

**Class XI Session 2025-26**  
**Subject - History**  
**Sample Question Paper - 1**

**Time Allowed: 3 hours**

**Maximum Marks: 80**

### General Instructions:

1. Question paper comprises five Sections – A, B, C, D and E. There are 34 questions in the question paper. All questions are compulsory.
2. Section A – Question 1 to 21 are MCQs of 1 mark each.
3. Section B – Question no. 22 to 27 are Short Answer Type Questions, carrying 3 marks each. Answer to each question should not exceed 60-80 words.
4. Section C - Question no 28 to 30 are Long Answer Type Questions, carrying 8 marks each. Answer to each question should not exceed 300-350 words.
5. Section D – Question no.31 to 33 are Source based questions with three sub questions and are of 4 marks each.
6. Section-E - Question no. 34 is Map based, carrying 5 marks that includes the identification and location of significant test items. Attach the map with the answer book.
7. There is no overall choice in the question paper. However, an internal choice has been provided in few questions. Only one of the choices in such questions have to be attempted.
8. In addition to this, separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary.

## Section A

- Which is the main crop of Japan? **[1]**
  - Wheat
  - Rice
  - Both Rice and Wheat
  - Maize
- Mesopotamian society was consist of \_\_\_\_\_. **[1]**
  - No division of society
  - Number of classes
  - Three classes
  - Four classes
- When was cuneiform script deciphered? **[1]**
  - 1860s
  - 1850s
  - 1880s
  - 1950s
- Identify the given image from the following options: **[1]**



- a) Shops in Forum Julium, Rome
- b) The Colosseum, built in 79 CE, where gladiators fought wild beasts
- c) Amphitheatre at the Roman cantonment town of Vindonissa
- d) Pont du Gard, near Nimes, France, first century BCE

5. **Assertion (A):** The third century of the Roman empire was also called the **Early empire**. [1]

**Reason (R):** The Roman Empire can broadly be divided into two phases, **early** and **late**, divided by the third century as a sort of historical watershed between them.

- a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- c) A is true but R is false.
- d) A is false but R is true.

6. When was Temujin bestowed with the title of Genghis Khan? [1]

- a) 1199
- b) 1229
- c) 1206
- d) 1198

7. **Assertion (A):** Hundreds of tablets have been discovered in Mesopotamian sites. [1]

**Reason (R):** A separate writing tablet was required for each transaction.

- a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- c) A is true but R is false.
- d) A is false but R is true.

8. Identify the US Chief Justice with the help of following information [1]

- In 1832, he announced an important judgment.
- He said that the Cherokees were a distinct community, occupying its own territory in which the laws of Georgia had no force.

- a) John Marshall
- b) Karl Marx
- c) Andrew Carnegie
- d) Andrew Jackson

9. Cathedrals were [1]

- a) Monasteries
- b) Abbeys
- c) Benedictine monasteries
- d) Church

10. Consider the following statements and select the correct from the following option: [1]

- i. In the north-east of Iraq lie green, undulating plains
- ii. In the south of Iraq there is a stretch of upland called a steppe

iii. To the east of Iraq tributaries of the Tigris provide routes of communication into the mountains of Iran

- a) i, ii and iii

b) i and ii
- c) ii and iii

d) i and iii

11. Find out the correct chronological order from the following options:

[1]
- i. Portuguese mathematicians calculate latitude by observing the sun

ii. Leonardo da Vinci paints The Last Supper

iii. Columbus reaches America

iv. Gutenberg prints the Bible with movable type

- a) i, ii, iii, iv

b) iv, ii, i, iii
- c) iv, i, iii, ii

d) ii, iii, iv, i

12. Which country is called The Land of Rising Sun?

[1]
- a) Japan

b) England

c) Russia

d) China

13. Which among the following is Correctly matched?

[1]

List I	List II
(A) Gerhardus Mercator	Cylindrical map of the earth
(B) Pope Gregory XIII	Principia Mathematica
(C) Martin Luther	Gregorian calendar
(D) Thomas More	On Anatomy

- a) Option (B)

b) Option (A)
- c) Option (D)

d) Option (C)

