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# Competency Focused Practice Questions

History (Volume 1) | Grade 12



Co-created by  
CBSE Centre for Excellence in Assessment  
and  
Educational Initiatives

## PREFACE

Assessments are an important tool that help gauge learning. They provide valuable feedback about the effectiveness of instructional methods; about what students have actually understood and also provide actionable insights. The National Education Policy, 2020 has outlined the importance of competency-based assessments in classrooms as a means to reform curriculum and pedagogical methodologies. The policy emphasizes on the development of higher order skills such as analysis, critical thinking and problem solving through classroom instructions and aligned assessments.

Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has been collaborating with Educational Initiatives (Ei) in the area of assessment. Through resources like the [Essential Concepts document](#) and [A-Question-A-Day \(AQAD\)](#), high quality questions and concepts critical to learning have been shared with schools and teachers.

Continuing with the vision to ensure that every student is learning with understanding, Question Booklets have been created for subjects for Grade 10th and 12th. These booklets contain competency-based items, designed specifically to test conceptual understanding and application of concepts.

### ***Process of creating competency-based items***

All items in these booklets are aligned to the NCERT curriculum and have been created keeping in mind the learning outcomes that are important for students to understand and master. Items are a mix of Free Response Questions (FRQs) and Multiple-Choice Questions (MCQs). In case of MCQs, the options (correct answer and distractors) are specifically created to test for understanding and capturing specific errors/misconceptions that students may harbour. Each incorrect option can thereby inform teachers on specific gaps that may exist in student learning. In case of subjective questions, each question also has a detailed scoring rubric to guide evaluation of students' responses.

Each item has been reviewed by experts, to check for appropriateness of the item, validity of the item, conceptual correctness, language accuracy and other nuances.

### ***How can these item booklets be used?***

There are 123 questions in this booklet.

The purpose of these item booklets is to provide samples of high-quality competency-based items to teachers. The items can be used to—

- get an understanding of what good competency-based questions could look like
- give exposure to students to competency-based items
- assist in classroom teaching and learning
- get inspiration to create more such competency-based items

Students can also use this document to understand different kinds of questions and practice specific concepts and competencies. There will be further additions in the future to provide competency focused questions on all chapters.

*Please write back to us to give your feedback.*

**Team CBSE**

## CONTENTS


1.	BRICKS, BEADS AND BONES: The Harappan civilization.....	1
	Answer Key & Marking Scheme.....	8
2.	KINGS, FARMERS AND TOWNS: Early states and economies.....	13
	Answer Key & Marking Scheme.....	16
3.	KINSHIP, CASTE AND CLASS: Early societies.....	21
	Answer Key & Marking Scheme.....	22
4.	THINKERS, BELIEFS AND BUILDINGS: Cultural developments.....	23
	Answer Key & Marking Scheme.....	25
5.	THROUGH THE EYES OF TRAVELLERS: Perceptions of Society.....	27
	Answer Key & Marking Scheme.....	28
6.	BHAKTI-SUFI TRADITIONS: Changes in Religious Beliefs and Devotional Texts.....	29
	Answer Key & Marking Scheme.....	34
7.	AN IMPERIAL CAPITAL: VIJAYANAGARA.....	37
	Answer Key & Marking Scheme.....	44

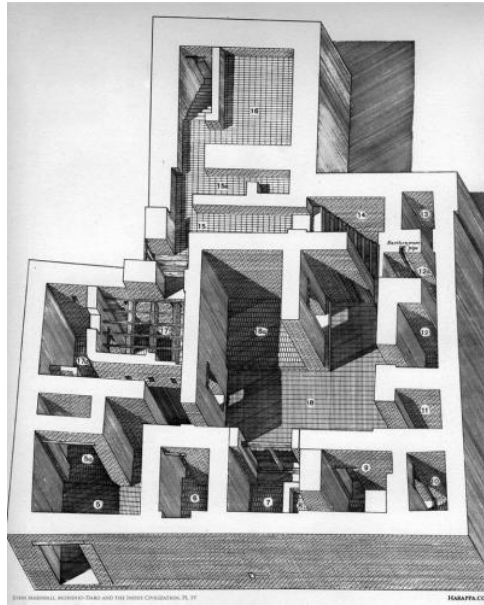
## 1. BRICKS, BEADS AND BONES: The Harappan civilization

Q. No	Question	Marks
<b>Multiple Choice Question</b>		
Q.1	<p>While researching the Harappan civilisation, which of these was NOT a way in which archaeologists attempted to map social stratification?</p> <p>A. studying architectural structures in different parts of the city</p> <p>B. analysing how they disposed of their dead</p> <p>C. classifying essential and luxury artefacts</p> <p>D. identifying prevalent food grains</p>	1
Q.2	<p>How did historians establish that Harappans had travelled to South India to procure raw materials for crafts?</p> <p>A. They found models of bullock carts, which are found only in South India.</p> <p>B. They followed riverine routes to South India.</p> <p>C. They found Harappan beads in South India.</p> <p>D. Lapis lazuli mines are found in South India.</p>	1
Q.3	<p>Which of the following signified a shift from the Mature to the Late Harappan period?</p> <p>A. change in burial patterns</p> <p>B. drying up of water bodies</p> <p>C. abandonment of the Citadels</p> <p>D. the disappearance of distinct artefacts</p>	1
Q.4	<p>There are two statements given below, marked as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct option.</p> <p>Assertion (A): Some historians believe that there was a central state in the Harappan civilisation that had considerable power over a number of activities.</p> <p>Reason (R): The consistency of planning and similarity of decision-making in a large civilisation points to a singular authority.</p> <p>A. A is true and R is false.</p> <p>B. A is false and R is true.</p>	1

	<p>C. Both A and R are true and R explains A.</p> <p>D. Both A and R are true and R does not explain A.</p>	
Q.5	<p>Although Cunningham encountered some Harappan artefacts, the civilization missed capturing his attention due to his investigation strategies.</p> <p>Which of the following statements explains why this happened?</p> <p>A. He excavated in mainlands and not in fertile soil near rivers.</p> <p>B. He relied on travel accounts of Chinese travellers which did not cover Harappa.</p> <p>C. He studied only metal artefacts while excluding a lot of artefacts from Harappa.</p> <p>D. He used primitive dating techniques which put Harappan artefacts in different timelines.</p>	1
Q.6	<p>What is the significance of studying artefacts according to the layers in which they were found in?</p> <p>A. The lower layers have artefacts made from precious materials.</p> <p>B. The artefacts in lower layers are subjected to heavy erosion.</p> <p>C. Artefacts in lower layers have only one type of object.</p> <p>D. The lower layers usually have older artefacts.</p>	1
Q.7	<p>Which of the following is a modern-day equivalent of a Harappan seal?</p> <p>A. envelope</p> <p>B. signature</p> <p>C. postal stamp</p> <p>D. date on the letter</p>	1
Q.8	<p>Archaeologists face issues while piecing together information from artefacts and excavations.</p> <p>Which of the following actions can an archaeologist studying the Harappan civilisation do, to make their findings robust?</p> <p>A. Collect at least a hundred artefacts before making interpretations.</p> <p>B. Treat artefacts made from different materials the same, to remove bias.</p> <p>C. Consider each artefact as complete evidence and make definite interpretations.</p>	1

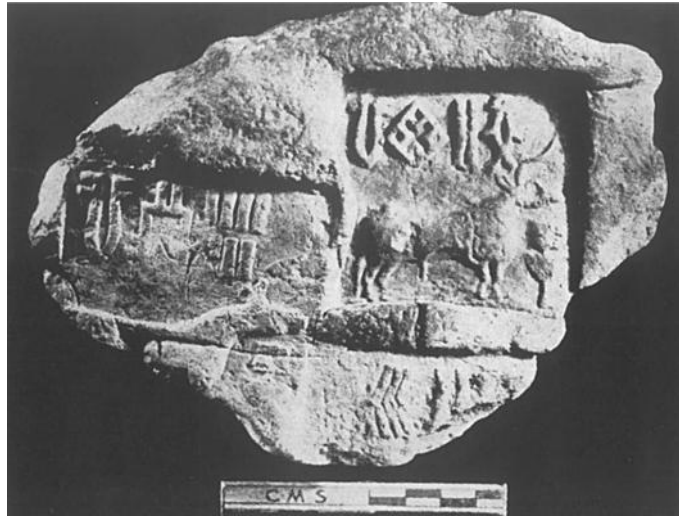
	D. Search for all sources of history such as artefacts, books, inscriptions and seals.	
Q.9	<p>While piecing together history and studying artefacts, historians attempt to find centres of production by looking for discarded materials like stones, shells and beads.</p> <p>What could be a potential problem faced by historians while studying products like straw baskets, vegetable dyes and products made from animal hide?</p> <p>A. Artefacts made from soft material do not form occupational debris or mounds.</p> <p>B. These are raw materials that would not have been discarded directly.</p> <p>C. These artefacts cannot be dated using modern technologies.</p> <p>D. Organic materials may decompose before being excavated.</p>	1
Q.10	<p>Public goods are those goods that can be accessed by all, irrespective of whether they pay for them or not. Which of the following will <u>DEFINITELY</u> be a Harappan equivalent of public good?</p> <p>A. the courtyard of a Harappan house</p> <p>B. The Lower Town</p> <p>C. The Great Bath</p> <p>D. The Citadel</p>	1
Q.11	<p>Which of these pieces of evidence indicate the end of the Harappan civilisation?</p> <p>A. destruction of the drainage system</p> <p>B. Western influences on script and seals</p> <p>C. the use of standardised weights for measurement</p> <p>D. the disappearance of distinctive artifacts of the region</p>	1
Q.12	<p>There are two statements given below, marked as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct option.</p> <p>Assertion (A): Historians believe that the Harappan civilisation was highly literate.</p> <p>Reason (R): Writing has been found in many everyday objects such as seals, copper tools, jewellery, and terracotta tablets in the Harappan region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation for A.</li> <li>• Both A and R are true, and A is the correct explanation for A.</li> <li>• A is true, but R is false.</li> </ul>	1

