

MAURYA & POST MAURYAN PERIOD BASED INDIAN HISTORY MCQ PRACTICE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS PDF WITH EXPLANATION

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Q1. Which of the following is known as the Turning of the Wheel of Law (Dharma-Chakrapravartana)?

- a) The continuous existence of human beings like the wheel of causes and effects
 - b) The first sermon preached by the Buddha at the Deer Park at Sarnath
 - c) The extinction of karma leading to the achievement of nirvana
 - d) The practice of setting the wheel in motion everyday in the morning in the sanghas
-

Q2. The majority of the Buddhist vases in India are found in Western Maharashtra because:

- a) Many of the royal dynasties of Western India were patrons of Buddhism
 - b) The Sahyadri mountain in western Maharashtra with its hard trap was best suited for rock-cut architecture
 - c) The caves in this region provided a safe sanctuary away from foreign invaders
 - d) There was a long-standing tradition in this region of royal patronage to rock-cut architecture
-

Q3. Which Chinese general defeated Kanishka?

- a) Ho Ti
 - b) Pan Chao
 - c) Pan Yang
 - d) Chi Huang Ti
-

Q4. Pushyamitra Sunga, who killed the last Mauryan ruler Brihadratha and founded the Sunga dynasty, was a:

- a) Feudatory ruler
- b) Prime Minister of the Mauryas
- c) Both (a) and (b) above
- d) General of the Mauryas

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Q5. At which among the following places, Chandragupta Maurya spent his last days?

- a) Kashi
- b) Nalanda
- c) Shravana Belgola
- d) Ujjain

Q6. Which of the following was a measure adopted by the later Mauryas to meet the needs of a depleted treasury?

- a) Increase of exports
- b) Increase in taxes
- c) debasement of currency
- d) Imposition of new taxes

Q7. Four major provinces of the Mauryan empire were the Northern, Eastern, Western and Southern provinces, each under the vice-royalty of a prince or a member of the royal family. Which of the following provincial capitals of the Mauryan empire was the capital of the Northern province?

- a) Taxila
- b) Suvarnagiri

- c) Ujjain
 - d) Tosali
-

Q8. Consider the following statements:

1. Pushyamitra Sunga was a staunch follower of Buddhism.
2. During the reign of Pushyamitra Sunga, the Buddhist monuments at Bharhut and Sanchi were renovated and further improved.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 both
 - b) 2 only
 - c) 1 only
 - d) None
-

Q9. One of the strongest arguments in support of the view that Ashoka's dhamma was not a religious policy but a secular concept is the:

- a) Stress on the maintenance of concord with all sects
 - b) Appointment of dhamma-mahamattas
 - c) Stress laid on the importance of the family
 - d) Emphasis laid by him on respect for the elders
-

Q10. Who were the beneficiaries of Ashoka's donations in the region of Barabar Hill?

- a) Svetambar
 - b) Buddhists
 - c) Ajivikas
 - d) Digambar
-

Q11. Which was the currency in circulation during the Maurya period?

- a) Kakini

- b) Pana
 - c) Tola
 - d) Dinar
-

Q12. The superintendent of weights and measures in the Mauryan administration was

- a) Shulkadhyaksha
- b) Samsthadhyaksha
- c) Lavanadhyaksha
- d) Pautuvadhyaksha

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Q13. Turamaya mentioned in the inscriptions of Ashoka was his contemporary king of

- a) Macedonia
 - b) Afghanistan
 - c) Egypt
 - d) Syria
-

Q14. Who was the writer of Mudrarakshasa?

- a) Vishnugupta
 - b) Kautilya
 - c) Pushyagupta
 - d) Vishakhdatta
-

Q15. Which among the following was the first investigated pillar of Ashoka?

- a) Sarnath
- b) Delhi Meerut Pillar
- c) Dhauri
- d) Barabar cave

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Answers to the above questions :

Q1. Answer: (b)

Q2. Answer: (b)

Q3. Answer: (b)

Chinese annals tell the story of a Kushana king who was defeated by the General Pan Chao, towards the end of the first century AD.

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Q4. Answer: (d)

Q5. Answer: (c)

Chandragupta Maurya was the founder of the Maurya Empire.

During his last days, Chandragupta Maurya accepted Jainism and spent his last days at Shravanabelagola with Bhadrabahu.

Many scholars have taken Rice's deduction of Chandragupta Maurya retiring and dying in Shravanabelagola as the working hypothesis since no alternate historical information or evidence is available about Chandragupta's final years and death.

Q6. Answer: (a)

Q7. Answer: (a)

Q8. Answer: (b)

Pushyamitra was a staunch follower of Brahmanism. He performed two asvamedha sacrifices. Buddhist sources refer to him as a persecutor of Buddhism. But there is enough evidence to show that Pushyamitra patronised Buddhist art.

During his reign, the Buddhist monuments at Bharhut and Sanchi were renovated and further improved. In the cultural sphere, he revived Brahmanism and horse sacrifice.

He also promoted the growth of Vaishnavism and the Sanskrit language. In short, his rule was brilliant anticipation of the golden age of the Guptas.

Q9. Answer: (b)

Q10. Answer: (c)

The edicts of Ashoka are a collection of 33 inscriptions on the Pillars of Ashoka. One of the edicts of Asoka's Barbara cave inscription mentions the donation of Barbara hills region to Ajivika sect.

Q11. Answer: (b)

Mauryas' India had evolved its own monetary system based on indigenous standards. In the Arthasashtra, the silver pana with its sub-divisions is evidently recognized as the standard coin, while the copper mashaka with its divisions ranks as a token currency.

Q12. Answer: (d)

Q13. Answer: (c)

In his thirteenth inscription, Ashoka mentions five Greek contemporary kings. Turamaya has been identified with the contemporary ruler of Egypt up to 247 BC.

Q14. Answer: (d)

The Mudrarakshasa is a historical play in Sanskrit by Vishakhadatta that narrates the ascent of the king Chandragupta Maurya to power in India.

Q15. Answer: (b)

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