14. Which of following tax is collected the directly by the church?

[1]
- a) Taille

b) Tithe

c) Fief

d) Manor

15. When was Meiji Constitution of 1889 replaced by a new constitution?

[1]
- a) 1905

b) 1943

c) 1911

d) 1947

16. When did Nero become the Roman emperor?

[1]
- a) 94 CE

b) 94 BCE

c) 54 CE

d) 54 BCE

17. Mongol rulers took keen interest in the region of \_\_\_\_\_.

[1]
- a) China

b) Korea

c) Japan

d) Southern India

18. **Assertion (A):** Peasants did not have enough money to set up watermills and windmills.

[1]
- Reason (R):** Some of the technological changes cost less money and the initiative was taken by the peasantry.

- a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.      b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- c) A is true but R is false.      d) A is false but R is true.

19. Michelangelo Buonarroti was a \_\_\_\_\_. [1]

- a) Sculptor      b) All of these
- c) Painter      d) Architect

20. Match the following and select the correct option [1]

List I	List II
1. Three Principles	A. National People's Party
2. Guomindang	B. Xiao shimin
3. Petty urbanites	C. Su shaozhi
4. Ossified dogmas	D. San min chui

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

21. \_\_\_\_\_ was the third President of the U.S.A. [1]

- a) Abraham Lincoln      b) George Washington
- c) Thomas Jefferson      d) George Bush

#### Section B

22. Which rules were followed by the monks living in the St. Benedict Monastery? [3]

OR

Describe the life of a craftsman in a medieval French town.

23. Briefly discuss the contribution of Martin Luther to the Reformation Movement. [3]

24. Describe the methods of the management of labour in the Roman Empire. [3]

25. What was the importance of Chinese Revolution of 1911? [3]

26. What is the importance of division of labour in urban life? [3]

27. Give brief description of making of seals in Mesopotamia and their importance. [3]

OR

Write about the town planning of the Mesopotamian cities.

#### Section C

28. Describe the religious beliefs of Mongols. [8]

OR

Discuss the role of civil administration in Mongol administration.

29. Discuss the causes of the decline of the Shoguns. [8]

OR

Describe Japan's progress as a world power from the last decade of 19th century till the end of First World War.

30. What do you know about the slavery system in the USA? How was it abolished? Discuss. [8]

OR

Why did the Europeans come to settle in America after the European traders? What policy did they follow towards



the forests of the continent?

### Section D

31. **Read the following text carefully and answer the questions that follow:**

[4]

This self-portrait is by Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519) who had an amazing range of interests from botany and anatomy to mathematics and art. He painted the Mona Lisa and The Last Supper, One of his dreams was to be able to fly.

He spent years observing birds in flight, and designed a flying machine.

He signed his name 'Leonardo da Vinci, disciple of experiment'.

- i. Who was Leonardo da Vinci? (1)
- ii. Mention the names of two paintings made by Leonardo da Vinci. (1)
- iii. What was the area of interest of Leonardo da Vinci? (2)

32. **Read the following text carefully and answer the questions that follow:**

[4]

The traditional religious culture of the classical world, both Greek and Roman, had been polytheist. That is, it involved a multiplicity of cults that included both Roman/Italian gods like Jupiter, Juno, Minerva and Mars, as well as numerous Greek and eastern deities worshipped in thousands of temples, shrines and sanctuaries throughout the empire. Polytheists had no common name or label to describe themselves. The other great religious tradition in the empire was Judaism. But Judaism was not a monolith either, and there was a great deal of diversity within the Jewish communities of late antiquity. Thus, the Christianization of the empire in the fourth and fifth centuries was a gradual and complex process. Polytheism did not disappear overnight, especially in the western provinces, where the Christian bishops waged a running battle against beliefs and practices they condemned more than the Christian laity did. The boundaries between religious communities were much more fluid in the fourth century than they would become thanks to the repeated efforts of religious leaders, the powerful bishops who now led the Church, to rein in their followers and enforce a more rigid set of beliefs and practices.

