

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

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Q1. Which of the following statements are correct regarding the architecture of Pallava?

1. The Pallavas introduced the art of excavating temples from the rock.
2. Mahendravarman I introduced the rock-cut temples.
3. The five rathas, popularly called as the Panchapanadava rathas, signifies five different styles of temple architecture.

Select the answer from the codes given below:

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

Q2. In the courtyard of the Quwwat-ul-Islam mosque of Delhi, stands the famous iron pillar in the memory of

- a) Chandragupta Maurya
 - b) Chandragupta I
 - c) Chandragupta II
 - d) Ashoka
-

Q3. The silver coins issued by the Guptas were called

- a) Karshapana
 - b) Dinara
 - c) Pana
 - d) Rupaka
-

Q4. Match list 'A' with the list 'B' and choose the correct answer from the codes given below :

List 'A'	List 'B'
A. Kumaramatyā	1. Minister of peace and war
B. Sandhivigrahika	2. The provincial governor
C. Uparika	3. The chief cadre for recruiting high functionaries
D. Akshapatal	4. Scribe adhikrita
E. Divira	5. Accountant
F. Audrangika	6. The official who collected the royal share in kind

Codes: A B C D E F

a) 3 1 5 4 6 2

b) 2 1 5 4 6 3

c) 5 4 3 2 6 1

d) 3 1 2 5 4 6

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Q5. Balaiyankutai in the pallava age was the name of

a) A Goddess

b) A pond or tank

c) A temple

d) A scholar

Q6. During the period of which of the following was 'Panchtantra' written?

a) Mauryas

b) Nandas

c) Sungas

d) Guptas

Q7. Which among the following sources describe Harsha's war with Pulakesin II.

1. Harshacharita of Banabhatta
2. Banskhedra inscription of Harsha
3. Aihole inscription of Pulakesin II
4. Travels of Yuan Chwang

Select the correct answer from the codes given below codes:

a) 2 and 3

b) 1, 2 and 3

c) 1 and 2

d) 3 and 4

Q8. Match list 'A' with the list 'B' and choose the correct answer from the codes given below :

List-A	List-B
A. Vatapikonda	1. Parameshvara- varman I
B. Ugradanda	2. Nandivarman III
C. Avanivarnam	3. Aparajita
D. Rajamartanda	4. Narasimha- varman I

Codes: A B C D

a) 4 3 2 1

b) 3 4 2 1

c) 1 2 3 4

d) 4 1 2 3

Q9. The royal emblem used by the Gupta period was

a) Varaha

b) Garuda

c) Bull

d) Lakshmi

Q10. Which of the following statements is not correct with regard to the art and architecture during Gupta period?

- a) The gigantic copper statue of Buddha, originally found at Sultanganj now kept at Birmingham museum.
 - b) The Buddha statue unearthed at Saranath was unique piece of Gupta art.
 - c) The Bhitari monolithic pillar is of Kumargupta.
 - d) The beautiful statue of standing Buddha at Mathura reveals a little Greek style.
-

Q11. The concept of Trimurti was promulgated during the

- a) Post-Mauryan period
 - b) Gupta period
 - c) Post-Gupta period
 - d) Mauryan period
-

Q12. Who was the court poet of Samudragupta?

- a) Aryabhatta
 - b) Nagarjuna
 - c) Harisena
 - d) Virasena
-

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Q13. Which Gupta ruler repaired the Sudarshana lake constructed by Chandragupta Maurya?

- a) Samudragupta

- b) Kumaragupta I
 - c) Sakandagupta
 - d) Bhangupta
-

Q14. The Pallava king who was defeated by Samudra Gupta?

- a) Vishnugopa
 - b) Simhavishnu
 - c) Simhavarma
 - d) Karikala
-

Q15. The travel account of Fa hien is known as

- a) Yen-tu
 - b) Fo-kwo-ki
 - c) Fa-chien
 - d) Si-yu-ki
-

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Answers to the above questions :

Q1. Answer: (a)

Pallava period was a great age of temple building. The Pallavas introduced the art of excavating temples from the rock. In fact, the Dravidian style of temple architecture began with the Pallava rule. It was a gradual evolution starting from the cave temples to monolithic rathas and culminated in structural temples.

The development of temple architecture under the Pallavas can be seen in four stages. Mahendravarman I introduced the rock-cut temples. This style of Pallava temples is seen at places like Mandagappattu, Mahendravadi, Mamandur, Dalavanur, Tiruchirappalli, Vallam, Siyamangalam and Tirukalukkuram.

The second stage of Pallava architecture is represented by the monolithic rathas and Mandapas found at Mamallapuram. Narasimhavarman I took the credit for these wonderful

architectural monuments.

Q2. Answer: (c)

In the courtyard of the Quwat-ul-Islam mosque of Delhi stands the famous Iron pillar in the memory of Chandragupta II. The height of the pillar, from the top of its capital to the bottom of its base, is 7.21 m (23.7 ft), 1.12 m (3 ft 8 in) of which is below ground.