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A is false, but R is true.</li> </ul>	
<b>Free Response Question/ Subjective Question</b>		
Q.13	 <p>(a) Mention any two features about the Harappan script from the seal shown in the above image.</p> <p>(b) What was the possible purpose of B as interpreted by historians?</p>	3
Q.14	In the present day, cities undergo some form of planning before they are created. Explain why historians compared Mohenjodaro to present-day cities in terms of planning.	3
Q.15	<p>Namana is trying to understand about the agriculture innovations done by the Harappans.</p> <p>Mention one Harappan agriculture practice each that can be derived from the following archaeological sources:</p> <p>a) water reservoir at Dholavira</p> <p>b) a terracotta bull</p>	2
Q.16	<p>Archaeologists have been able to reconstruct the dietary practices and the different types of grains that were eaten by the Harappans.</p> <p>State one source from which this could be reconstructed.</p>	1
Q.17	Identify and explain the features of the Harappan structure given below.	5




Q.18	Mention two features that are common to the citadel and the lower town in Mohenjodaro.	2
Q.19	'Archaeologists generally use certain strategies to find out whether there were social or economic differences amongst people living within a particular culture.' Mention any two strategies that are used to do this.	2
Q.20	Archaeologists have found gold jewellery at a location during the excavation of Harappan civilisation. Where did they <u>MOST LIKELY</u> find it?	1
Q.21	An archaeologist is analysing raw materials, tools, unfinished projects and waste material found in the various sites of the Harappan civilisation. She is especially focussing on the waste material. What is she trying to identify?	1
Q.22	(a) Identify the artefact given below. (b) State one way in which this artefact was <u>MOST LIKELY</u> to be used in the Harappan civilisation.	2





Q.23	<p>Archaeologists have found a place which was used for a special ritual bath in the Harappan civilisation.</p> <p>Which part of the city is it <u>MOST LIKELY</u> to be in?</p>	1
Q.24	<p>How do we know that the Harappan civilization had trade contacts with Oman?</p>	2
Q.25	<p>Archaeologists have found a copper mirror and a few beaded ornaments in a burial chamber in Harappa. Along with these, they have also found shards of faience pots scattered around.</p> <p>What can these artefacts tell us about the person who was buried? Justify your answer.</p>	2
Q.26	<p>'The problems of archaeological interpretation are perhaps most evident in attempts to reconstruct religious practices of the Harappan civilisation.'</p> <p>Explain this statement with examples wherever necessary.</p>	5
Q.27	<p>Explain the different approaches used for the classification of found objects by archaeologists, with examples from the Harappan ruins.</p>	5
Q.28	<p>'John Marshall's time as Director-General of the ASI marked a major change in Indian archaeology.'</p> <p>Critically analyse this statement.</p>	3
Q.29	<p>'The archaeological evidence shows that the Harappan civilisation had a flourishing, vibrant craft production.'</p> <p>Discuss the two ways in which the people of the Harappan civilization procured raw materials for this enterprise. Give examples of archaeological and textual evidence to show that overseas trade was also practiced in aid of this enterprise.</p>	6

Q.30	Archeologists had different interpretations of the depiction of power in the Harappan civilization. Discuss in detail the various theories used to describe this with examples of sources.	6
Q.31	Give four pieces of evidence that tell us about the changes that marked the end of the Harappan civilisation.	4
Q.32	Present four pieces of evidences that support the theory that the Harappan civilisation was ruled by a single state.	4
Q.33	<p>a) Identify the structure shown below.</p>  <p>b) State two reasons why scholars suggest that it had a special purpose in the Harappan Civilisation.</p>	3

## Answer Key & Marking Scheme

Q. No	Answers	Marks
Q.1	D. identifying prevalent food grains	1
Q.2	C. They found Harappan beads in South India.	1
Q.3	D. the disappearance of distinct artefacts	1
Q.4	C. Both A and R are true and R explains A.	1
Q.5	B. He relied on travel accounts of Chinese travellers which did not cover Harappa.	1
Q.6	D. The lower layers usually have older artefacts.	1
Q.7	B. signature	1
Q.8	D. Search for all sources of history such as artefacts, books, inscriptions and seals.	1
Q.9	D. Organic materials may decompose before being excavated.	1
Q.10	C. The Great Bath	1
Q.11	D. the disappearance of distinctive artifacts of the region	1
Q.12	B. Both A and R are true, and A is the correct explanation for A.	1
Q.13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There were about 375-400 signs.</li> <li>- The signs were not alphabetical, no specific sign was assigned to consonants and vowels.</li> <li>- The script was written from right to left.</li> </ul> (any two to be evaluated)  Historians thought that animal figures were included on seals for illiterate people.	3


Q.14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Building activities within the city were restricted to a fixed area, proving that there was prior planning.</li> <li>- Bricks used had fixed and standardised dimensions.</li> <li>- The extensive drainage system arranged in grids, ran under the residential areas</li> <li>- any other relevant point</li> </ul>	3
Q.15	<p>a) Water reservoirs stored in Dholavira may have been used for agriculture probably through irrigation canals.</p> <p>b) Oxen were used for ploughing</p>	2
Q.16	- from finds of charred grains and seeds	1
Q.17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The image is that of a domestic architecture.</li> <li>- Most of the houses are centered on a courtyard with rooms on all sides.</li> <li>- There was a stress on privacy since there were no windows on the walls of the ground floor.</li> <li>- Every house had its own bathroom with drains that connected to the street drains.</li> <li>- Many houses had wells in rooms that could also be accessed by the passers-by.</li> </ul>	5
Q.18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- both the citadel and the lower town were walled</li> <li>- many buildings in the lower town were constructed on top of large platforms similar to how the buildings in the citadel were constructed on mud brick platforms.</li> </ul>	2
Q.19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The burials give us an insight into the social and economic conditions of the culture through the things they are buried with, the type of the burial pits and material used for the burial spot.</li> <li>- Another strategy is to study the artefacts that are broadly classified as luxuries and utilitarian. This helps us understand the social and economic structure of a culture.</li> </ul>	2
Q.20	in large settlements	1
Q.21	centres of craft production	1

Q.22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a seal from the Harappan civilisation</li> <li>- This seal could have used to ensure that any courier being transferred over long distances was intact.</li> </ul>	2
Q.23	the Citadel	1
Q.24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Omani copper and Harappan artefacts, both, have traces of nickel, suggesting a common origin.</li> <li>- A distinctive type of vessel, a large Harappan jar coated with a thick layer of black clay has been found at Omani sites.</li> </ul>	2
Q.25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Copper mirrors and beaded ornaments would have been precious items during the Harappan civilizations, so if they are being buried with the person it is possible that the person might have been rich or important.</li> <li>- Faience was considered a luxury item as it was difficult to make, and so finding it in the burial would indicate that the person was rich.</li> </ul> <p>(to be evaluated as a whole)</p>	2
Q.26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Early archaeologists thought that certain objects which seemed unusual or unfamiliar may have had a religious significance.</li> <li>- Examples- terracotta figurines of women, 'priest king'</li> <li>- Some attempts of reconstruction of religious practices and beliefs by examining seals. Other seals with plant motifs are thought to indicate nature worship.</li> <li>- Examples- seals with 'unicorn', 'yogic' surrounded with plants and animals.</li> <li>- Many times reconstruction of Harappan religion are made on the the assumption that later traditions provide parallels with earlier ones.</li> </ul>	5
Q.27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Archaeologists classify the finds on two principles. One is based on the material they are made of and the other is based on their functions.</li> <li>- Based on the materials they are made of like stone, clay, metal, bone etc.</li> <li>- Based on the functions that these artefacts most likely served. One way of doing this was to estimate this by its resemblance to its present-day things.</li> <li>- Another way of finding function by investigating the context it was found in.</li> <li>- Sometimes the archaeologists have to depend on indirect evidence. Example- To find out what Harappans wore, they had to depend on indirect evidence including depictions in sculptures.</li> </ul>	5

