common men and women also contributed to the Construction of the stupas.

Q29. In what way did Mahatma Gandhi transform the nature of the national movement?

8

- Ans: i. Gandhiji came to India back from South Africa in 1915. In 1917 he went to Champaran in Bihar to fight for the cause of farmers who were forced to grow indigo by the British government.
- ii. The farmers' movement proved successful as the British government accepted the demands of the farmers. Since that time to 1948 when he was assassinated, he occupied the central place in the politics of India.
- iii. When Gandhiji joined Indian politics, the freedom movement was limited to the middle class. Everybody who participated in the political movements was educated and product of the English education.
- iv. Gandhiji made it for all, now people from villages, poor people, labourers, workers, and students all became part of the freedom struggle.
- v. Mahatma Gandhi has to be credited with emancipation of women and their participation in the public life at a scale not known in Indian history. Women were very prominent in picketing activities against shops selling foreign goods.
- vi. The freedom movement gave some prominent woman leaders viz. Sarojini Naidu, Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, and many more.
- vii. For Mahatma Gandhi freedom movement was also a platform for social reforms. He spoke in favour of place of dignity and respects for depressed classes.

viii. He made end to untouchability a fundamental objective of his political philosophy.  
Thus Mahatma Gandhi made freedom movement a mass movement and a movement much beyond politics.

**OR**

Analyze the perceptions of Mahatma Gandhi among the peasant communities in India. Explain the reasons behind their support.

Ans: Mahatma Gandhi was very popular among the peasants and his image was as mentioned below:

- i. The peasants considered him as if he had been sent by the King to redress the grievances of the farmers, and that he had the power to overrule all local officials.
- ii. It was also claimed that Gandhiji's power was superior to that of the English monarch, and that with his arrival the colonial rulers would go away from the district.
- iii. There were also rumours that the villagers, who had criticised him, have found their houses mysteriously falling apart or their crops failing.
- iv. He was called as, "Gandhi baba – Gandhi Maharaj" or "Mahatma".
- v. Peasants considered him as a saviour, who would rescue them from high taxes and oppressive officials.
- vi. It was hoped that Gandhi would restore dignity and autonomy to their lives.
- vii. Gandhiji's appeal among the peasants was enhanced by his ascetic lifestyle, and by his use of the dhoti and the charkha.
- viii. They associated him with divine or miraculous powers, and his simple lifestyle, use of local language, and advocacy for non-violence made him relatable.

Q30. Evaluate how different groups in the Constituent Assembly defined and debated the idea of 'minority'. How did their understanding reflect their concerns about representation, identity, and rights in independent India?

8

Ans. i. N.G. Ranga was a socialist who played a significant role in the peasant movement in India.

- ii. He said that the minorities should be interpreted in economic terms.
- iii. He believed that the real minorities are the people who are extremely poor and downtrodden.
- iv. Jaipal Singh belonged to the tribal community so he understood the grievances of the tribals adequately.
- v. He said that the tribal groups have been disrespected and confronted for the past 6000 years and now in independent India, they need to be respected and protected.
- vi. He showed faith in the vision of Nehru's "Objective Resolution", which sought to provide equality of opportunity in India.
- vii. The Linguistic minorities wanted the protection of their mother tongue.
- viii. The religious minorities wanted the right to freely follow their religion without any interference in their faith.
- ix. The Dalits demanded an end to the discriminatory system of caste-based oppression.

**OR**

What were the arguments in favour of greater power to the provinces?

Ans. i. K. Santhanam said that the powers should be adequately distributed between the states and the centre.

- ii. He gave an argument that if the centre is provided with vast powers then its area of responsibility will increase which can hinder its efficiency.
- iii. By sharing adequate responsibilities and powers both the centre and the state can work effectively and carry out an efficient administration.
- iv. He criticised the provisions of the taxing powers that were inadequately distributed among the state and the central governments.
- vii. Most of the taxes except land revenue and one or two more were to be decided by the centre.
- viii. He also raised apprehensions on the subjects of education, infrastructure development and sanitation and felt that they should be entirely under the control of the state.
- ix. Santhanam said that more deliberations are required on the subject of the distribution of power as it is very essential for the development of the state as well as the nation.

