

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

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**Q1.** In which of the following respect do the Ashokan epigraphs not help us to draw historical inferences?

- a) In delineating the boundary of the Mauryan empire
  - b) In deriving conclusions regarding his relations with the members of his family
  - c) In inferring Ashoka's relations with his border countries
  - d) In inferring the impact of Kalinga War on the noncombatants
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**Q2.** Which dynasty ruled over India after Shunga dynasty?

- a) Kushana
  - b) Gupta
  - c) Satvahana
  - d) Kanva
- 

**Q3.** The Allahabad Pillar inscription is associated with which one of the following?

- a) Mahapadma Nanda
  - b) Samudragupta
  - c) Chandragupta Maurya
  - d) Ashoka
- 

**Q4.** Which of the following steps was not taken by Ashoka to promote and patronise Buddhism?

- a) He erected a commemorative pillar at the place where the Buddha was said to have been born

- b) He took a great deal of personal interest in the welfare of the monks and the nuns
- c) Lumbini was made free of religious cess and revenue was reduced to only one-eighth share (of the produce)
- d) He got thousands of dissenter monks expelled from the Ashokarama monastery

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**Q5.** The Buddhist Council which took place during the period of Ashoka was

- a) IV Buddhist Council
- b) III Buddhist Council
- c) I Buddhist Council
- d) II Buddhist Council

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**Q6.** The currency that was in circulation during the period of Mauryas was

- a) Pana
- b) Tanka
- c) Dam
- d) Rupee

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**Q7.** Which one of the following chronological orders of the given dynasties of India is correct ?

- a) Maurya-Nanda-Kanva-Sunga
  - b) Maurya-Nanda-Sunga-Kanva
  - c) Nanda-Maurya-Sunga-Kanva
  - d) Nanda-Maurya-Kanva-Sunga
-

**Q8.** In spite of his conversion to Buddhism and the concept of dhamma-vijaya, Ashoka was not a total pacifist. Which of the following does not confirm this view?

- a) He felt sorry for the suffering caused by Kalinga War, but did not give up the conquered territory
  - b) He did not abolish capital punishment and granted only a brief reprieve to the condemned prisoners
  - c) After the conquest of Kalinga, Ashoka consolidated his southern conquests
  - d) In dealing with the troublesome forest tribes he clearly recognized the possibility of the use of force
- 

**Q9.** Which one of the following IndoGreek rulers issued lead coins?

- a) Strato-I
  - b) Menander
  - c) Strato-II
  - d) Demetrius
- 

**Q10.** Buddha is depicted on the coins of

- a) Kanishka
  - b) Budhagupta
  - c) Vima Kadphises
  - d) Nahpaad
- 

**Q11.** Who was the First Britisher to study Ashoka's edicts?

- a) Harry Smith
  - b) James Prinsep
  - c) John Tower
  - d) Charles Metcalfe
- 

**Q12.** What were the impacts of Kautilya's Arthashastra in Mauryan empire ?

1. The Arthashastra provided the state management of large scale trade and industry and exercise of effective control over every occupation.
2. It laid emphasis on education and moral training to the future king.
3. The Arthashastra maintained the state council to formulate the policy of the state

Which of the above statements is/are correct.

- a) 1 only
- b) All of them
- c) 2 only
- d) 3 only

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**Q13.** Who among the following performed Asvamedha sacrifice?

- Pushyamitra sunga
- Samudragupta
- Pravarsena I
- Pulakesin I

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

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

**Q14.** Which among the following materials were used for minting coins during the rule of the Mauryas?

- a) Gold and Silver
- b) Gold and Copper
- c) Silver and Copper
- d) Copper and Bronze

**Q15.** Which of the following was not one of the reasons why the conquest of Kalinga was of strategic and economic importance to the Mauryan empire?

- a) It stood in the way of the southern routes from the Ganges valley
- b) It provided congruity to the Mauryan territories of Andhra and Bengal
- c) It was also a powerful maritime state and, therefore a convenient source of income
- d) Its rich and fertile land could contribute to the economic prosperity of the empire

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**Answers to the above questions :**

**Q1. Answer: (b)**

**Q2. Answer: (d)**

**Q3. Answer: (b)**

It was written by Samudragupta's court poet Harisena.

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**Q4. Answer: (b)**

**Q5. Answer: (b)**

**Q6. Answer: (a)**

**Q7. Answer: (c)**

Ruling period of given dynasties is as follows :

1. Nanda (344 BC-323 BC);
2. Maurya (323 BC-184 BC);
3. Sunga (184 BC- 75 BC) and
4. Kanva (75 BC-30BC)

**Q8. Answer: (c)**

**Q9. Answer: (c)**

**Q10. Answer: (a)**

**Q11. Answer: (b)**

**Q12. Answer: (b)**

**Q13. Answer: (b)**

Pusyamitra Sunga is said to have performed the Ashvamedha rite after he toppled Mauryan rule in 185 BC. A historically documented performance of the Ashvamedha is during the reign of Samudragupta I (died 380), the father of Chandragupta II.

Special coins were minted to commemorate the Ashvamedha and the king took on the title of Maharajadhiraja after successful completion of the sacrifice. Vakataka Dynasty 3rd (Century - 5th Century AD) was founded by Vindhyashakti.

Pravarasena I was the real founder of Vakataka empire. He performed four Asvamedha Yajnas.

Pulakesin I was a monarch from the Chalukya dynasty in the western Deccan region. Pulakesin performed sacrifices like Asvamedha, Hiranyagarbha, Agnistoma, Vajapeya, Bahusuvarna, and Paundarika. These details are provided by his Badami Cliff inscription dated Saka 565 (543 CE).

**Q14. Answer: (c)**

During the rule of Maurya Dynasty Silver and Copper were used for minting coins.

**Q15. Answer: (d)**

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