Its bell pattern capital is 1.07 m (3 ft 6 in) in height and its bulb-shaped base is 0.71 m (2 ft 4 in) high. The base rests on a grid of iron bars soldered with lead into the upper layer of the dressed stone pavement.

The pillar's lower diameter is 420 mm (17 in), and its upper diameter 306 mm (12.0 in). It is estimated to weigh more than six tons.

Q3. Answer: (d)

The silver coins issued by the Guptas were called Rupaka. The silver coin was called Rupaka based on Sakas of Ujjaini weighing 32–36 grains.

According to Fa Hien, cowries were very common means of exchange. In Delhi Sultanate, gold coins were called Tanka which was equivalent to the Greek Drachm standard of 67 grains. The silver coins were called Drama.

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Q4. Answer: (d)

The Kumaramatyas were the high officers and the personal staff of the emperor and were appointed by the king in the home provinces and possibly paid in cash. Recruitment was not confined to the upper varnas only and several offices came to be combined in the hands of the same person, and posts became hereditary.

A high ranking official heard for the first time in the Gupta records was the Sandhivigrahika (the foreign minister). The provinces or divisions called bhuktis were governed by Uparikas directly appointed by the kings. The province was often divided into districts known as Vishayas which were ruled by Kumaramatyas, Ayuktas or Vishayapatis.

His appointment was made by the provincial governors. Land revenue was the main source of the state's income besides the fines. In Samudragupta's time, we hear of an officer Gopasramin working as Akshapataladhikrita whose duty was to enter numerous matters in the accounts registers, recover royal dues, to check embezzlement and recover fines.

Q5. Answer: (b)

Balaiyankutai in the Pallava age was the name of a pond or tank. Majority of the irrigation tanks were built from the 6th to the 10th centuries of our era during the dynasty of the Pallavas.

One will understand the importance of these systems of irrigation by noting that about one-third of the surface area of the state is actually irrigated by these omnipresent tanks (about 40,000 such tanks), the two-thirds of water needs come from the exploitation of groundwater.

Q6. Answer: (d)

Q7. Answer: (d)

The authentic sources are Aihole inscription of Pulakesin II and Travels of Yuan Chwang. Ravikirti, the poet, was the panegyric writer of the Aihole inscription of 634 AD. He says that Harsha to whom "hosts of feudatories" offered their homage "through Pulakesin II had his joy (Harsha) melted away by fear, with his rows of lordly elephants fallen in battle.

"This inscription also indicates that the battle was fought somewhere between the Vindhya and the Rewa (Narmada).

Yuan Chang, Yuan Chwang, and Yuen Chwang are other names of Huentasangwas a Chinese Buddhist monk, scholar, traveller, and translator who described the interaction between China and India in the early Tang dynasty.

Born in what is now Henan province in 602, from boyhood he took to reading religious books, including the Chinese classics and the writings of ancient sages.

Q8. Answer: (d)

Q9. Answer: (b)

The royal emblem used by the Gupta period was Garuda. Most people now realize that Rapson was mistaken in identifying the central bird like a peacock; rather, it is the mythic eagle Garuda, the dynastic symbol of the Guptas.

For example, A.S. Altekar says that the three-arched hill in the centre is replaced by Garuda, which was the imperial insignia of the Guptas. The view of earlier writers that the bird is a peacock is clearly untenable.

Q10. Answer: (c)

The temple at Deogarh near Jhansi and the sculptures in the temple at Garhwas near Allahabad remain important specimen of the Gupta art. There was no influence of Gandhara style.

But the beautiful statue of standing Buddha at Mathura reveals a little Greek style. The Buddha statue unearthed at Saranath was a unique piece of Gupta art. The Bhitari monolithic pillar of Skandagupta is also remarkable. Metallurgy had also made wonderful progress during the Gupta period.

The craftsmen were efficient in the art of casting metal statues and pillars. The gigantic copper statue of Buddha, originally found at Sultanganj now kept at Birmingham museum, was about seven and a half feet height and nearly a ton weight.

The Delhi Iron pillar of the Gupta period is still free from rust though completely exposed to sun and rain for so many centuries.

Q11. Answer: (b)

The concept of Trimurti was propagated during the Gupta period. Trimurti is a Hinduism concept in which the functions of creation, preservation and destruction are personified. They are embodied by the forms of the creator, Brahma, preserver, Vishnu and the destroyer known as Shiva.

Q12. Answer: (c)

Q13. Answer: (c)

Q14. Answer: (a)

Q15. Answer: (b)

The travel account of Fa-Hien is known as Fokwo-ki. Fa-Hien was the first Chinese monk to travel to India in search of great Buddhist scriptures.

At the age of sixty-five, he travelled, mostly on foot, from Central China taking the southern route through Shenshen, Dunhuang, Khotan, and then over the Himalayas, to Gandhara and Peshawar.

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