

VEDIC PERIOD BASED INDIAN HISTORY MCQ PRACTICE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS PDF WITH EXPLANATION

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Q1. The head of which of the following was supposed to be known as ganapati or jyeshtha?

- a) Tribe
- b) Tribal republic
- c) Sabha
- d) Family

Q2. The standard unit of value, used as medium of exchange during the Vedic period, was :

- a) Pana
- b) Both (d) and (c)
- c) Necklet of gold (niska)
- d) Cow

Q3. Match list 'A' with list 'B' and choose the correct answer from the codes given below :

List 'A'	List 'B'
A. Hotri	1. Atharvaveda
B. Udgatri	2. Rigveda
C. Adhvaryu	3. Samaveda
D. Brahmana	4. Yajurveda

Codes: A B C D

- a) 2 3 4 1
- b) 1 2 4 3

c) 2 3 1 4

d) 1 3 4 2

Q4. Pravahana Jaivali was a popular king of

a) Kasi

b) Videha

c) Panchalas

d) Kurus

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Q5. In which type of marriage, payment of bride-price was a condition?

a) Brahma

b) Daiva

c) Gandharva

d) Asura

Q6. Fire (Agni) was essential to the Vedic religious world because it had tremendous power. It –

1. Transforms the physical, material goods offered into “food” for the gods.
2. Purifies the offerings made to the gods.
3. Represents both creative and destructive energy.
4. Is the very basis of human domestic life (without heat and cooking, there can be no life).

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

a) 2, 3, and 4

b) 1, 2, and 3

c) 1, 2, 3 and 4

d) 1, 3, and 4

Q7. The word Gotra occurs for the first time in :

- a) Yajurveda
 - b) Atharveda
 - c) Samveda
 - d) Rigveda
-

Q8. The “Dharma” and “Rita” depict a central idea of ancient Vedic civilization of India. In this context, consider the following statements :

1. Dharma was a conception of obligations and of the discharge of one’s duties to oneself and to others.
2. Rita was the fundamental moral law governing the functioning of the universe and all it contained.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 2 only
 - b) Both 1 and 2
 - c) Neither 1 nor 2
 - d) 1 only
-

Q9. In Rigveda, maximum number of shlokas are written in the memory of :

- a) Vishnu
 - b) Shiva
 - c) Brahma
 - d) Indra
-

Q10. The expounder of Yoga philosophy was :

- a) Jaimini
 - b) Gautam
 - c) Shankaracharya
 - d) Patanjali
-

Q11. The 'Wedding Hymn' describing the oldest marriage ritual is found in the

- a) Yajurveda
- b) Samveda
- c) Grihyasutras
- d) Rigveda

Q12. Match the rivers of List-I with their Vedic names given in List-II and select the correct answer from the codes given below:

List I	List II
A. Sutlej	1. Vipasha
B. Beas	2. Sutudari
C. Ravi	3. Asikini
D. Chenab	4. Parushni

Codes: A B C D

- a) 1 2 3 4
- b) 1 4 3 2
- c) 4 3 2 1
- d) 2 1 4 3

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Q13. Which of the following statements about the administrative system of the Early Vedic period is not correct?

- a) Gramani was the head of the village only for civic purposes
- b) Forts and strongholds were under purapati
- c) To provide organization in society
- d) The king was assisted by a number of functionaries of whom the two most important were purohita and the senani

Q14. Which one among the following is not true with regard to Rig Veda Samhita?

- a) There is a reference to dasarajna (battle of ten kings) in the Rig Veda
- b) It is mentioned in the Rig Veda that the Bharata chief Sudas fought against a confederacy of ten tribes
- c) Purus sided with Bharata in the battle of ten kings
- d) There are about 300 non-Indo- European words in Rig Veda

Q15. Which of the following statements are correct with regard to the Rig Vedic society?

- 1. The vis or clan was the basic unit of the Rigvedic society.
- 2. The family was patriarchal in nature.
- 3. Monogamy was the usual norm of marriage but polygamy was also practised.
- 4. Marriages took place after attaining maturity.