Q.28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- John Marshall's experience of working in Greece and Crete helped him with the excavation exercise in India.</li> <li>- He was equally keen to look for patterns of everyday life as he was with the spectacular finds.</li> <li>- All the artefacts recovered from the same unit were grouped together, even if they were found at different stratigraphic layers. As a result, valuable information about the context of these finds was irretrievably lost.</li> <li>- Marshall tended to excavate along regular horizontal units, measured uniformly throughout the mound, ignoring the stratigraphy of the site.</li> </ul> <p><i>(Evaluate any three points)</i></p>	3
Q.29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- They established settlements in areas where the raw materials were easily accessible like Nageshwar and Balakot where shells are easily available.</li> <li>- They sent expeditions to areas where they could find raw materials such as Khetri in Rajasthan for copper and gold in South India.</li> <li>- Recent archaeological evidence shows that Oman copper was used in artefacts made in Harappan region.</li> <li>- Other evidences that support long-distance communication includes weights, seals, dice and beads.</li> <li>- Mesopotamian texts mention contact with regions named Dilmun (probably the island of Bahrain), Magan and Meluhha, possibly the Harappan region.</li> <li>- The communication with Oman, Bahrain or Mesopotamia was by sea. Mesopotamian texts refer to Meluhha as a land of seafarers.</li> </ul>	6
Q.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A large building found at Mohenjodaro was labelled as a palace archaeologists but no spectacular finds were associated with it.</li> <li>- A stone statue was labelled and continues to be known as the “priest-king”. This is because archaeologists were familiar with Mesopotamian history and its “priest-kings” and have found parallels in the Indus region.</li> <li>- The ritual practices of the Harappan civilisation are not well understood yet nor are there any means of knowing whether those who performed them also held political power.</li> <li>- Some archaeologists are of the opinion that Harappan society had no rulers, and that everybody enjoyed equal status.</li> <li>- Others feel there was no single ruler but several, that Mohenjodaro had a separate ruler, Harappa another and so on.</li> </ul>	6

	- Yet others argue that there was a single state, given the similarity in artefacts, the evidence for planned settlements, the standardised ratio of brick size, and the establishment of settlements near sources of raw material.	
Q.31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The disappearance of the distinctive artifacts of the civilization like weights, seals, and special beads.</li> <li>- House construction techniques deteriorated and large public structures were no longer produced.</li> <li>-long-distance trade and craft specialisation also disappeared.</li> <li>- Disappearance of Harappan script and writing.</li> <li>-decline and abandonment of Harappan cities</li> </ul>	4
Q.32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The extraordinary uniformity of Harappan artefacts is evident in pottery, seals, weights.</li> <li>- Bricks were of a uniform ratio throughout the region, from Jammu to Gujarat.</li> <li>- Settlements were established near sources of raw materials in strategic places.</li> <li>- Huge amounts of labour was mobilised for making bricks and for the construction of massive walls and platforms. This could have been done only with a large unifying element like a single state.</li> </ul>	4
Q.33	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the Great Bath</li> <li>b) - The uniqueness of the structure as there are no other structures similar to it.</li> <li>- It was found in the citadel along with several distinctive buildings.</li> </ul>	3

## 2. KINGS, FARMERS AND TOWNS: Early states and economies

Q. No	Question	Marks
<b>Multiple Choice Question</b>		
Q.34	Which of the following is <u>NOT</u> one of the sixteen <i>mahajanapadas</i> ? A. Vajji B. Avanti C. Koshala D. Ayodhya	1
<b>Free Response Question/ Subjective Type</b>		
Q.35	Examine this coin from the Kushana empire.  <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> (a) Identify the images A and B on the coin and the time period they belong to. (b) What does this coin tell you about the portrayal of rulers?	3
Q.36	The ruler of the Magadha <i>mahajanapada</i> has a doubt regarding tax collection. Which literature from 6th century BCE should he refer to clarify this?	1
Q.37	Historians have used a variety of sources to reconstruct the history of the Mauryan Empire. Support this statement by giving two sources.	2
Q.38	' Once the kings and chiefs attained power, they attempted to claim social status in a variety of ways.' State two ways in which the new kings who emerged between 1st century BCE to 1st century CE try to achieve this	3



Q.39	<p>" <i>The perception of the kings and nobles varied across the social groups in a kingdom and understanding about these perceptions give us insights into the relationship dynamics between various groups.</i>"</p> <p>How did the perception of common people change towards the kings and nobles as part of changes in the countryside in the first millenium CE? (2)</p> <p>State the ways in which historians drew these conclusions. (1)</p>	3
Q.40	<p>One inscription from the 5th century CE describes a grant of land from a queen to a Brahmana. A part of the inscription reads:</p> <p>'Prabhavati Gupta... commands the gramakutumbinas (householders/peasants living in the village), Brahmanas and others living in the village of Dangun.. Be it known to you that we have.. donated this village to the Acharya (teacher) Chanalavamin... You should obey all (his) commands'</p> <p>The inscription goes on to mention what exemptions in taxation the queen will make on the different things being produced by the peasants in the land.</p> <p>Using features of this inscription how can we reconstruct the power relations that existed during the time between royals and others?</p>	5
Q.41	<p>How is the relationship between cultivators and the monarchy perceived by historians on the basis of land grants? State any three points.</p>	3
Q.42	<p>In the sixth century BCE, a farmer by the name of Maithri lived in a village on the banks of the Ganga. She wanted to increase her crop yields.</p> <p>Identify the two biggest obstacles Maithri would face as she attempted to enhance her agricultural productivity during that era.</p>	2
Q.43	<p>How was Asoka unique in the way he communicated his messages to his subjects and officials?</p>	2
Q.44	<p>a) What archaeological sources have been found in several urban areas of the subcontinent from c. sixth century BCE?</p> <p>b) What can they tell us about the urban populations in the urban centres that emerged at that time?</p>	4
Q.45	<p>Based on gold coins unearthed in India, write two insights about trade in the early common era. What are two possible reasons for the drop in coin usage after the sixth century?</p>	4
Q.46	<p>Historians do not consider inscriptions as a complete source in itself and often use other sources to complement the evidence. Why do historians do so?</p>	4

Q.47	Give one theory for why rulers adopted the practice of land grants in the early centuries of the common era.	1
Q.48	Kabir is studying some inscriptions of a particular period found relatively close together. The inscriptions do not mention the ruler who issued them. How can Kabir identify if the inscriptions are from the same ruler?	1
Q.49	Kushana rulers built colossal statues of themselves. What could have been the reason for this?	1
Q.50	Historians have tried to understand the issues of common people by examining oral tales that were committed to writing in anthologies. One common theme in these stories was the wicked king who collected exorbitant taxes. These stories might reflect the reality of the time, where kings were probably trying to collect more taxes from their subjects. a) Describe the innovations in agriculture made in the first half of the common era in India due to the rise in taxes. b) What evidence do we have from the literature that proved high taxes led to increased inequality within the society?	6
Q.51	What are the two approaches to deciphering inscriptions used by historians? Explain both with an example each.	6
Q.52	Between the 6th and 4th centuries BCE, explain how the availability of resources helped a region become more powerful than others. Give relevant examples.	5
Q.53	Classify the primary and secondary sources that helped the historians in understanding the Mauryan Empire.	6
Q.54	'Communication from the central capital to the capitals of provinces was vital for the existence of the Mauryan empire.' Why were provincial capitals important to the Mauryan empire? How was communication between the central capital and provinces accomplished?	5
Q.55	Who was Prabhavati Gupta? Why was she an outlier to existing land grant rules of the Deccan region?	3
Q.56	State three key characteristics of votive inscription.	3

## Answer Key & Marking Scheme

Q.No	Answers	Marks
Q.34	D. Ayodhya	1
Q.35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-A- King Kanishka</li> <li>-B- a deity</li> <li>- They belong to the time period between 1 BCE and 1 CE.</li> <li>- The coin signals that Kushana rulers accorded themselves divine status.</li> </ul>	3
Q.36	Dharmasutras	1
Q.37	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- archaeological sources like sculptures, coins, inscriptions</li> <li>- travellers accounts of the period</li> <li>- <i>prashastis</i>, poems and other sources of oral traditions</li> <li>- contemporary works such as the account of Megasthenes, a Greek ambassador to the court of Chandragupta Maurya</li> <li>- the <i>Arthashastra</i>, parts of which were probably composed by Kautilya or Chanakya, is traditionally believed to be the minister of Chandragupta</li> </ul> <p>(any two to be evaluated)</p>	2
Q.38	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- by building colossal statues of the rulers</li> <li>- by adopting titles like 'devaputra' that signify godlike characteristics</li> <li>- by commissioning prashastis to poets in praise of kings</li> <li>- through powerful portrayal of kings on the coins</li> </ul> <p>(any three points to be evaluated)</p>	3
Q.39	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The kings generally had a strained relationship with the people in countryside where the kings demand high taxes, and peasants particularly found such demands oppressive.</li> <li>- Sometimes people escaped into forests in order to escape harsh laws of kings.</li> <li>- Historians have tried to reach these conclusions by examining stories contained in anthologies such as the Jatakas and the Panchatantra</li> </ul>	3
Q.40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The inscription talks about a queen granting land. The queen owned land which she then transferred to the brahmana and made him the chief of the village.</li> </ul>	5

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The village had peasants, Brahmanas, and the peasants were expected to be in servitude to royals and provide a share of their produce to them.</li> <li>- According to the inscription, the people of the village would have to obey the new lord of the village, and perhaps pay him all these dues instead of to the queen.</li> <li>- The grant of land might be a way in which the royals were trying to maintain power by allying themselves with new rural elites (here the Brahmana Chanalasvamin)</li> <li>- It might also have been the case that royals tried to present at least a facade of power while actual power resided with the rural elites already.</li> </ul>	
Q.41	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Some feel that land grants were part of a strategy adopted by ruling lineages to extend agriculture to new areas.</li> <li>- Others suggest that land grants were indicative of weakening political power: as kings were losing control over their samantas, they tried to win allies by making grants of land.</li> <li>- Some others also feel that kings tried to project themselves as supermen because they were losing control: they wanted to present at least a facade of power.</li> </ul>	3
Q.42	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- lack of infrastructure for irrigation</li> <li>- unavailability of fertile land in all areas of cultivation</li> <li>- lack of tools like the plough</li> </ul> <p>(Evaluate any two points)</p>	2
Q.43	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Asoka was the first ruler who inscribed his messages to his subjects and officials on stone surfaces.</li> <li>- Asoka was the only ruler who tried to hold his empire together by propagating dhamma, the principles of which, as we have seen, were simple and were applicable universally.</li> </ul>	2
Q.44	<p>a) - A wide range of artefacts like pottery bowls and dishes known as Northern Black Polished Ware have been recovered from archaeological sites of fortified cities, probably used by rich people.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- By the second century BCE, we find short votive inscriptions that record gifts made to religious institutions, in a number of cities.</li> </ul> <p>b) - The votive inscriptions mention the name of the donor, and sometimes specify his/ her occupation as well. They tell us about people who lived in towns.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sometimes, guilds or <i>shrenis</i>, organisations of craft producers and merchants, are mentioned as well. These guilds probably procured raw materials, regulated production, and marketed the finished product.</li> </ul>	4

