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

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Q1. Which of the following was not the result of the Kalinga War?

a) The strength of the Mauryan army was curtailed

b) The number of casualties of combatants and noncombatants is stated to have been around four lakhs

c) He wages no wars after the Kalinga War

d) The cruel consequences of war revolutionized the personality and public policies of Ashoka

Q2. Which of the following statements are correct?

- 1. The Jain text, Parisistha Parvam, describes that with the help of Chanakya, Chandragupta defeated the Nanda king and captured him.
- 2. Chandra Gupta defeated the invading army of the Greek Kshatrapa Seleucus who had succeeded Alexander in the eastern part of his empire.
- 3. The Junagarh rock inscription of Rudradaman says that a dam on the Sudarshana lake for irrigation was constructed by Pushyagupta, ⋅a provincial governor of Chandragupta Maurya.
- 4. Seleucus sent Megasthenese as his ambassador to the court of Chandragupta.

Select the answer from the codes given below:

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

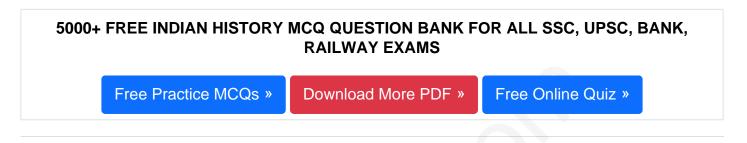
Q3. The practice of land grants to brahmins and Buddhist was initiated by

- a) Vakatakas
- b) Sungas
- c) Satavahanas

Q4. The lowest order in the social scale of Mauryan society was not a slave but the outcaste. Which of the following statements about the outcastes is not correct?

a) They were not allowed to perform any rituals

- b) Their caste names referred directly to their profession or work
- c) They lived together with their families outside the towns
- d) They accepted the position of social ostracism



- Q5. From which of the following months did the Mauryan fiscal year use to begin?
- a) Pausa-Magha (January-February)
- b) Phalgun (March)
- c) Jyestha (June)
- d) Asadha (July)

Q6. Given below are two statements and select the correct answer from the codes given below–

- Assertion (A): The society during Satavahana period was divided into four castes on the basis of profession.
- Reason (R): They wanted a progressive society free from many narrow attitudes.

In the context of the above two statements, which one of the following is correct? a) Both A and R are true, but R is not correct explanation of A

- b) A is true, but R is false
- c) A is false, but R is true
- d) Both A and R are true, R is the correct explanation of A

Q7. Chanakya, the famous teacher of Chandragupta Maurya, was associated with

- a) Takshashila
- b) Nalanda
- c) Vaishali
- d) Vikramshila

Q8. The edicts of Ashoka which reveal his inner sorrow on account of war and violence are:

- a) Mansehra and Girnar
- b) Dhauli and Jaugada
- c) Maski and Bhabra
- d) Shahbazgarhi and Sopara

Q9. Which of the following was not one of the reasons for gradual weakening of the Mauryan finances?

- a) The strain on the exchequer of Ashoka's charitable public works
- b) Need for vast revenues to maintain a huge but inactive army
- c) Unfavourable balance of trade with foreign countries
- d) Need for finances to maintain a very large bureaucracy

Q10. The Arthashastra of Kautilya is a

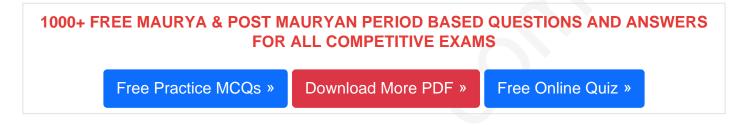
- a) History of Chandragupta Maurya
- b) Play about Chandragupta Maurya
- c) Biography
- d) Book on principles of Government

Q11. What was the function of Samaharta in Mauryan Administration?

- a) Delivering Justice
- b) To Collect Revenue
- c) Leadership of Army
- d) To Work as a Judge

Q12. Gondophernes belonged to

- a) The Kushana dynasty
- b) The Saka dynasty
- c) The Satavahan dynasty
- d) The Parthian dynasty



Q13. According to which of the following sources is Ashoka said to have built the city of Srinagar?

- a) Kalhana's Rajatarangini
- b) Buddhist tradition
- c) Tibetan tradition
- d) Jain tradition

Q14. Towards health care, the most important measures taken by Ashoka was/were:

- a) He opened dispensaries for the treatment of both human beings and animals
- b) He got the herbs and plants, needed for medical purposes, cultivated
- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) He made arrangements for safe drinking water in the whole of his empire

Q15. Which of the Mauryan kings wanted a Sophist from Greece to his court?

- a) Ashoka
- b) Chandragupta Maurya
- c) Bindusara
- d) Kunal

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Answers to the above questions :

Q1. Answer: (a)

Q2. Answer: (d)

The victory over Seleucus was achieved in about 305 B.C. The Greek writers do not give details of the war but state that a treaty was concluded in which Seleucus conceded the territories of Kandahar, Kabul, Herat and Baluchistan and Chandragupta presented him 500 elephants.

It is also stated that this also led to the matrimonial alliance between the two – perhaps Seleucus married his daughter to Chandragupta Maurya or to his son Bindusara.

Q3. Answer: (c)

The beginning of the practice of land grants with fiscal and administrative immunities to Brahmins and Buddhist monks was made by the Satavahanas.

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Q4. Answer: (a)

Q5. Answer: (d)

Q6. Answer: (b)

The society during the Satavahana period retained much of its earlier flexibility. Divided into four main classes the social condition during the Satavahanas was then rather contemporary.

The whole society was divided into four main classes, as for example maharathis, mahabhojas and mahasenapatis belonged to the first class and that was the highest class in the society. The Samantas also belonged to this class. Mahabhojas belonged to north konkar whereas maharastis belonged to the western ghats.

The second class comprised of the officials as well as non officials. Amathas, mahamatias and chandrikas were the officials which formed this class. Among the non-officials were the naigama or merchant, the sarthvaha or the head of a carvan of traders and the stresthin

i.e. head of the trade guide, lekhaka or scribe, vaidya or physician, halakiya or cultivator, suvarnkara or goldsmith and gandhika or druggist etc.

formed the third class. Lastly, the fourth class was comprised of the vardnika or carpenter, malakara or the gardener, lohavanija or blacksmith and dasaka or fisherman.

Q7. Answer: (a)

Chanakya was a famous Indian teacher, who taught in Takshashila, an ancient Indian university. Later, he became royal advisor to the Maurya empire and helped the mighty ruler Chandragupta Maurya to establish the Maurya empire by defeating the Nanda empire.

Q8. Answer: (b)

Q9. Answer: (c)

Q10. Answer: (d)

The Arthashastra is an ancient Indian treatise on statecraft, economic policy and military strategy which identifies its author by the names 'Kautilya' and 'Vishnugupta', both names that are traditionally identified with Chanakya. The book, written in Sanskrit, discusses theories and principles of governing a state.

Q11. Answer: (b)

Q12. Answer: (d)

Gondophares was representative of the House of Suren in Balochistan as well as founder and first king of the Indo-Parthian Kingdom and dynasty. Q14. Answer: (c)

Q15. Answer: (c)

Bindusara conquered some of the parts of southern peninsula. He also maintained contact with his Greek counterparts. He asked the Greek kings to send a Sophist to his court.

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