Select the answer from the codes given below-

- a) 2, 3, and 4
- b) 1, 2, and 3
- c) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- d) 1, 3, and 4

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Answers to the above questions :

Q1. Answer: (b)

Q2. Answer: (b)

The Vedic period shows that the vedic people used cows as a medium of exchange. Niska and hiranyapinda, perhaps, were two types of metallic medium of exchange prevalent in Vedic India. Rigvedic niskas and hiranyapindas, in this period, stood as a link between the money and currency stages of the development of the economy.

Q3. Answer: (a)

Vedic (Shrauta) yajnas are typically performed by four Vedic priests, the hota, the adhvaryu, the udgata and the brahman.

The Hotar, (priest), recites invocations and litanies drawn from the Rigveda. The adhvaryu is the priest's assistant and is in charge of the physical details of the ritual like measuring the ground, building the altar etc. mentioned in the Yajurveda.

The udgatar is the chanter of hymns set to melodies (saman) drawn from the Samaveda.

The brahman is the superintendent of the entire performance and is responsible for correcting mistakes by means of supplementary

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Q4. Answer: (c)

One important development during the later Vedic period is the growth of large kingdoms.

Kuru and Panchala kingdoms flourished in the beginning. Parikshat and Janamejaya were the famous rulers of Kuru kingdom. Pravahana Jaivali was a popular king of the Panchalas. He was a patron of learning.

After the fall of Kurus and Panchalas, other kingdoms like Kosala, Kasi and Videha came into prominence. The famous ruler of Kasi was Ajatasatru. Janaka was the king of Videha with its capital at Mithila. His court was adorned by scholar Yajnavalkya.

Magadha, Anga and Vanga seem to be the easternmost tribal kingdoms.

Q5. Answer: (d)

Q6. Answer: (c)

The hymns of the Vedas were chiefly composed for chanting at sacrifices, where animals, grains, milk, and clarified butter (ghee) were offered to the gods.

On the most basic level, the sacrifice was conceived of as a meal offered to the devas by the humans. The medium of these offerings was fire or Agni - both in an earthly sense (the word "Agni" is related to the English word "ignite") and in a divine sense (Agni was considered the god of fire).

Thus Agni was one of the most prominent gods in all of the Vedas, the messenger between the human and the divine realm, the transporter of the dead, and, in some verses, the embodiment of all gods. Furthermore, Agni was sometimes conceived of as heat, or tapas, which was also the purifying ascetic energy necessary for the proper performance of the ritual; the priests would prepare themselves for the ritual by generating tapas—created through various purification rituals and intense meditation— that burned off their spiritual impurities.

Q7. Answer: (d)

The Gotra classification came into existence probably during the Rigvedic period. The concept of Gotra was first attempted among Brahmins to classify themselves among different groups. In present days, marriage is not allowed within the same Gotra in order to avoid impure matrimony. This thinking is in tune with the modern day genetic paradigms of hybrid vigour.

Q8. Answer: (b)

Q9. Answer: (d)

Maximum number of Shlokas in Rigveda are written in the memory of Indra. Indra was the most popular God in Vedic period.

Q10. Answer: (d)

The ancient Sage Patanjali was an expounder of the Yoga Sutras one of the most important text of yoga covering all aspects of life. Patanjali's Yoga Sutras describe the working of the mind and emotions.

Q11. Answer: (b)

Q12. Answer: (d)

Q13. Answer: (a)

Q14. Answer: (d)

Q15. Answer: (d)

The family was the basic unit of the Rigvedic society. The family was part of a larger grouping called vis or clan. One or more than one clans made Jana or tribe. The Jana was the largest social unit.

All the members of a clan were related to each other by blood relation. The membership of a tribe was based on birth and not on residence in a certain area.

Thus the members of the Bharata tribe were known as the Bharatas. It did not imply any territory. The Rigvedic society was a simple and largely an egalitarian society. There was no caste division.

The occupation was not based on birth. Members of a family could adopt different occupations.

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