Q.45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The widespread use of gold coins indicates the enormous value of the transactions that were taking place.</li> <li>- It is obvious that there were close connections through trade that was not confined within political boundaries.</li> <li>- One reason attributed is that with the collapse of the Western Roman Empire long-distance trade declined.</li> <li>- It is also pointed out that though finds of coins of that time are fewer, coins continue to be mentioned in inscriptions and texts.</li> </ul>	4
Q.46	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The content of inscriptions generally takes the perspective of those who commissioned them. So, they need to be compared with other perspectives to arrive at a better understanding of the past.</li> <li>- Not everything that we may consider politically or economically significant was necessarily recorded in inscriptions. So it is important to study other relevant evidences from artefacts, literature, coins etc.</li> <li>- Not all inscriptions have been deciphered. Besides, many more inscriptions must have existed, which have not survived till now. So to get a complete picture, historians have to compare with other evidence.</li> <li>- It is not easy to be sure about the exact meaning of the words used in inscriptions. Thus it is important for historians to compare it with artefacts of the period and other linguistic clues.</li> </ul>	4
Q.47	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- One theory is that land grants were a strategy adopted by rulers to extend agriculture to new areas.</li> <li>- Another theory is that land grants were indicative of weakening political power. Kings tried to win allies by making grants of land as they were losing control.</li> </ul> <p>(any one point to be evaluated)</p>	1
Q.48	Kabir can study these inscriptions in terms of content, style, language and palaeography (style of writing). If they match well, it is highly likely that the inscriptions were issued by the same ruler.	1
Q.49	The Kushana rulers were claiming high status by identifying themselves as godlike.	1
Q.50	<p>a) -The rise in taxes led farmers to adopt strategies aimed at increasing production.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This included the use of the iron ploughshare to turn the alluvial soil in areas which had high rainfall.</li> <li>- Another technological development linked to this was the use of irrigation, through wells and tanks, and less commonly, canals.</li> </ul>	6

	<p>b) - stories from this time usually refer to landless agricultural labourers, small peasants, as well as large landholders. The large landholders, as well as the village headman emerged as powerful figures, and often exercised control over other cultivators.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Early Tamil literature also mentions different categories of people living in the villages.</li> <li>- It is likely that these differences were based on differential access to land, labour and some of the new technologies.</li> </ul>	
Q.51	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- One approach is by working backwards from contemporary manuscripts.</li> <li>- The Asokan Brahmi script was deciphered in this way from contemporary Bengali and Devanagari (the script used to write Hindi) manuscripts, comparing their letters with older specimens.</li> <li>- Scholars who studied early inscriptions assumed these were in Sanskrit, although the earliest inscriptions were, in fact, in Prakrit.</li> <li>- Another approach is by working from a source which consisted of the same writing in two different scripts. If one of the scripts is known, the other script can be read letter by letter.</li> <li>- The Kharosthi script was deciphered using this approach. Coins were found which contain the names of kings written in Greek and Kharosthi scripts. European scholars who could read the former compared the letters.</li> <li>- Kharosthi script was also identified as Prakrit.</li> </ul>	6
Q.52	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Magadha became the most powerful mahajanapada between the sixth and the fourth centuries BCE. This was due to the availability and development of resources.</li> <li>- Magadha had a surplus in all agricultural products because it was a region where agriculture was productive.</li> <li>- Resources for tools and weapons were provided by the iron mines that were available in the region.</li> <li>- Elephants, an important component of the army, were found in forests in the region.</li> <li>- The Ganga and its tributaries provided a means of cheap and convenient communication.</li> </ul>	5
Q.53	<p>Primary sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the inscriptions of Asoka on rocks and pillars.</li> <li>- contemporary works, such as the account of Megasthenes (a Greek ambassador to the court of Chandragupta Maurya), which survives in fragments.</li> <li>- the Arthashastra, parts of which were probably composed by Kautilya or Chanakya, traditionally believed to be the minister of Chandragupta Maurya.</li> </ul>	6

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- archaeological finds, especially sculpture</li> </ul> <p>Secondary sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Mauryas are mentioned in later Buddhist, Jaina and Puranic literature, as well as in Sanskrit literary works.</li> </ul> <p><i>(1 mark for each correct point and 1 mark for classifying the sources)</i></p>	
Q.54	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Historians argue that the Mauryan empire was too diverse to rule effectively from the central capital alone. Thus provincial capitals have been speculated to have had importance in the administration of the empire.</li> <li>- These provincial capitals were chosen so as to be useful for the administration. Some were situated on important long-distance trade routes, and others located near important natural resources.</li> <li>- Communication between capital and the provinces happened along both land and riverine routes.</li> <li>- Journeys from the centre to the provinces took a long time. So provisions and protection had to be provided for the journey.</li> <li>- The army was an important means for ensuring the protection of people undertaking the journey from the capital to the provinces.</li> </ul>	5
Q.55	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Prabhavati Gupta was the daughter of Chandragupta II and was married into Vakatakas.</li> <li>2) She defied established land grant norms according to Sanskrit legal texts.</li> <li>3) She had access to land which she then granted.</li> </ol>	3
Q.56	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- found in a number of cities by the second century BCE</li> <li>- contains name of the donors, occupations</li> <li>- details about people living in town</li> <li>- they record gifts made to religious institutions</li> <li>- any other relevant point</li> </ul> <p><i>(any three points to be evaluated)</i></p>	3

### 3. KINSHIP, CASTE AND CLASS: Early societies

Q. No	Question	Marks
<b>Multiple Choice Question</b>		
Q.57	<p>What is the primary reason why the <i>chandalas</i> were considered untouchables and forced to live outside the city?</p> <p>A. their religious customs            B. their occupation            C. their food habits            D. their skin colour</p>	1
Q.58	<p>What is the impact of the recreation of the Mahabharata that was prepared by V.S. Sukthankar on the way we construct social histories today?</p> <p>A. Not all historical texts are important to the studying of history.            B. The first historical record is the most accurate because over time, records tend to vary.            C. Historical texts should be questioned on the grounds of the power structures that existed during the time.            D. Historical texts from one region should be assessed on their own and not together with texts found in other regions.</p>	1
<b>Free Response Question/ Subjective Type</b>		
Q.59	How was endogamy practised through <i>gotras</i> ?	3
Q.60	<p>The Shastras state that Kshatriyas should be kings.</p> <p>Was political power transferred on the basis of the rulers being Kshatriya? Give two examples to support your answer.</p>	3
Q.61	How was the patrilineal succession discriminatory against women?	2

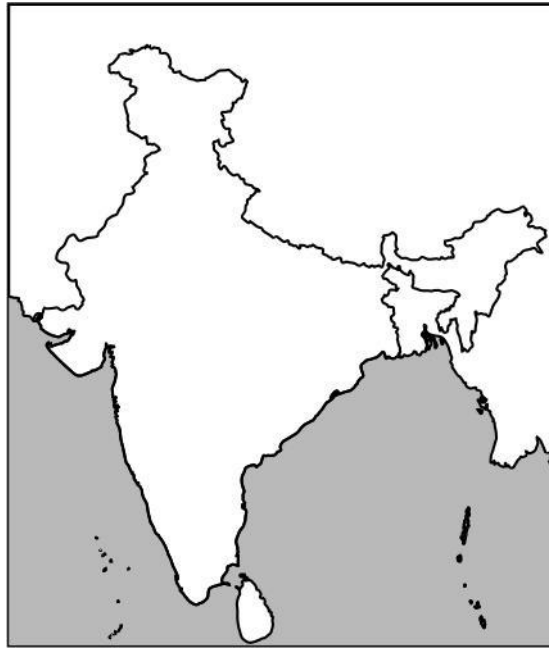


## Answer Key & Marking Scheme

Q. No	Answers	Marks
Q.57	B. their occupation	1
Q.58	C. Historical texts should be questioned on the grounds of the power structures that existed during the time.	1
Q.59	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Gotras</i> are the kin groups who are considered to have descended from the same seer.</li> <li>- People within the same <i>gotra</i> are prohibited from marrying each other.</li> <li>- When a woman marries, she takes up the <i>gotra</i> of her husband.</li> </ul> <p>The answer should be assessed as a whole.</p>	3
Q.60	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Political power was open to anyone who could gain support and resources to ascend the throne and did not depend on their caste.</li> <li>- Mauryas</li> <li>- Shungas</li> <li>- Kanvas</li> <li>- Shakas</li> <li>- Satavahanas</li> </ul> <p>Any two examples to be evaluated.</p>	3
Q.61	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All the resources and property of the father went to the son and the daughters inherited nothing.</li> <li>- It made the woman dependent on the men around her because she owned no property or wealth.</li> </ul>	2