## SECTION-D 4X3=12

Q31. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

### In praise of Samudragupta

He was without an antagonist on Earth; he, by the overflowing of the multitude of (his) many good qualities adorned by hundreds of good actions, he wiped off the fame of other kings with the soles of (his) feet (he is) Purusha (the Supreme Being), being the cause of the prosperity of the good and the destruction of the bad (he is) incomprehensible; (he is) one whose tender heart can be captured only by devotion and humility; (he is) possessed of compassion; (he is) the giver of many hundred thousands of cows; (his) mind has received ceremonial initiation for the uplift of the miserable, the poor, the forlorn and the suffering; (he is) resplendent and embodied kindness to mankind; (he is) equal to (the Gods) Kubera (the God of wealth), Varuna (the God of the ocean), Indra (the God of rains) and Yama (the God of death).

- 31.1 Who wrote the above Prashasti? State the importance of Prashasti? 1  
31.2 Mention any three qualities of the ruler described in the excerpt. 1  
31.3 How far are these values shown by the rulers, relevant in the contemporary society? Explain. 2

### Answer:

1. The above Prashasti was composed by Harishena, the court poet and minister of Samudragupta. Importance: Prashastis are important as they give us valuable information about the achievements, qualities, and rule of kings
2. Three qualities of Samudragupta described in the excerpt are: Compassionate, Charitable, Powerful and divine-like.
3. These values are still highly relevant today:  
Compassion and charity are essential for leaders in addressing issues like poverty, inequality, and disaster relief.  
A powerful yet humble and just leadership builds trust among citizens.

Q32. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

### Draupadi's Questions

Draupadi is supposed to have asked Yudhishthira whether he had lost himself before staking her. Two contrary opinions were expressed in response to his question. Once, that even if Yudhishthira had lost himself earlier, his wife remained under his control, so he could stake her. Two that an unfree man (as Yudhishthira was when he had lost himself) could not stake another person. The matter remained unresolved; ultimately, Dhritarashtra restored to the Pandavas and Draupadi their personal freedom.

- 32.1 How did Draupadi's questions unsettle everyone in the assembly? 1  
32.2 What was the implication of her questions? 1  
32.3 What makes Draupadi's question admirable? 2

### Answer:

1. Draupadi's questions unsettled everyone in the assembly because she asked the unpredictable questions that women during those times were not supposed to ask. She asked whether Yudhishthira had the right to stake her although he had lost earlier and a lost person could not stake another person.
2. The implication of her questions was that whether wives could be treated as property of husband and whether she enjoyed her own freedom and identity.
3. Draupadi's question is admirable because she has questioned the male dominated system prevailing during those times. She had also questioned the unlimited control exercised by men over their wives, which in turn made the wives as the property of their husbands.

Q33. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

### King and Traders

Krishnadeva Raya (ruled 1509-29), the most famous ruler of Vijayanagara, composed a work on statecraft in Telugu known as the Amuktamalyada. About traders he wrote : A king should improve the harbours of his country and so encourage its commerce that horses, elephants, precious gems, sandalwood, pearls and



other articles are freely imported. He should arrange that the foreign sailors who land in his country on account of storms, illness and exhaustion are looked after in a suitable manner... Make the merchants of distant foreign countries who import elephants and good horses be attached to yourself by providing them with daily audience, presents and allowing decent profits. Then those articles will never go to your enemies.

- 33.1 Explain the responsibilities of king mentioned by Krishnadeva Raya. 1  
33.2 Mention the name and theme of the work compiled by him. 1  
33.3 Why do you think the king was interested in encouraging trade? Explain. 2

**Answer:**

1. A king should improve the harbours of his country.  
He should encourage commerce so that horses, elephants, precious gems, sandalwood, pearls and other articles should be freely imported.
2. Krishnadeva Raya composed a work in Telugu known as Amuktamalyada. The main theme of this work was a statecraft.
3. The king wanted to improve the economic conditions, i.e. overall prosperity of his kingdom.  
To fulfil this goal, he took the following steps:  
The king improved the harbours of his country.  
He encouraged the commerce of his country.

**SECTION-E 5X1=5**

- Q34. On the given political map of India, locate and label the following with appropriate symbols: 5
- i. Chanhudaro
  - ii. Ujjayini
  - iii. Golconda

On the same outline map, two places have been marked as **a** and **b** which are centres of the Revolt of 1857 and the National movement of India. Identify, them and write their correct names on the lines drawn near them.

Answer- Self Expression (Jhansi, Champaran)

\*\*\*\*\*ALL THE BEST\*\*\*\*\*

Name:

Grade:

