

Class XI Session 2025-26
Subject - History
Sample Question Paper - 5

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

- 1. In which of the following crop was not produced in Mesopotamia? [1]
 - a) Barley
 - b) Millets
 - c) Peas or lentils
 - d) Wheat
- 2. Which Roman ruler was considered as the Leading Citizen? [1]
 - a) Gallienus
 - b) Alexander
 - c) Augustus
 - d) Diocletian
- 3. Mesopotamia means _____. [1]
 - a) Land covered by water on three sides
 - b) Land between two rivers
 - c) Land covered by water on all sides
 - d) Land covered by walls in two sides

- 4. Match the following and select the correct option [1]

List I	List II
1. War between Japan and China	A. 1904-05
2. Two Opium Wars	B. 1644-1911

- i. Gregorian calendar introduced by Pope Gregory XIII
- ii. Isaac Newton’s Principia Mathematica published
- iii. William Harvey links the heart with blood circulation
- iv. Academy of Sciences set up in Paris

- a) iii, iv, ii, i

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

d) iv, ii, i, iii

12.

The earlier universities of Europe were set up in _____.

[1]

- a) French cities

b) Italian cities
- c) German cities

d) England

13.

When was feudalism abolished in Japan?

[1]

- a) 1871

b) 1860
- c) 1880

d) 1890

14.

Princeps means _____.

[1]

- a) Most famous

b) The first citizen
- c) The first group

d) Most respectable

15.

Which of these ideas was given by Sun Yatsen?

[1]

- a) All of these

b) Republic
- c) Socialism

d) Nationalism

16.

Assertion (A): Holidays were criticized by overworked peasants.

[1]

Reason (R): They were not expected to work then. These days were meant for prayer, but people usually spent a good part of them having fun and feasting.

- 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.

17.

Which of the following rulers was not a successor of Genghis Khan?

[1]

- a) Quriltai

b) Mongke
- c) Ogodei

d) Guyuk

18.

Western European society was divided into three estates. Which of the following is not among these

[1]

- a) The Peasantry

b) The Clergy
- c) The Nobility

d) The Kings

19.

Who was regarded as the Father of Humanism?

[1]

- a) Joseph Conard

b) Cicero
- c) Francesco Robert

d) Francesco Petrarch

20.

Match the following and select the correct option

[1]

List I	List II
1. 1603	A. Tokugawa Ieyasu establishes the Edo shogunate

2. 1868	B. Korea annexed
3. 1889	C. Meiji Constitution enacted
4. 1910	D. Restoration of Meiji

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

21. Identify the person with the help of following information [1]
- He was the third President of the USA

◦ His dream was a country populated by Europeans with small farms.
- a) John Adams

b) Thomas Jefferson

c) George Washington

d) James Madison

Section B

22. Why did the Guomindang despite its attempts to unite the country fail? [3]
23. Explain the change that came into feudal bonds in Europe in the 11th century and what was its result. [3]
- OR
- How did trade and commerce flourish in Europe and what was its result?
24. What was the difference in viewpoints of the natives of North America and the Europeans regarding the exchange of gifts? [3]
25. Why do we say that it was not natural fertility and high levels of food production that were the cause of early urbanisation? [3]
26. Give a brief description of achievements of People’s Republic of China in China. [3]
27. Who restored the old alliances with the ruler of Kereyits rules? [3]

OR

Write a short note on the Ulus System.

Section C

28. How did kingship emerge in Mesopotamia? What did the king do to increase his influence and control? [8]
- OR
- Discuss the features of town planning of early urban society.
29. How did the Italian culture revive after the fall of Western Roman empire? [8]
- OR
- What do you understand by Humanism? Give examples of humanism in art and literature of the Renaissance Age.
30. How the third century crisis was different than the first and second centuries a period of peace? [8]

OR

Explain the system of administration by politicians of senatorial rank in Rome.