#### 4. THINKERS, BELIEFS AND BUILDINGS: Cultural developments

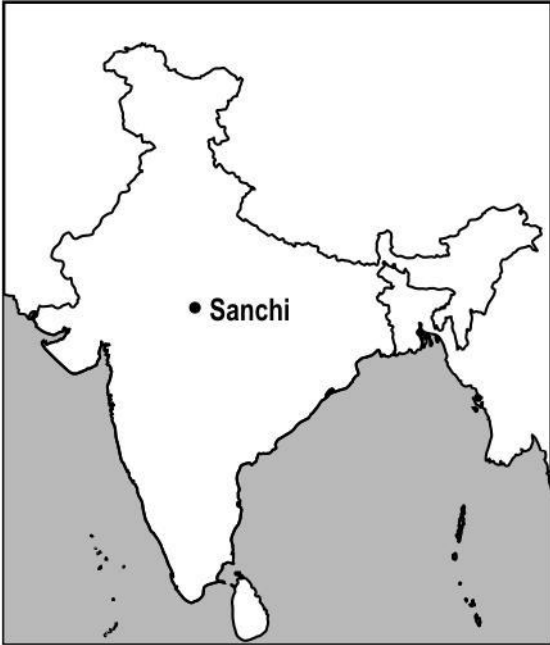
Q. No	Question	Marks
<b>Multiple Choice Question</b>		
Q.62	Which of the following forms of social discrimination does the excerpt hint at? A. caste B. racial C. gender D. religious	1
<b>Free Response Question/ Subjective Question</b>		
Q.63	How did Buddhism and Jainism challenge existing Brahminical ideas and customs? Describe in 3 points.	3
Q.64	“Early sculptors did not show the Buddha in human form”. Given this statement, answer the following. (a) How did early sculptors depict the Buddha? (b) Give one advantage and one disadvantage of depicting a religious leader in human form.	3
Q.65	(a) Describe in 30-40 words the varied followers that Buddhism had. (b) Why do you think Buddhism appealed to a wide section of people? Give 3 points.	5
Q.66	(a) Compare the responses of H.H. Cole with the responses of other British officials on encountering the ruins of the stupa at Amaravati? (b) What was the significance of Cole's view?	3
Q.67	Shahjehan Begum took special measures to protect and develop what ancient site? Locate it on the map given below.	1



Q.68	<p>"Be lamps unto yourselves as all of you must work out your own liberation."</p> <p>Explain Buddha's philosophy in light of the above statement.</p>	3
Q.69	<p>What is the similarity between Mahavira's teachings and Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy? How is Mahavira's teaching different?</p>	3

## Answer Key & Marking Scheme

Q. No	Answers	Marks
Q.62	C. gender	1
Q.63	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mahavira and the Buddha questioned the authority of the Vedas.</li> <li>- They stressed upon the individual agency and that every individual could attain liberation.</li> <li>- This was a stark contrast to the Brahminical position where an individual's existence was determined by their caste and gender that they were born into.</li> </ul>	3
Q.64	<p>(a) The early sculptors depicted the Buddha using symbols like the stupa, the empty seat, the wheel and the tree.</p> <p>(b) Advantage- Buddha was seen as a human being who attained nirvana through his own efforts.</p> <p>Disadvantage- Buddha was looked up as a saviour who was the only one to ensure salvation for everyone.</p>	3
Q.65	<p>(a) Buddha's followers came from many social groups. This included kings, wealthy men and gahapatis. The humbler people like soldiers, slaves and workers also were part of the Sangha.</p> <p>(b)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Many people were dissatisfied with existing religious practices.</li> <li>- Many social changes that were taking place left people confused.</li> <li>- Importance was attached to values and conduct rather than claims of superiority based on birth due to caste or gender.</li> </ul>	5
Q.66	<p>(a) The other officials carried the artefacts they found to different places like Madras, Calcutta, London with them.</p> <p>While Mr. Cole was of the opinion that the original art should not be looted and should be preserved in site of its discovery and only replicas should be kept in museums</p> <p>(b) Displacing and not preserving these artefacts that are important archaeological evidences could break the link to an insight into the history and culture of our past.</p>	3
Q.67	<p>Identifies this site as Sanchi.</p> <p>Locates Sanchi on the Indian map.</p>	1

		
Q.68	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Individual agency and righteous action is the way to escape the cycle of re-birth.</li> <li>- Self-realisation or <i>nibbana</i> (extinguishing of the ego) can be achieved this way.</li> <li>- The cycle of suffering can be ended by renouncing the world.</li> </ul>	3
Q.69	<p>Both believed in <i>ahimsa</i> or non-violence.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mahavira believed that there is life in all objects of the world, even non-living things like stones, rocks and water.</li> <li>- Ahimsa towards living things like animals, plants, and insects was also emphasised upon.</li> </ul>	3

## 5. THROUGH THE EYES OF TRAVELLERS: Perceptions of Society

Q. No	Question	Marks
<b>Multiple Choice Question</b>		
Q.70	<p>Which of these is a notable feature about the Italian doctor, Manucci, who travelled to India?</p> <p>A. He came and treated many people in India and improved the healthcare system.</p> <p>B. He found India so impressive that he did not go back to his home country in Europe.</p> <p>C. He observed and wrote detailed accounts on India's agricultural system.</p> <p>D. He was closely associated with the Mughal court.</p>	1
<b>Free Response Question/ Subjective Question</b>		
Q.71	<p>"...its king was the king of 'beggars and barbarians'; its cities and towns were ruined and contaminated with "ill air"; and its fields, 'overspread with bushes' and full of 'pestilential marishes'."</p> <p>Bernier made this statement with reference to the ownership of land in the Mughal empire. Explain the observations that led him to this conclusion.</p>	5
Q.72	<p>Highlight the complex reality of women in India around the time Bernier came to India.</p>	5

## Answer Key & Marking Scheme

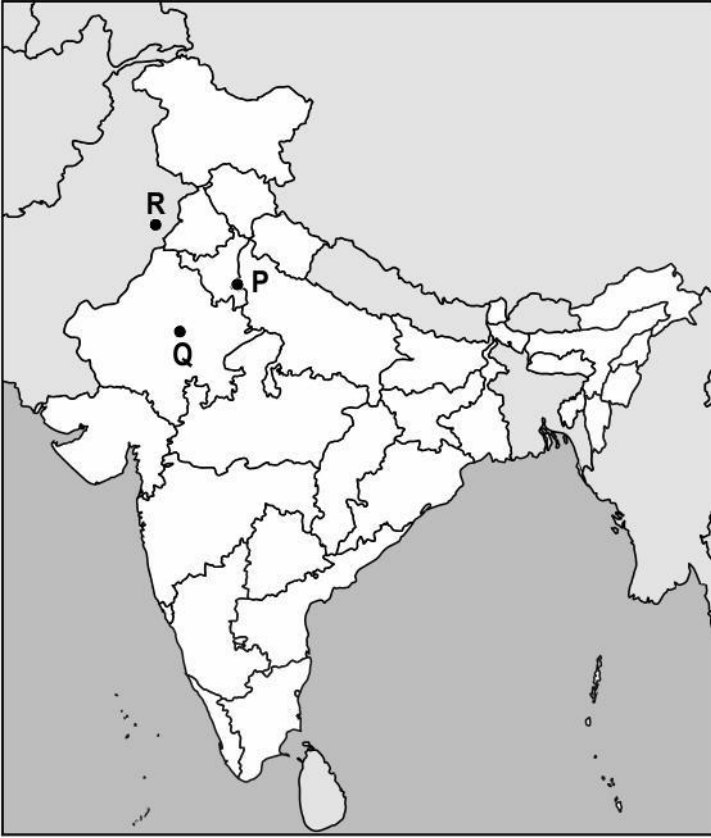
Q. No	Answers	Marks
Q.70	B. He found India so impressive that he did not go back to his home country in Europe.	1
Q.71	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bernier noticed the absence of private property in the empire and was against crown ownership of land.</li> <li>- He thought that the emperor had ownership of lands and distributed them amongst a few nobles.</li> <li>- Since landowners could not pass their land to their children, they were hesitant to make investments.</li> <li>- As a result, landowners were not improving the land.</li> <li>- It led to oppression of the peasantry and continuous deterioration of the living standards.</li> <li>- There was a class of extremely impoverished people and a minority of the powerful ruling class. There was no middle class.</li> <li>- He made the statement, attributing it to the crown ownership of land.</li> </ul> <p>(to be evaluated as a whole)</p>	5
Q.72	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There was widespread inequality between men and women.</li> <li>- Inequity in the genders was considered 'natural'.</li> <li>- Female slaves were employed by the Sultan to watch over the nobles and entertain with music and dance.</li> <li>- Slaves were employed in domestic work and also to carry palanquins of nobles.</li> <li>- Slaves were also sold at a very low cost, so most families could afford to keep one.</li> <li>- It was noted that Sati was practiced widely. Some women were forced into it.</li> <li>- Women's contribution to agriculture and non-agricultural production was important. It suggests that they were not confined to their homes.</li> </ul> <p>(any five points to be assessed as a whole)</p>	5