- i. What do you mean by Judaism? (1)
- ii. What did the Christian bishops do? (1)
- iii. Enlist the names of Roman gods who were worshipped in temples and shrines throughout the empire. (2)

33. **Read the following text carefully and answer the questions that follow:**

[4]

The Catholic Church had its own laws, owned lands given to it by rulers, and could levy taxes. It was thus a very powerful institution which did not depend on the king. At the head of the western Church was the Pope. He lived in Rome. The Christians in Europe were guided by bishops and clerics. Most villages had their own church, where people assembled every Sunday to listen to the sermon by the priest and to pray together. Everyone could not become a priest. Serfs were banned, as were the physically challenged. Women could not become priests. Men who became priests could not marry. Bishops were the religious nobility. Like lords who owned vast landed estates, the bishops also had the use of vast estates, and lived in grand palaces. The Church was entitled to a tenth share of whatever the peasants produced from their land over the course of the year. Money also came in the form of endowments made by the rich for their own welfare and the welfare of their deceased relatives in the afterlife. Some of the important ceremonies conducted by the Church copied formal customs of the feudal elite. The act of kneeling while praying, with hands clasped and head bowed, was an exact replica of the way in which a knight conducted himself while taking vows of loyalty to his lord. Similarly, the use of the term 'lord' for God was another example of feudal culture that found its way into the practices of the Church. Thus, the religious and the lay worlds of feudalism shared many customs and symbols.



- i. Everyone could not become a priest. Who could not become a priest? (1)
- ii. Who possessed enormous landed estates, had access to vast estates and lived in magnificent palaces? (1)
- iii. Which order guided the Christians in Europe? (2)

### Section E

34. i. On the given map of Australia, locate and label the given places.

[5]

- a. Sydney
- b. Adelaide
- c. Melbourne
- OR
- d. Darwin



ii. On the given map of Western Europe, three places have been marked as A and B which are associated with the extent of feudalism. Identify any two of them and write their correct names on the lines marked near them.



# Solution

## Section A

1.  
**(b)** Rice  
**Explanation:**  
Rice
2.  
**(c)** Three classes  
**Explanation:**  
Three classes
3.  
**(b)** 1850s  
**Explanation:**  
1850s
4. **(a)** Shops in Forum Julium, Rome  
**Explanation:**  
Shops in Forum Julium, Rome
5. **(a)** Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.  
**Explanation:**  
The third century of the Roman empire was also called the 'Early empire' as the whole period from the beginning of the Roman Empire to the main part of the third century can be called the 'early empire', and the period from the third century to the end called the 'late empire' or 'late antiquity'.
6.  
**(c)** 1206  
**Explanation:**  
1206
7. **(a)** Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.  
**Explanation:**  
Once written, tablets were dried hard in the sun and it would be almost indestructible. It can't use again. So each transaction required a separate written tablet. That is why hundreds of tablets were found from Mesopotamian sites.
8. **(a)** John Marshall  
**Explanation:**  
John Marshall
9. **(a)** Monasteries  
**Explanation:**  
From the twelfth century, large churches – called **cathedrals** – were being built in France. These belonged to **monasteries**, but different groups of people contributed to their construction with their own labour, materials, or money.
10.  
**(d)** i and iii  
**Explanation:**  
In the north, there is a stretch of upland called a steppe.



11.  
**(c)** iv, i, iii, ii  
**Explanation:**  
iv- 1454 Gutenberg prints the Bible with movable type  
i-1 484 Portuguese mathematicians calculate latitude by observing the sun  
iii- 1492 Columbus reaches America  
ii- 1495 Leonardo da Vinci paints The Last Supper
12. **(a)** Japan  
**Explanation:**  
Japan
13.  
**(b)** Option (A)  
**Explanation:**  
Gerhardus Mercator - Cylindrical map of the earth
14.  
**(b)** Tithe  
**Explanation:**  
Tithe
15.  
**(d)** 1947  
**Explanation:**  
1947
16.  
**(c)** 54 CE  
**Explanation:**  
54 CE
17. **(a)** China  
**Explanation:**  
China
18.  
**(c)** A is true but R is false.  
**Explanation:**  
Peasants did not have enough money to set up watermills and windmills because some of these technological changes cost a lot of money. Peasants did not have enough money to set up watermills and windmills. Therefore the initiative was taken by the lords.
19.  
**(b)** All of these  
**Explanation:**  
All of these
20.  
**(c)** 1 - d, 2 - a, 3 - b, 4 - c  
**Explanation:**  
1 - d, 2 - a, 3 - b, 4 - c