Section D

31. Read the following text carefully and answer the questions that follow: [4]
- William Tyndale (1494-1536), an English Lutheran who translated the Bible into English in 1506, defended Protestantism thus:
- In this they be all agreed, to drive you from the knowledge of the scripture, and that ye shall not have the text thereof in the mother-tongue, and to keep the world still in darkness, to the intent they might sit in the consciences of the people, through vain superstition and false doctrine, to satisfy their proud ambition, and

insatiable covetousness, and to exalt their own honour above king and emperor, yea, and above God himself... Which thing only moved me to translate the New Testament. Because I had perceived by experience, how that it was impossible to establish the lay-people in any truth, except the scripture were plainly laid before their eyes in their mother-tongue, that they might see the process, order, and meaning of the text.'

- i. What do you know about William Tyndale? (1)
- ii. What were his objectives to translate the Bible into English? (1)
- iii. What were the issues on which the Protestants criticised the Catholic Church? Write any two issues. (2)

32. **Read the following text carefully and answer the questions that follow:** [4]

(Incomes of the Roman Aristocracy, Early Fifth Century)

Each of the great houses of Rome contained within itself everything which a medium-sized city could hold, a hippodrome, fora, temples, fountains and different kinds of baths... Many of the Roman households received an income of four thousand pounds of gold per year from their properties, not including grain, wine and other produce which, if sold, would have amounted to one-third of the income in gold. The income of the households at Rome of the second class was one thousand or fifteen hundred pounds of gold.'

- i. How did the Roman household receive income? (1)
- ii. What was included in each the great house of Rome? (1)
- iii. What was the income of a second class household in Rome? (2)

33. **Read the following text carefully and answer the questions that follow:** [4]

We also caused to be painted, by the exquisite hands of many masters from different regions, a splendid variety of new windows... Because these windows are very valuable on account of their wonderful execution and the profuse expenditure' of painted glass and sapphire glass, we appointed an official master craftsman for their protection, and also a goldsmith - who would receive their allowances, namely, coins from the altar and flour from the common storehouse of the brethren, and who would never neglect their duty to look after these.

- i. Who was appointed for the protection of windows? (1)
- ii. Windows were precious. How? (1)
- iii. Who would receive their allowances, namely coins? (2)

Section E

34. i. On the given map of the United States of America, locate and label the following states with appropriate symbols: [5]

- a. New Jersey
- b. Georgia
- c. New York

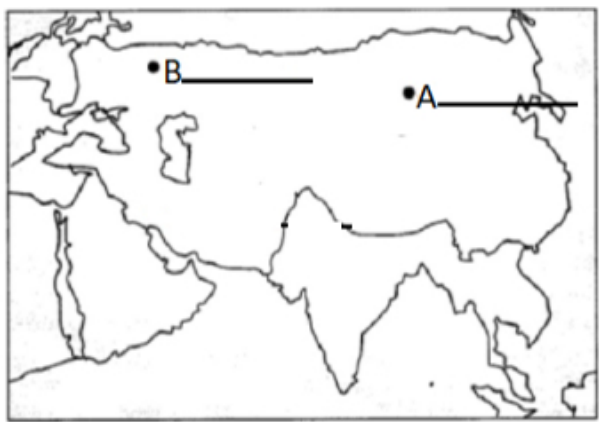
OR



d. Texas



ii. On the given map of South-East Asia, three places have been marked as A and B related to the Mongol empire. Identify **any two** of them and write their correct names on the lines marked near them.



Solution

Section A

1.
(b) Millets
Explanation:
Millets
2.
(c) Augustus
Explanation:
Augustus
3.
(b) Land between two rivers
Explanation:
Land between two rivers
4.
(b) 1 - b, 2 - c, 3 - d, 4 - a
Explanation:
1 - b, 2 - c, 3 - d, 4 - a
5.
(d) A is false but R is true.
Explanation:
A strong tradition of Roman law had emerged by the fourth century, and this acted as a brake on even the most fearsome emperors. Emperors were not free to do whatever they liked, and the law was actively used to protect civil rights. That is why in the later fourth century **it was possible** for powerful bishops like Ambrose to confront equally powerful emperors when they were excessively harsh or repressive in their handling of the civilian population.
6.
(c) i and iii
Explanation:
The second son of Genghis Khan, Chaghatai, was given the Transoxianian steppe and lands north of the Pamir mountains.
7.
(c) A is true but R is false.
Explanation:
Writing began when society needed to keep records of transactions because in **city life** transactions occurred at **different times, and involved many people** and a variety of goods.
8.
(c) W.E.H. Stanner
Explanation:
W.E.H. Stanner