## 6. BHAKTI-SUFI TRADITIONS: Changes in Religious Beliefs and Devotional Texts

Q. No	Question	Marks
<b>Multiple Choice Question</b>		
Q.73	<p>Zainab is writing an assignment on the integration of "great" and "little" traditions first proposed by Robert Redfield.</p> <p>Which of the following examples about tribes in India should she include in the assignment?</p> <p>A. Meches tribe had to move away from their native villages to urban centers for jobs.</p> <p>B. Totos tribe started using modern means of communication like radio and television.</p> <p>C. Rabhas tribe's younger generation speak only Bengali instead of their Cochakrow language.</p> <p>D. Drukpa tribe holds a strong belief on Goddess Mahakal who is similar to the Hindu Devi Kali.</p>	1
Q.74	<p>Which of the following is TRUE about Tantric practice?</p> <p>A. Women did not have access to perform or participate in these rituals in any form.</p> <p>B. Caste and class differences were ignored in the context of the ritual.</p> <p>C. The principal deities were Agni, Indra and Soma.</p> <p>D. The authority of the Vedas is not questioned.</p>	1
Q.75	<p>'The Bhakti movement in India played an important role in laying the foundation for a reconfiguration of society on more equitable lines.'</p> <p>Which of the following supports this statement?</p> <p>A. The rich were forced to redistribute their wealth to the poor.</p> <p>B. Rituals and practices like idol worshipping were highly encouraged.</p> <p>C. Insisted on using only Sanskrit as their medium to write songs and hymns.</p> <p>D. Women and people from lower castes were acknowledged and accommodated.</p>	1
Q.76	<p>'The Bhakti philosophy always had a streak of resistance along with the feelings of intense devotion through it which could be seen in the writings of Alvars and Nayanars who protested against the caste system.'</p>	1



	<p>Which of the following is an example that explains the statement given above?</p> <p>A. Chetan Bhagat, a popular novelist who writes in English</p> <p>B. Sambhaji Bhagat, a poet from Maharashtra writes songs on Dalit issues</p> <p>C. Kailash Sathyarathi, a social reformer who campaigns against child labour</p> <p>D. KR Narayanan, who was the first dalit person to become the President of India</p>	
Q.77	<p>Given below is a vachana composed by Basavanna, who led a new movement in Karnataka.</p> <p><i>The rich will make temples for Shiva.</i></p> <p><i>What shall I, a poor man, do?</i></p> <p><i>My legs are pillars,</i></p> <p><i>The body the shrine,</i></p> <p><i>The head a cupola of gold.</i></p> <p><i>Listen, Koodalasangama Deva,</i></p> <p><i>Things standing shall fall,</i></p> <p><i>But the moving ever shall stay</i></p> <p>Based on the information given above, which of the following is <u>TRUE</u> for the Bhakti movement that took place in Karnataka?</p> <p>A. Lingayats encouraged people to migrate to other kingdoms.</p> <p>B. Lingayats were more equitable and consisted of poor people.</p> <p>C. Only the poor Lingayat people prayed to the Koodalasangama Deva.</p> <p>D. The Lingayats believed only in Koodalasangama deva and not Lord Shiva.</p>	1
Q.78	<p>Which of the following examples does <u>NOT</u> depict a blend of the universal faith with a local tradition with respect to practice of Islam in India?</p> <p>A. The followers of Islam accepted the five pillars of the faith.</p> <p>B. Malayalam was adopted by the Arab Muslim traders who settled in Kerala.</p> <p>C. The building material of mosques were different across different geographies.</p> <p>D. The ideas of Quran were spread through devotional poems that were sung in special ragas.</p>	1
Q.79	<p>Which of the following is common between Sufism and the Bhakti tradition?</p> <p>A. Both did not consist of music and singing.</p> <p>B. Both literary traditions did not adopt local languages.</p> <p>C. Both believed in reviving rituals and orthodox practices.</p>	1

	D. Both did not appeal only to the higher ranks of the society.	
Q.80	<p>Observe the three locations P, Q and R marked on the map given below.</p>  <p>Which of the following statements about these TRUE?</p> <p>A. All are temples associated with a form of goddess.</p> <p>B. All are temples associated with Lord Shiva.</p> <p>C. All are dhamma stupas built by Ashoka.</p> <p>D. All these are major Sufi shrines.</p>	1
Q.81	<p>There are two statements given below, marked as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct option.</p> <p>Assertion (A): The twelfth-century north India saw a rise of religious leaders who did not particularly belong to the orthodox Brahminical backgrounds.</p> <p>Reasoning (R): People began valuing the sermons of sages who belonged to the prospering artisans and trading communities of the time.</p> <p>A. A is true but R is false.</p> <p>B. A is false but R is true.</p> <p>C. Both A and R are true and R explains A.</p> <p>D. Both A and R are true but R does not explain A.</p>	1
Q.82	<p><i>Merchants from the Persian Gulf and other Arabic countries used to sail through the red sea to the nearest Indian ports and settle there accordingly in the first</i></p>	1

	<p><i>millennium C.E., while Central Asian people settled in the north-western parts of the subcontinent during the same period.</i></p> <p>According to the above information, which of the following coasts in India today are LESS likely to have a middle Eastern Arab ancestry?</p> <p>A. Coromandel B. Malabar C. Konkan D. Kutch</p>	
Q.83	<p>Nizamuddin Auliya, also known as Hazrat Nizamuddin was one of the most famous Muslim scholars and Sufi saints from the Indian subcontinent.</p> <p>Which of the following is TRUE about him?</p> <p>A. was referred to as '<i>be-sharia</i>' B. belonged to the cult of shaikh C. adopted mendicancy D. scorned khanqah</p>	1
Q.84	<p>As portrayed in the first few lines of the poem, Ammaiyar uses some intense descriptions to illustrate the demoness.</p> <p>Which of the following issues did she PRIMARILY attempt to challenge through these lines?</p> <p>A. gender norms B. women's virtuosity C. religious prejudices D. caste discrimination</p>	1
<b>Free Response Question/ Subjective Question</b>		
Q.85	State three ways in which the Alvars and Nayanars created social change.	3
Q.86	<p>Kabir's work reflected elements of various religions and traditions.</p> <p>Support the assertion that Kabir drew from the traditions of varied religions for his art.</p>	3
Q.87	<p>Read the following verse-</p> <p><i>'What can Mewar's ruler do to me? If God is angry, all is lost, But what can the Rana do?'</i></p>	3

	Who is <u>MOST LIKELY</u> to be the writer of this verse? What events led to the author to have this opinion about Mewar's ruler?	
Q.88	What was the meaning of the terms "great" and "little" traditions that Robert Redfield coined in the 20th century? Why do historic scholars use quotation marks while referring to these terms?	3
Q.89	(a) The <i>khanqah</i> built by Shaikh Nizamuddin was 'the centre of social life'. Justify this statement.  (b) List two initiatives that the Shaikh Nizamuddin's <i>khanqah</i> undertook to help the community.	5

## Answer Key & Marking Scheme

Q. No	Answers	Marks
Q.73	D. Drukpa tribe holds a strong belief on Goddess Mahakal who is similar to the Hindu Devi Kali.	1
Q.74	B. Caste and class differences were ignored in the context of the ritual.	1
Q.75	D. Women and people from lower castes were acknowledged and accomodated.	1
Q.76	B. Sambhaji Bhagat, a poet from Maharashtra writes songs on Dalit issues	1
Q.77	B. Lingayats were more equitable and consisted of poor people.	1
Q.78	A. The followers of Islam accepted the five pillars of the faith.	1
Q.79	D. Both did not appeal only to the higher ranks of the society.	1
Q.80	D. All these are major Sufi shrines.	1
Q.81	C. Both A and R are true and R explains A.	1
Q.82	A. Coromandel	1
Q.83	A. was referred to as ' <i>be-sharia</i> '	1
Q.84	B. women's virtuosity	1
Q.85	<p>Award 1 mark each to any three of the following:</p> <p>1) The Alvars and Nayanars resisted to caste-based hierarchies and Brahminical strongholds.</p> <p>2) Participation and presence of women was an important feature of this tradition.</p> <p>3) The Alvars and Nayanars had the popular support of the peasants.</p> <p>4) Even the rulers tried to gain their support and were influenced by their traditions.</p>	3


Q.86	<p>Award 1 mark each that contains the following or any other relevant points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Kabir's verses have been compiled in three distinct but overlapping traditions.</li> <li>2) Kabir's poems have survived in several languages and dialects.</li> <li>3) Kabir used terms drawn from Islam such as <i>Allah, Pir and Hazrat</i> as well as Hindu terms drawn from <i>Vedantic</i> traditions such as <i>Atman, Brahman</i> etc.</li> </ol>	3
Q.87	<p>Award 1 mark each to the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Mirabai</li> <li>2) She defied the role of being a wife and mother due to which her in-laws tried to poison her.</li> <li>3) According to biographies that were reconstructed, Mirabai was married to the prince of Sisodian clan of Mewar against her wishes.</li> </ol>	3
Q.88	<p>Award 1 mark each to the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Robert Redfield found that the peasants observed rituals and customs that emanated from dominant social categories, which he referred to as the great traditions.</li> <li>2) The peasants also practiced local traditions that do not correspond with those of great traditions, which were coined as the little traditions by Robert.</li> <li>3) The use of quotations is the only way to indicate that the words great and little do not signify the hierarchy suggested by them.</li> </ol>	3
Q.89	<p>(a) Award 1 mark each to the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) People from various walks of life came to seek advise and discipleship from the Sheik in various matters.</li> <li>2) It was a centre for social gathering where people from all walks of life would socialise.</li> </ol> <p>(b) Award 1 mark each to the following or any other relevant example:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) It was a focal point for cultural assimilation where local traditions would be practiced.</li> </ol>	5