- 21.
- (c) Thomas Jefferson
- Explanation:**
- Thomas Jefferson

### Section B

- 22.
- i. The monks living in St. Benedict Monastery followed the principle of celibacy.
  - ii. They obeyed the order of the chief of the monastery.
  - iii. They couldn't speak freely but were allowed to speak rarely.
  - iv. They had to spend most of their time in meditation.
  - v. They must perform physical exercise for some time in their daily life.

OR

Peasants' families had to set aside certain days of the week, usually three but often more, when they would go to the lord's estate and work there. The output from such labour, called labour rent would go directly to the lord. In addition, they could be required to do other unpaid labour services, like digging ditches, gathering firewood, building fences and repairing roads and buildings. Besides helping in the fields, women and children had to do other tasks. They spun thread, wove cloth, made candles and pressed grapes to prepare wine for the lords' use.

23. Martin Luther was the founder of the Reformation Movement in Germany. He was strongly opposed to the Pope and the Catholic Church, as they were badly exploiting the people. Moreover, they had become very corrupt. The main ideas of Martin Luther were the following:
- i. He accepted the authority of Christ and the Bible but rejected the universality and absolutism of the Church.
  - ii. He propagated that salvation could not be attained through the ways determined by the Church. For it, firm faith in God was necessary.
  - iii. No one should be above justice.
  - iv. The Church's miracles are useless.
  - v. He announced that his religious book was for all and all could attain its learning. In the next few years, Luther's ideas spread rapidly in Germany's central and northern states. As a result, people witnessed a new awakening and they began to participate in great numbers in the anti-Church movement launched by Luther.

**24. Following are the methods of the management of labour in the Roman Empire:**

- i. One of the Roman agricultural writer Columella recommended that landowners must keep a reserve stock of tools and implements, double than required, so that the production must go on.
  - ii. Employers generally assumed that no work would ever get done without supervision. Therefore supervision was necessary for both slaves and free workers. Sometimes workers were grouped into gangs or smaller teams to make supervision easier. Columella also recommended making squads of ten. He claimed that in small groups, it would be easier to tell who is working and who is not. Pliny criticised the use of slave gangs because it was the worst method of organising production. It was so because those who worked in gangs were usually chained together by their feet.
  - iii. Few industrial establishments in the empire kept even tighter controls. In the Frankincense factories, a seal was put upon the aprons of the workmen. They were required to wear a mask or a net with a close mesh on their heads. They were required to take off all their clothes before leaving the premises. This process was followed in most of the workshops and factories.
  - iv. In a Law of 398, it was said that workers must be branded so that they could be recognised if they try to run away.
  - v. A number of private employers used to make their agreements with workers as debt contracts so that they could claim that their employees were in debt to them.
25. The Chinese Revolution of 1911 brought the end of Manchu empire and establishment of Republic. The important thing about this revolution was that it was without any bloodshed. After this Chinese people got a constitution and declaration of sovereignty of people was made. This revolution also spread a sense of nationalism among the masses. The revolutionaries accepted Chiang Kai-shek as the president of Republic of China. So, we can say that the Chinese Revolution of 1911 was important in many ways.
26. The meaning of division of labour is to fulfil our needs with each other's products and services. The division of labour is very much necessary for urban life. The reason is that besides food production, trade, manufactures and several types of services also play an important role in urban economies. But city people are not self-sufficient. They depend on the products and services of other city or village people. There is continuous interaction between the urban people and the village people. For example, the carver of a stone seal needs bronze tools which he himself cannot make. He does not even know from where to get coloured



stones for the seals. He is specialised in carving, not trading. The bronze toolmaker will definitely go out himself to get the metals-tin and copper. All these functions are performed with each other's help.