9.
(b) Clergy
Explanation:
Clergy
10.
(c) Mesopotamia
Explanation:
Mesopotamia
11.
(b) i, iii, iv, ii
Explanation:
i. 1582 Gregorian calendar introduced by Pope Gregory XIII
iii. 1628 William Harvey links the heart with blood circulation
iv. 1673 Academy of Sciences set up in Paris
ii. 1687 Isaac Newton's Principia Mathematica published
12.
(b) Italian cities
Explanation:
Italian cities
13. **(a) 1871**
Explanation:
1871
14.
(b) The first citizen
Explanation:
The first citizen
15. **(a) All of these**
Explanation:
All of these
16.
(d) A is false but R is true.
Explanation:
On the coming of spring, people used to travel around their village lands on that day. Holidays were **welcomed** by overworked peasants as free days. They usually spent more time in fun and feasting rather than prayer.
17. **(a) Quriltai**
Explanation:
Quriltai
18.
(d) The Kings
Explanation: The Kings
19.
(d) Francesco Petrarch
Explanation:
Francesco Petrarch



20.

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

Explanation:

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

21.

(b) Thomas Jefferson

Explanation:

Thomas Jefferson

Section B

22. The Guomindang's social base was in urban areas. Industrial growth was slow and limited. In cities such as Shanghai, by 1919 an industrial working class had appeared numbering 500,000. Of these, however, only a small percentage were employed in modern industries such as shipbuilding. Most were 'petty urbanites' (Xiao Shimin), traders, and shopkeepers. Urban workers, particularly women, earned very low wages. Working hours were long and conditions of work bad. The Guomindang despite its attempts to unite the country failed because of its narrow social base and limited political vision. A major plank in Sun Yat-Sen's programme regulating capital and equalising land was never carried out because the party ignored the peasantry and the rising social inequalities. It sought to impose military order rather than address the problems faced by the people.

23. From the 11th century, the personal bonds that had been the basis of feudalism were weakening because economic transactions were becoming more and more money based. Lords found it convenient to ask for rent in cash, not services, and cultivators were selling their crops for money to traders.

Result: The increasing use of money began to influence prices, which became higher in times of poor harvest. In England, for instance, agricultural prices doubled between the 1270s and the 1320s.

OR

By the eleventh century, new trade routes began to develop between Europe and West Asia. Scandinavian merchants used to sail towards the south from the North sea so that they could exchange furs and hunting hawks for cloth. English traders came to sell in. By the twelfth century, commerce and crafts began to grow in France also. Earlier craftsmen travelled from one manor to another but now they found that it is easier to settle down in one place. Hence, they could produce goods and trade them for food.

Result. Trade started to expand with the growth of many towns. Town merchants became rich and powerful. A competition to be included in the nobility also started amongst them.

24. The natives of North America regarded the goods they exchanged with the Europeans as gifts, given in friendship. On the other hand, the Europeans regarded the goods they exchanged with the natives of North America as commodities that would sell for a profit in Europe.

25. It was not natural fertility and high levels of food production that were the causes of early urbanisation, because cities and towns were also place for other major economic activities. Though the food production gives an advantage for people to cluster in towns, urban economies also comprise trade, manufactures and services. People living in cities are not self-sufficient in the food production alone; they depend on the products and services of other villages and cities. There is a continuous interaction among these urban economic activities.

26. The government of 'People's Republic of China' in China was established in 1949. It was based on the principles of New Democracy. New Democracy was an alliance of all social classes. The main areas of economy were kept under the control of the government. Private industries and land holdings were gradually removed. This programme lasted till 1953 when the government declared the beginning of a programme of Socialist transformation. In 1958, the Great Leap Forward movement was launched to industrialise the country rapidly. People were encouraged to set up steel furnaces in the backyard of their homes. 'People's communes' were started in the rural areas which included people with landholdings. They used to grow the crops collectively.

27. Genghis Khan (Temujin) restored old alliances with the ruler of the Kereyits, Tughril/Ong Khan, his father's old blood-brother. Through the 1180s and 1190s, Temujin remained an ally of Ong Khan and used the alliance to defeat powerful adversaries like Jamuqa. It was after defeating him that Temujin felt confident enough to move against other tribes: the powerful Tatars (his father's assassins), the Kereyits and Ong Khan himself in 1203.