	<p>2) During the Mongol invasion the khanqah acted as a place of refuge to the local people.</p> <p>3) There would be open langars free of cost to all the people in need.</p>	
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## 7. AN IMPERIAL CAPITAL: VIJAYANAGARA

Q. No	Question	Marks
<b>Multiple Choice Question</b>		
Q.90	<p>The <i>amara-nayakas</i> in the empire of Vijaynagara were given territories to govern by the <i>raya</i>.</p> <p>If the <i>amara-nayakas</i> were present in the current democratic political system of India, which of the following ministries would they be a part of?</p> <p>P: finance Q: defence R: law and justice S: labour and employment</p> <p>A. P and Q B. Q and R C. R and S D. S and P</p>	1
Q.91	<p>Colonel Colin Mackenzie was one of the archaeologists who helped discover the Vijaynagara empire. The painting shown below consists of Mackenzie accompanied by some people.</p> <div data-bbox="628 1256 959 1771" style="text-align: center;"> </div> <p>Who were these people? How was the company of these people helpful for Mackenzie?</p> <p>A. local villagers as assistants to record the old culture and traditions of Hampi B. eye-witnesses to give accounts on details of the Vijaynagara empire</p>	1



	<p>C. local moneylenders and merchants steering trade relations</p> <p>D. labourers employed to serve as his domestic helpers</p>	
Q.92	<p>Krishnadeva Raya (1509-29), the most famous ruler of Vijaynagara composed a book in Telugu on statecraft known as '<i>Amuktamalyada</i>'.</p> <p>Listed below are some books penned by or about the ancient Indian rulers. Which of these PRIMARILY revolve around similar themes as <i>Amuktamalyada</i>?</p> <p>A. <i>Indica</i></p> <p>B. <i>Meghaduta</i></p> <p>C. <i>Akbarnama</i></p> <p>D. <i>Arthashastra</i></p>	1
Q.93	 <p>Look at the map given below and answer the questions that follow</p> <p>On the political map of India 'P' is marked as the capital of an empire founded in 1336 CE.</p> <p>Identify it among the following options</p> <p>A. Bijapur</p> <p>B. Golconda</p> <p>C. Chandragiri</p> <p>D. Vijayanagara</p>	1
Q.94	<p>On the same map, 'Q' is also marked as an important centre of <i>nayaka</i> power of the 14th-15th century BCE.</p> <p>Identify it from the following options.</p>	1

	<p>A. Kanchipuram</p> <p>B. Thanjavur</p> <p>C. Mysore</p> <p>D. Quilon</p>	
<b>Free Response Questions/ Subjective Questions</b>		
Q.95	Which river was the source of water for the city of Vijaynagara? State two steps that the Vijayanagara empire took to conserve water resources.	3
Q.96	Describe and evaluate the functionality of the fortification of the Vijayanagara empire in the 15th century.	3
Q.97	<p>In the early 1980s, an important project was launched to document the material remains at Vijayanagara in detail.</p> <p>Describe the steps, in three points, that were taken to map out the empire as part of this project.</p>	3
Q.98	How did the Portuguese establish themselves as important political players during the Vijayanagara empire?	2
Q.99	<p>Given below is a picture of the Kamlapuram tank built during Krishnadevaraya's rule.</p>  <p>Why were such tanks important given the geographical location of the kingdom?</p> <p>How can these ancient structures be reused now?</p>	3
Q.100	The images given below are of carvings on a temple from the sacred center of Krishnadevaraya's empire. Identify the structure and the famous Hindu epic these carvings denote.	2



Q.101	Give three examples that describe diplomatic relations between Sultans and the Rayas during the 16th century.	3
Q.102	How would the people in the Vijayanagara empire survive during a siege that lasts several months?	2
Q.103	Describe two features that the <i>amara-nayaka</i> system of the Vijayanagara empire share with the iqta system of the Delhi Sultanate.	2
Q.104	State the archaeological evidence for the following claims that were made by the archaeologists: a) The Vijayanagara architecture is influenced by the Indo- Islamic architecture. b) The Vijaynagara empire was surrounded with an elaborate systems of fortification.	2
Q.105	State one way in which the following parts of temple complexes were used in social events in the Vijaynagara Empire. a) temple chariot street b) temple halls	2
Q.106	a) List any two new distinctive features of temple architecture of the Vijayanagara Empire. b) 'These are structures of immense scale that often dwarfed the towers on the central shrines.' Identify the feature of temple architecture being described here and its significance in the Vijaynagara Empire.	4
Q.107	What arrangements were made to mitigate the nature-induced agricultural challenges in the Vijayanagar empire?	1
Q.108	The Ginjee fort built in the 13th century had granaries to store a large stock of grains within the fortified area. Why? What did the kings of Vijayanagar do in their fortified areas to address the same purpose?	2

Q.109	Explain in detail a political innovation of the Vijayanagar empire and how did it ultimately lead to the collapse of the empire?	4
Q.110	Why is there relatively little archaeological evidence of the houses of ordinary people of the Vijaynagara empire? Provide textual evidence to support this claim.	2
Q.111	Give three pieces of archaeological evidence that supports the claim that patronage of temples and cults was important for the rulers of the Vijayanagar empire.	2
Q.112	Control of the military was decentralised in the Vijayanagar empire. Justify this statement.	3
Q.113	Why was trade essential in maintaining a kingdom during the medieval times in the Indian Peninsula?	3
Q.114	Give three examples of mutual cooperation between southern Indian kingdoms with religious differences during the 15th and 16th centuries.	2
Q.115	What are the different primary sources from whom the history of the Vijayanagar empire has been reconstructed?	3
Q.116	Give one way in which the rulers of Vijayanagara drew on different traditions to create an imperial culture.	1
Q.117	a) What do the following images signify? b) Describe the steps involved in developing these maps.	5

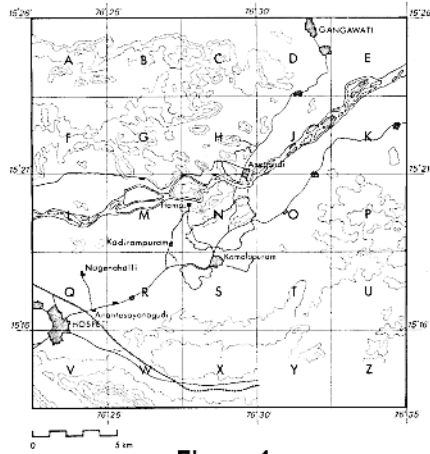


Figure 1

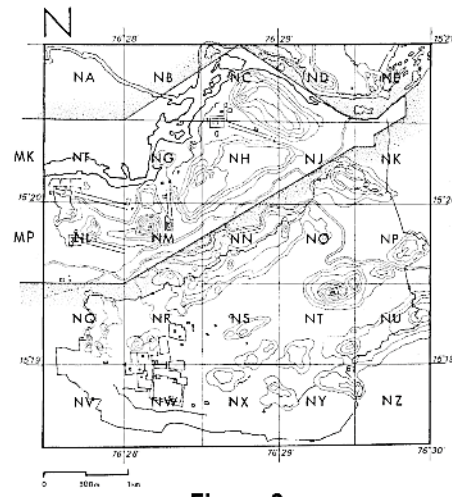


Figure 2

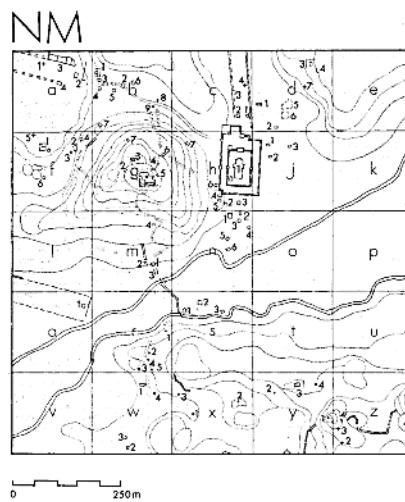


Figure 3

Q.118	Using the study of the Vijayanagara Empire ruins as an example, examine how the different sources help us understand the workings of the empire.	4
Q.119	Describe the trade during the Vijayanagara Empire and its impact on their society.	4
Q.120	'One of the most prominent features of the Vijayanagara Empire is the way in which they utilised their strategic location and access to water resources.' Discuss.	6
Q.121	<i>Mahanavami dibba</i> seems to be an epicenter of social and cultural activities and this was evident in the writings of Paes as well.  Give a brief description of the structure of the dibba and the ways in which it was used.	4
Q.122	a) State three distinctive features of temple architecture that were seen during the Vijayanagar empire.	4

	b) How did they aid in displaying the power of the Vijayanagar kings?	
Q.123	Which religion did Hampi essentially follow? Explain your answer with evidence and examples.	5