27. In Mesopotamia, until the end of 1000 BCE, cylindrical stone seals began to be made. These seals were pierced down at the centre. A stick was fitted at the centre and was rolled over wet clay. In this way, continuous pictures were created. Seals were carved out by skilled craftsmen. Sometimes these seals were carrying the name of the owner, his god, his official position, etc. A seal could be rolled on clay covering the string knot of a cloth package or the mouth of a pot so that the contents could be saved. When rolled on a letter written on a clay tablet it then became a mark of authenticity. In this way, the seal was the mark of a city dweller's role in public life.

OR

- i. The cities were well designed according to a definite plan.
- ii. Special heed was given toward the construction of the towns.
- iii. Baked bricks were used for constructing houses.
- iv. Houses were single storeyed.
- v. There was a provision of adequate roads in town and cities.

### Section C

28. Religious beliefs of Mongols:

- (i) Mongols had deep faith in religion.
- (ii) They worshipped the main deity, Tengzi, i.e. the Sun God and believed him to be omnipotent.
- (iii) In order to please their deity they used to perform animal sacrifices.
- (iv) They (Mongolian, people of Mongol) used to show special respect for holy religious man called 'Shamans'.
- (v) Genghis Khan believed that destiny has ordained royalty for mongers. Therefore, it is a religious obligation for the Mongol to bring more and more regions under their direct suzerainty.
- (vi) Mongols were secular in nature and followed the policy of religious tolerance. They allowed the people to respect their religion with full liberty.
- (vii) The recruitments under the Mongols were made only on merit basis and religion had no role to play in it.

OR

Genghis Khan belonged to nomadic society. On the basis of capacity he established a vast empire. His empire included the people from various walks of society and they were civilized people. To rule such a diverse society was not an easy task. Hence, he appointed the people belonging to civilized society to look after the civil administration.

The officers were concerned with civil administration and were appointed on the basis of merit. No credit was given to tribals or religious affinities while appointing them in civil administration. The civil administration played an outstanding role in strengthening and consolidating the foundation of Mongol empire. They even influenced the Mongol rulers to transform their policies pertaining to administration. He also made Genghis Khan aware about the 'importance of Yan system' as followed in China.

29. Causes of the decline of the Shoguns were the following:

- (i) Shoguns followed the policy of favouritism.
- (ii) Only the members of the Tokugawa family were appointed to the post which spread the feelings of ill-will among other feudal lords, who resolved to bring an end to the Shogun's rule.
- (iii) Japan's economy received a severe blow due to the wrong economic policies of the Shoguns.
- (iv) The condition of the peasant was very miserable during their rule. Taxes were collected forcibly.
- (v) A new class of merchant came into prominence. Feudal fraternity grew jealous of them. To put an end to their humiliation, the merchants wanted to do away with Shogun rule.

OR

Japan was the alone imperialist power of Asia. It started its imperialist expansion in the last decade of the 19th century. Earlier, it saved itself from becoming the victim of imperialism. In 1853 CE, Commodore Perry, with its military ships, reached the coast of Japan. Perry used the force and compelled Japan to give certain facilities of trade and others to the U.S.A. Japan also signed treaties with Britain, Holland, France, and Russia. Even then it saved itself from the bad experiences of other Asian countries.

**Japan became Powerful.** In 1867 CE, an important power transformation took place in Japan which is known as Meiji restoration. Japan made huge progress under Meiji rule. It started to modernise its economy and within a few decades, it became one of the major industrial countries of the world. Except this, those powers were also active in Japan which made the European countries imperialist. Like western countries, Japan also had very little raw material for its industries. It wanted to have new markets for the consumption of new products. As a result, it wanted to have colonies that could fulfil both of its demands. In this



way, Japan joined the race of imperialism. Imperialist Expansion.