OR

Ulus System was established by Genghis Khan. According to this system:

- i. Genghis Khan used to transfer the administration of newly conquered lands to his four sons, namely Jochi, Chaghatai, Ogedei and Toluy.



- ii. His eldest son Jochi was given the region of Russian steppes. Chaghatai was given the charge of Transoxiana Steppe and the region of North of Pamir Hills. It was an indication from the Khan that his third son Ogedei would succeed him as the Khan.
- iii. Toluy, the fourth son was given the region of Mongolia.
- iv. Genghis Khan envisaged that his sons would rule the empire collectively and so, he placed military contingents (tama) of the individual princes in each ulus.

Section C

28. There were repeated conflicts over land and water in the early Mesopotamian countryside. If there was continuous warfare in a region then the successful chiefs had to oblige their followers by distributing the loot. They also took prisoners from the defeated groups to employ them as their servants or guards. So they could increase their influence and control. But the victorious war leaders were not permanent chiefs of their communities. The leadership of a community kept on changing. These chiefs came to be known as kings at a later stage.

Steps were taken by the King to increase his Influence and Control.

The king took the following steps to increase his influence and control:

- i. The king began to pay attention to the well-being of the community. Consequently, new institutions or practices were created.
- ii. He began to offer precious booty to the gods. It beautified the community's temples.
- iii. He sent men out to fetch fine stones and metal for the benefit of the god and community so that the temples could be beautified.
- iv. He organised the distribution of temple wealth in an efficient way by accounting for things that came in and went out.
- v. He encouraged the settlement of villagers close to himself. People began to feel safe living in close proximity to one another.
- vi. War captives and local people were put to work for the temple and the king. This, rather than agricultural tax was compulsory. They were paid rations.

OR

Features of town planning of early urban societies:

- (i) The Mesopotamian cities were designed according to a definite plan. Hammurabi had issued a special order to construct cities according to a definite plan.
 - (ii) Special attention was paid towards the strength of the building.
 - (iii) Baked bricks were used for constructing buildings.
 - (iv) Any violation regarding the construction rules were dealt with severely.
 - (v) Most of the buildings, i.e. the houses were of single storey. There used to be an open courtyard in these houses. Along with this courtyard rooms were constructed.
 - (vi) Some people also built basement in their houses to beat heat.
 - (vii) There was also well adequate provision for roads in towns.
29. These changes revived the culture of Italy were;

There were some changes that took place after the fall of Western Roman empire. After the fall of Western Roman empire, political and cultural centres in Italy were destroyed. There was no unified government at that time. Italy was a weak and divided country. Pope was sovereign in his own state but not quite strong in European politics. Regions of Western Europe were reshaped by feudal relations. These regions were unified under the Latin church. The Byzantine empire brought changes in Eastern Europe. A common civilization was being created by Islam in the west. The above-mentioned changes were responsible for bringing about the revival of Italian culture.

OR

Before the Renaissance, philosophers used to think over the results of an afterlife and consider the existing life as a preparation for Heaven. The Renaissance changed this approach. Now thinkers began to think over the existing problems of man. This approach of man is called 'Humanism'. The historian Petrarch is regarded as the Father of Humanism. Humanist writers took man as a central point and tried to depict him. Humanism and Renaissance Art: Humanism cast a special influence on the art of the Renaissance Age. Though the paintings of Raphael and Michael Angelo concerned with wealth, their basis was a man. In their paintings, they depicted Jesus as a child and Mary as an affectionate mother. Other humanist works of this age include Mona Lisa, Medona, etc., which are world-famous.

Humanism and Renaissance Literature: Humanism also greatly influenced writers like Shakespeare. Scholars like Dante made man, not God, the topic of their works. They thoroughly discussed man's sentiments, capabilities and weaknesses. Famous literary works of this period include Utopia, Hamlet, Divine Comedy, etc.

30. If the first and second centuries were, by and large, a period of peace, prosperity and economic expansion, the third century brought the first major signs of internal strain.



