CBSE · CLASS 12 · HISTORY

# CBSE Class 12 History Guess Paper 2027

Time: 3 hours · Maximum marks: 80 · 37 questions

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## Section A

Section A - Multiple Choice type Questions, question numbers 1 to 21, 1 mark each (21 marks). Includes standard MCQ plus match-the-column, chronological-order, odd-one-out and statement-based items presented as MCQs, and one Assertion-Reason item. Draws across all three Parts.

**Q1.** Why did the rebellion in Awadh become a symbol of resistance against British rule? A. Due to the region's economic prosperity under native rule B. Due to the displacement of Nawab Wajid Ali Shah and taluqdars C. Due to favourable land revenue policies towards the peasantry D. Due to Awadh's central position for organizing rebel forces. — 1 mark

**Q2.** Choose the correct pair regarding the local leaders during the Revolt of 1857 (Local Leader - Region): (A) Gonoa - Chotanagpur (B) Shahmal - Hyderabad (C) Kunwar Singh - Kanpur (D) Maulavi Ahmadullah Shah - Arrah — 1 mark

**Q3.** Match the column I with column II regarding the archaeologist who worked in the exploration of Indus valley: a. Daya Ram Sahni b. Rakhal Das Banerji c. John Marshall d. R.E.M. Wheeler with i. Authored 'Mohenjodaro & the Indus Civilisation' ii. Discovered seals at Harappa iii. Found seals at Mohenjodaro iv. Authored 'Ancient India'. Options A-D — 1 mark

**Q4.** What insights did Francois Bernier provide about the economic structure of Mughal India? A. The prevalence of private land ownership and equitable distribution of wealth. B. The dominance of state-controlled resources and limitations on private property. C. The absence of trade networks and economic isolation from global markets. D. The reliance on foreign investments and the absence of indigenous industries. — 1 mark

**Q5.** Which of the following skills can be identified from Al-Biruni's writings? A. Proficiency in diplomacy and political negotiation. B. Fluency in multiple languages and a broad intellectual curiosity. C. Expertise in military strategy and warfare tactics. D. Exceptional talent for storytelling and vivid descriptions. — 1 mark

**Q6.** Identify the major long-term consequence of the permanent settlement for the Indian peasantry from the following: (A) Increased ownership of land among farmers. (B) Investment in agricultural technology. (C) Increased exploitation and indebtness. (D) Abolition of all kinds of landlordism. — 1 mark

**Q7.** Identify the Indian Political Leader with the help of the following information: I. He moved the 'Objectives resolution' in the Constituent Assembly. II. He moved the resolution proposing that the National flag be a horizontal tricolor of saffron, white and dark green in equal proportions with a wheel of navy blue colour in the centre. (A) Sardar Patel (B) Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru (C) Dr. Rajendra Prasad (D) Dr. Radhakrishnan — 1 mark

**Q8.** The battle at Talikota (Rakshasi Tangri) was fought between which two of the following groups? (A) Krishnadeva Raya and rulers of Madurai, Ikkeri and Mysore (B) Rama Raya and rulers of Bijapur, Gingee and Bidar (C) Krishnadeva Raya and rulers of Golconda, Kolar and Chandragiri (D) Ram Raya and rulers of Bijapur, Golconda and Ahmednagar — 1 mark

**Q9.** Who among the following is the author of the book of travels called 'Travels in the Mughal Empire'? (A) Francois Bernier (B) Roberto Nobile (C) Duarte Barbosa (D) Marco Polo — 1 mark

**Q10.** Which one of the following is NOT a correct statement about Mahajanapadas? A. Most mahajanapadas were ruled by kings. B. Some known as ganas or sanghas, were oligarchies. C. Each mahajanapada had a capital city, which was often fortified. D. Panchala became the most powerful mahajanapada between 6-4 BCE. — 1 mark

**Q11.** Match the column I with column II: (i) Mahatma Gandhi returns from South Africa (ii) Champaran movement (iii) Peasant movements in Kheda (Gujarat) and workers' movement in Ahmedabad (iv) Rowlatt Satyagraha with (a) 1917 (b) 1918 (c) 1919 (d) 1915. Options A-D — 1 mark

**Q12.** Which of the following pairs is correctly matched? (Ancient Dynasties - Lineage): (A) Kanvas - Successors of Mauryas (B) Mauryas - Successors of Mahapadmananda (C) Satvahanas - Successors of Kushanas (D) Shakas - Successors of Chalukyas — 1 mark

**Q13.** Which of the following was the best source of lapis lazuli in the Harappan sites? (A) Nageshwar (B) Manda (C) Rakhigarhi (D) Shortughai — 1 mark

