

Print Culture and The Modern World

Assertion & Reason Type Questions

In the following questions given below, there are two statements marked as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct option:

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

Q 1. Assertion (A): It is easy for us to imagine a world without printed matter.

Reason (R): We find evidence of the print everywhere around us in books, journals, newspapers, prints of famous paintings, and also in everyday life in things like theatre programmes, official circulars, calendars, etc.

Answer : D

Q 2. Assertion (A): Woodblock print only came to Europe after 1395.

Reason (R): Marco Polo brought with him the technology of woodblock printing.

Answer : D

Q 3. Assertion (A): Gutenberg's press was too slow as compared to present press technology.

Reason (R): It could print 180 copies of Bible in three years.

Answer : B

Q 4. Assertion (A): Cheap paperback editions of books were printed by the end of the eighteenth century.

Reason (R): It became easy for poor people to buy them.

Answer : A

Q 5. Assertion (A): India had a very rich and old tradition of handwritten manuscripts.

Reason (R): Manuscripts were copied on banana leaves or on hand made paper.



Answer : C

Q 6. Assertion (A): Women were not educated in India in the early part of the nineteenth century.

Reason (R): Conservative Hindus believed that a literate girl would be widowed and Muslims feared that educated women would be corrupted by reading Urdu romances.

Answer : A

Q 7. Assertion (A): Some people in 18th century Europe thought that print culture would bring enlightenment and end despotism.

Reason (R): The ideas of scientists and philosophers became more accessible to the common people after the coming of print culture.

Answer : A

Q 8. Assertion (A): Women became important readers as well as writers.

Reason (R): Penny magazines were especially meant for women as were manuals teaching proper behaviour and housekeeping.

Answer : A

Q9. Assertion (A) : In 1517, the religious reformer Martin Luther wrote Ninety Five Theses criticising many of the practices and rituals of the Roman Catholic Church.

Reason (R) : This led to a division within the Church and to the beginning of the Protestant Reformation.

Q10. Assertion (A) : The new reading culture was accompanied by a new technology.

Reason (R) : From hand printing there was a gradual shift to mechanical printing.

Q11. Assertion (A) : The production of handwritten manuscripts could not satisfy the ever-increasing demand for books.

Reason (R) : Chinese paper reached Europe via the silk route.

Q12. Assertion (A) : The first book that Gutenberg printed was the Bible.

Reason (R) : About 500 copies were printed and it took two years to produce them.



Q13. Assertion (A) : Print and popular religious literature stimulated many distinctive individual interpretations of faith even among little-educated working people.

Reason (R) : Through the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, literacy rates went up in most parts of Europe,

Q14. Assertion (A) : As literacy and schools spread in African countries, there was a virtual reading mania.

Reason (R) : Churches of different denominations set up schools in villages, carrying literacy to tribals.

Q15. Assertion (A) : Children became an important category of readers.

Reason (R) : Primary education became compulsory from the late nineteenth century.

Q16. Assertion (A) : There was intense controversy between social and religious reformers and the Hindu orthodoxy over matters like-widow immolation, monotheism, Brahmanical priesthood and idolatory.

Reason (R) : The Deoband Seminary founded in 1867, published thousands upon thousands off at was telling Muslim readers how to conduct themselves in everyday lives, and explaining the meaning of Islamic doctrines.

ANSWER KEY 9 to 16

Q9 : (a) 4 A printed cojiy of the Theses was posted on a church door in Wittenberg. It challenged the Church to debate his ideas. Luther's writings were immediately reproduced in large numbers and read widely. The reason thus correctly justifies the assertion.

Q10 : (a) The reason thus correctly justifies the assertion.

Q11 : (b) Copying was laborious, expensive and time-consuming. Manuscripts were fragile, awkward to handle, and could not be carried around or read easily. Therefore, their circulation remained limited. The reason does not explain or justify the assertion.

Q12 : (c) About 180 copies were printed and it took three years to produce them. The reason is thus false.

Q13 : (b)

Q14 : (d) As literacy and schools spread in European countries, there was a virtual reading mania. Churches of different denominations set up schools in villages, carrying literacy to peasants and artisans.

Q15 : (a) The reason justifies the assertion.

Q16 : (b) The reason does not justify the assertion.