- i. From the 230s, the empire found itself fighting on several fronts simultaneously. In Iran, a new and more aggressive dynasty emerged in 225 (they called themselves the 'Sasanians') and within just 15 years were expanding rapidly in the direction of the Euphrates.
- ii. Meanwhile, a whole series of Germanic tribes or rather tribal confederacies (most notably, the Alamanni, the Franks and the Goths) began to move against the Rhine and Danube frontiers, and the whole period from 233 to 280 saw repeated invasions of a whole line of provinces that stretched from the Black Sea to the Alps and southern Germany.
- iii. The Romans were forced to abandon much of the territory beyond the Danube, while the emperors of this period were constantly in the field against what the Romans called 'barbarians'.

OR

1. Roman administration was neither stable nor necessarily coherent.
2. In ancient Rome, provinces were generally governed by politicians of senatorial rank, usually former consuls. A later exception was the province of Egypt, incorporated by Augustus.
3. After the death of Cleopatra it was ruled by a governor of equestrian rank only, perhaps as a discouragement to senatorial ambition as Egypt was considered Augustus's personal property, following the tradition of earlier, hellenistic kings.
4. The territory of people who were defeated in war might be brought under various forms of treaty, in some cases entailing complete subjection. The formal annexation of a territory created a "province" in the modern sense of an administrative unit that was geographically defined.
5. Republican provinces were administered in one-year term by the consuls and praetors who had held office the previous year. Rome started expanding beyond Italy during the First Punic War. The first permanent provinces to be annexed were Sicily in 241 BC and Sardinia in 237 BC.
6. Military expansionism kept increasing the number of these administrative provinces, until there were no longer enough qualified individuals to fill the posts. The terms of provincial governors often had to be extended for multiple years, and on occasion the Senate awarded imperium even to private citizens, most notably Pompey The Great.
7. The Senate hated and feared the army, because it was a source of often unpredictable violence, especially in the tense conditions of the third century when government was forced to tax more heavily to pay for its mounting military expenditures.
8. To sum up, the emperor, the aristocracy and the army were the three main 'players' in the political history of the empire.

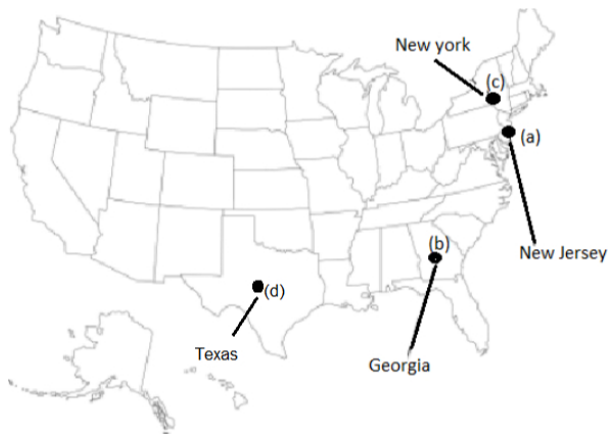
Section D

31. i. William Tyndale (1494-1536), an English Lutheran who translated the Bible into English in 1506, defended Protestantism thus: In this they be all agreed, to drive you from the knowledge of the scripture, and that ye shall not have the text thereof in the mother-tongue, and to keep the world still in darkness
- ii. a. To make available the copies of the Bible to the layman.
b. To expose the malpractices indulged by the church on the name of the text written in it (i.e. the Bible)
- iii. They criticised the Catholic Church on following issues:
 - a. The Protestants also criticised the Catholic Church because of immoral and luxurious life led by the church men.
 - b. Sale of 'Letter of Indulgence' by the church to those people who had committed sins.
32. i. Many of the Roman households received income from their properties.
- ii. Each of the great houses of Rome contained within itself everything which a medium-sized city could hold- a hippodrome, fora, temples, fountains and different kinds of baths.
- iii. The income of the households in Rome of the second class was one thousand or fifteen hundred pounds of gold.
33. i. An official master craftsman was appointed for the protection of windows.
- ii. Windows were precious on account of their wonderful execution and the profuse expenditure of painted glass and sapphire glass.
- iii. A goldsmith would receive their allowances.

Section E



34. i.



- ii. A. Karakorum
- B. Moscow