**Imperialist expansion of Japan is given below:**

- i. Japan was situated near to China and China could have been proved a better market for it. Both the countries also had fought against each other in 1894 CE on the issue of Korea. After this, Japanese influence increased a lot in China.
  - ii. An Anglo-Japanese treaty was signed in 1902 CE. According to this, Japan was also given equal status like other European countries.
  - iii. Japan defeated Russia in 1905 CE. As a result, it received the southern part of Sakhalin. It also captured Leontung island.
  - iv. Korea became a Japanese Colony in 1910 CE. In this way till First World War, Japan also emerged as a world power. It could have expanded further in China if it could not have been checked by the Western powers.
30. Slavery had been practiced in America from early colonial days and was legal in all thirteen colonies at the time of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. The climatic condition of the southern region was too hot as a result of which Europeans were not able to work outdoors. Their main intention was to employ slaves as workers. The natives of South American colonies who had been enslaved had died in great numbers. As a result, the plantation owners bought slaves in Africa. There was a wide protest by anti-slavery groups that led to a ban on slave trade. But the Africans who lived in the USA remained slaves. The economy of the north was completely different from the south. The northern states of America began to raise their voice against this practice. But the southern states were not interested in abolishing it. This led to a war between the two nations. This war continued till four years, i.e. from 1861 to 1865. The northern states emerged victorious in this war. Hence, the institution of slavery was finally abolished. Abraham Lincoln, the then President of America played a remarkable role in the abolition of slavery.

OR

The Europeans came to settle in America after the European traders to escape persecution in their countries. These people were being persecuted because they belonged to different sects of Christianity. They included Catholics in those countries where Protestantism was the official religion or the Protestants living in predominantly Catholic countries. A number of such people left Europe and went over to America so that they could begin a new life. There was hardly any problem as long as there was vacant land in America. But Europeans started to move towards the interior i.e., near-native villages. They cut down forests with their iron tools to lay out farms. The forests provided the native's such tracks as were out of reach of the Europeans. On the other hand, Europeans saw these forests as their farms. That is why they cut down the forests and replaced them with cornfields. The third President of the USA, Jefferson dreamt of a country that is populated by Europeans having small farms. The natives were not in a position to understand this view of Jefferson.

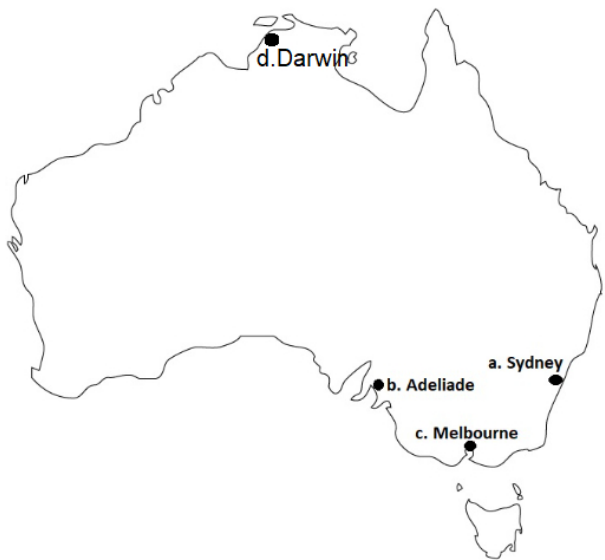
**Section D**

31. i. Leonardo da Vinci was the famous painter of Italy.
- ii. a. Mona Lisa  
b. The Last Supper.
  - iii. In botany anatomy, mathematics and art, Leonardo da Vinci took a keen interest
32. i. Judaism was a religious tradition in the Roman Empire.
- ii. The Christian bishops waged a running battle against beliefs and practices. The powerful bishops led the Church to rein in their followers and enforced a more rigid set of beliefs and practices.
  - iii. Jupiter, Juno, Minerva and Mars were the Roman gods worshipped in thousands of temples, shrines and sanctuaries throughout the empire.
33. i. Serfs, the physically challenged and women could not become priests.
- ii. Like lords who owned vast landed estates, the bishops also had the use of vast estates, and lived in grand palaces.
  - iii. The Christians in Europe were guided by bishops and clerics - who constituted the first 'order'.

**Section E**



34. i.



- ii. A. St. Denis
- B. Bingen