## Answer Key & Marking Scheme

Q. No	Answers	Marks
Q.90	A. P and Q	1
Q.91	A. local villagers as assistants to record the old culture and traditions of Hampi	1
Q.92	D. <i>Arthashastra</i>	1
Q.93	D. Vijayanagara	1
Q.94	B. Thanjavur	1
Q.95	<p>Source of water: Tungabhadra</p> <p>Steps to conserve water:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tanks were constructed that could store water that could be used for irrigation as well as royal needs.</li> <li>- Elaborate system to store and channel water was made through the construction of dams, water channels and canals.</li> </ul>	3
Q.96	<p>Award 1 mark each to the following or any other relevant point:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) There were seven lines of forts that encircled the city but also the agricultural land and forests.</li> <li>2) The forts were entered through well-guarded gates and the gateways defined the structures which had regulated access.</li> <li>3) All the fortification steps were well thought out and the ambassador of Persia was impressed by the fortifications.</li> </ol>	3
Q.97	<p>Award 1 mark each to the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Divide the entire area into a set of 25 squares, each designated by a letter of the alphabet.</li> <li>2) Each of the small square was further divided into a set of even smaller squares, which were further divided into further sub-sections.</li> </ol>	3

	3) Plot the recovered thousands of structures and traces of paths and roads on the detailed surveys.	
Q.98	- set up military and trading stations - used superior military technology, especially the use of muskets	2
Q.99	- these tanks acted as reservoirs in the arid region of the kingdom - they can still be used to store water and irrigate fields	3
Q.100	The carvings are located at Hazara Rama temple and depict scenes from the Ramayana	2
Q.101	- Krishnadeva Raya supported some people in the Sultanates to power and took pride in the title of “establisher of the Yavana kingdom.” - The Sultan of Bijapur helped resolve succession disputes in Vijayanagara following the death of Krishnadeva Raya. - The Vijayanagara kings were keen to ensure the stability of the Sultanates and vice versa.	3
Q.102	- Normally rulers tried to be prepared for such situations by building large granaries within fortified areas. - Large agricultural tracts were built inside so cultivation could be done.	2
Q.103	- The military commanders who were given territories to govern were called <i>amara-nayakas</i> . They collected taxes from peasants, craftsmen and traders in the area. - The <i>amara-nayakas</i> expressed their loyalty by sending tribute to the king annually and visiting the royal court with gifts.	2
Q.104	a) travel records by Paes and ambassador Abdur Razzaq b) a gateway on the fortification wall that has an arch and a dome on the top	2
Q.105	a) shops were set up by merchants in the chariot streets	2



	b) the temple halls served multiple purposes like the marriage of the deities, special programs of singing and dancing	
Q.106	<p>a) - mandapas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- long pillared pavilions</li> <li>- towering gateways</li> <li>- gopurams</li> </ul> <p>(any two to be evaluated)</p> <p>b) gopuram</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- they signalled the presence of temple from a great distance</li> <li>- they were a reminder of the power of kings</li> </ul>	4
Q.107	Since Vijayanagar was situated in one of the most arid zones of the peninsula, tanks and dams had to be built to store water and canals were built to conduct it to the agricultural lands around the city.	1
Q.108	<p>-Granaries were built to ensure that there is no shortage of food grains during a siege.</p> <p>- Vijayanagara kings fortified large tracts of agricultural lands so that agriculture could be carried on even during the time of siege and there is no shortage of food grains.</p>	2
Q.109	<p>- The amara nayaka system was a political innovation of the Vijayanagar empire. The amara-nayakas were military commanders who were given territories to govern and collect taxes by the raya.</p> <p>- They retained part of the revenue for personal use and for maintaining a stipulated contingent of horses and elephants.</p> <p>- These contingents provided the Vijayanagara kings with an effective fighting force.</p> <p>- During the course of the seventeenth century, many of the nayakas rebelled established independent kingdoms. This hastened the collapse of the central imperial structure.</p>	4
Q.110	- The houses of common people would have been made of perishable materials and thus did not leave any archaeological evidence behind.	2

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There is some evidence for this as the sixteenth-century Portuguese traveller Barbosa described the houses of ordinary people as being thatched. Thatched roofs wouldn't have left any archaeological evidence of their existence as they are made of perishable material.</li> </ul>	
Q.111	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Around 60 temples have been found in the place designated as the royal centre indicating that the temples were a major part of the King's life.</li> <li>- The <i>Mahanavami dibba</i> is also found in the royal centre. Scholars have argued that this place was used in celebrating the <i>Mahanavmi</i> festival and displayed their prestige, power and suzerainty on this occasion.</li> <li>- It is likely that the very choice of the site of Vijayanagara was inspired by the existence of the shrines of <i>Virupaksha</i> and <i>Pampadevi</i>. In fact the Vijayanagara kings claimed to rule on behalf of the god Virupaksha.</li> </ul>	2
Q.112	<p>The amara-nayaka system was a foundation on which the military power of the Vijayanagar empire rested on. The amara-nayakas were military commanders who were given territories to govern and collect revenue by the king. They used part of the revenue for personal use and for maintaining a contingent of horses and elephants. These provided the Vijayanagara kings with an army. Thus we see that the amara-nayakas had autonomy and power over military which shows that the military was decentralised in the Vijayanagar empire.</p> <p>(To be evaluated as a whole)</p>	3
Q.113	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- As warfare during these times depended upon effective cavalry, the import of horses from Arabia and Central Asia was very important.</li> <li>- Trade with the Portuguese helped the kingdoms to use their superior military technology, especially the use of muskets.</li> <li>- Revenue generated from trade contributed significantly to the prosperity of the state.</li> </ul>	3
Q.114	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Krishnadeva Raya supported some claimants to power in the Sultanates</li> <li>- The Sultan of Bijapur intervened to resolve succession disputes in Vijayanagara following the death of Krishnadeva Raya.</li> <li>- The Vijayanagara kings were keen to ensure the stability of the Sultanates and vice versa.</li> </ul>	2
Q.115	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Archaeological finds in the ruins of Hampi.</li> <li>- Inscriptions recording important events which have been discovered.</li> <li>- Manuscripts of several travellers who visited the kingdom and wrote about it.</li> </ul>	3

Q.116	The worship of the Vittala deity was introduced in Karnataka, who is a form of Vishnu generally worshipped in Maharashtra.	1
Q.117	<p>a) These images portray the process of mapping that was undertaken by the archaeologists to document the excavations at Hampi from the early 1980s.</p> <p>(b)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The first step was to divide the entire area into a set of 25 squares, each designated by a letter of the alphabet. The first image shows all the division into all the alphabets.</li> <li>- Then, each of the small squares was subdivided into a set of even smaller squares. The second image shows the subdivision of the alphabet N.</li> <li>- Each of these smaller squares was further subdivided into yet smaller units. This is shown in the third image where the subdivision of the section NM is shown.</li> <li>- These detailed surveys show the location of the recovered and documented traces of thousands of structures.</li> </ul>	5
Q.118	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The buildings that have survived tell us about how the space was used, the materials and the techniques used to build this.</li> <li>- An example of this is that the fortification of a city can help us gauge the military preparedness and defence requirements.</li> <li>- Buildings also tell us about the spread of ideas and cultural influences if we compare them with buildings in other places.</li> <li>- They convey ideas which the builders or their patrons wished to project. This can also be used to triangulate with other sources like literature, inscriptions and popular traditions.</li> </ul>	4
Q.119	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Kudirai chettis</i> or horse merchants participated in the trade of horses which was crucial for warfare.</li> <li>- Vijayanagara was also noted for its markets that dealt in spices, textiles and precious stones.</li> <li>- Trade was often regarded as a status symbol for such cities, which boasted of a wealthy population that demanded high-value exotic goods, especially precious stones and jewellery.</li> <li>- The revenue derived from trade in turn contributed significantly to the prosperity of the state.</li> </ul>	4

Q.120	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Vijaynagara is the natural basin formed by the river Tungabhadra which flows by it.</li> <li>- A number of streams flow down to the river from the adjacent granite hills.</li> <li>- Embankments were built along these streams to create reservoirs of varying sizes.</li> <li>- As this is one of the most arid zones of the peninsula, huge tanks had to be built to store rainwater and carry it to the city.</li> <li>- A sophisticated system of canal was also built that helped in carrying the water from the tank to different locations.</li> <li>- A dam was also built across Tungabhadra whose water helped in the irrigation of the agricultural fields.</li> </ul> <p>(to be evaluated as whole)</p>	6
Q.121	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Mahanavami dibba</i> is a massive platform which also makes it the highest point in the city.</li> <li>- The base of the platform is covered with relief carvings and there is evidence that it supported a wooden structure.</li> <li>- Rituals associated with the structure probably coincided with Mahanavami. The Vijayanagara kings displayed their prestige, power and domain on this occasion.</li> <li>- It remains a question if ceremonies of this scale could be accommodated on this platform.</li> </ul>	4
Q.122	<p>a)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- new features included structures of immense scale best exemplified by the raya gopurams</li> <li>- mandapas or pavilions and long, pillared corridors that often ran around the shrines within the temple complex were built during the Vijayanagara empire</li> <li>- hall in front of the main shrine at the Virupaksha temple, with delicately carved pillars, built by Krishnadeva Raya to mark his accession</li> </ul> <p>b) The raya gopuras served as reminders of the power of kings, able to command the resources, techniques and skills needed to construct these towering gateways.</p>	4
Q.123	- Hinduism	5

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- worship of gods and goddesses like Pampadevi, Ram, Virupaksha etc.</li><li>- script followed was mainly Sanskrit and other languages like Telugu, Kannada and Tamil.</li><li>- architecture of sacred places- temples, gopurams and mandapas found in Hampi, Brihadishvara temple at Thanjavur and the Chennakeshava temple at Belur and many more</li><li>- the 'Mahanavami Dibba' - carvings on this platform hint us about the major festivals celebrated in Hampi which were Ramnavami and Navratri.</li></ul> <p>(Any other relevant point)</p>	
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**CBSE**



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