**Q14.** Match the following (List I - List II): 1. Endogamy 2. Exogamy 3. Polygyny 4. Polyandry with a. practice of a woman having several husbands b. marriage within a unit (kin group, caste or locality) c. marriage outside the unit d. practice of a man having several wives. Options A-D — 1 mark

**Q15.** Choose the correct option: The book deals with the fiscal side of the empire and provides rich quantitative information on revenue rates. A. Manzil-abadi B. Sipah-abadi C. Mulk-abadi D. Aam-abadi — 1 mark

**Q16.** Match Column-I (Foreign Travellers) with Column-II (Countries): a. Afanasi Nikitin b. Domingo Paes c. Abdur-Razzak d. Nicolo de Conti with I. Persia II. Russia III. Portugal IV. Italy. Options A-D — 1 mark

**Q17.** Which of the following was the first dynasty to rule over the Vijayanagara Empire? A. Suluva dynasty B. Aravidu dynasty C. Tuluva dynasty D. Sangama dynasty — 1 mark

**Q18.** Consider the following statements regarding the criteria of classification of lands under Akbar: 1. Polaj is land which is annually cultivated for each crop in succession and is never allowed to lie fallow. 2. Parauti is land left out of cultivation for a time that it may recover its strength. 3. Chachar is land that has lain fallow for three or four years. 4. Banjar land was also called jins-i-kamil. Which is/are correct? A. 1,2,3,4 B. 1,2,3 C. 1,2,4 D. 2,3,4 — 1 mark

**Q19.** The _____ were most powerful in North Bengal, although rich peasants and village headmen were emerging as commanding figures in the countryside in other parts of Bengal as well. A. Zamindars B. Jotedars C. Taluqdars D. Ryots — 1 mark

**Q20.** Which of the following represents the correct chronological order of events related to agrarian developments in India during the 19th century? I. The Permanent Settlement in Bengal II. The Deccan Riots Commission III. The Santhal Rebellion IV. The Fifth Report by a Select Committee. Options: A. I,II,III & IV B. II,III,IV & I C. III,II,I & IV D. I,IV,III & II — 1 mark

**Q21.** Assertion (A): Baba Guru Nanak Devji advocated Nirguna Bhakti. Reason (R): For Baba Guru Nanak, the absolute or 'rab' had no gender or form. Choose the correct option (A-D). — 1 mark

## Section B

Section B - Short Answer type Questions, question numbers 22 to 27, 3 marks each (18 marks), answers in 60-80 words. Internal choice provided in some questions.

**Q22.** How did Gandhiji try to bring peace in various areas after the independence of India? Explain. — 3 marks

**Q23.** (OR alternative) 'The history of Mauryan empire has been constructed on the variety of sources.' Explain the statement. — 3 marks

**Q24.** Discuss the policies adopted by the British towards the Paharias during the early 18th century in Bengal. — 3 marks

**Q25.** (OR alternative) Examine the challenges historians face in deciphering the Harappan script. — 3 marks

**Q26.** Describe the various stages through which Mahabharata was compiled in the 20th century. Discuss any three points. — 3 marks

**Q27.** 'The mid-first millennium BCE is considered as a significant turning point in the course of World History.' Justify the statement. — 3 marks

## Section C

Section C - Long Answer type Questions, question numbers 28 to 30, 8 marks each (24 marks), answers in 300-350 words. Each question has an internal choice (OR), and some are split into sub-parts (e.g. 5+3 or 4+4).

**Q28.** (OR alternative) 'Gandhiji started the Salt March for various reasons and it resulted in a significant movement.' Explain the statement with examples. (4+4) — 8 marks

**Q29.** (OR alternative) 'Abdur Razzaq, an ambassador sent by the ruler of Persia to Calicut (present-day Kozhikode) in the fifteenth century, was greatly impressed by the fortifications, and mentioned seven lines of forts.' Substantiate the statement with suitable examples. 8 marks

**Q30.** (OR alternative) How do modern historians explain the development and rise of Magadhan power? Explain briefly. 8 marks

## Section D

Section D - Source-based Questions, question numbers 31 to 33, 4 marks each (12 marks). Each passage is followed by three sub-questions carrying 1+1+2 (order may vary, e.g. 2+1+1 or 1+2+1). Passages are drawn from the three Parts (ancient/medieval/modern).

**Q31.** Source-based (countering separate electorates): passage where Govind Ballabh Pant, countering the demand for separate electorates, argues that success of democracy is judged by the confidence it generates amongst different sections and that separate electorates are a suicidal demand that would isolate minorities (Source - page 329, Chapter 4, Themes in Indian History-III, NCERT). Sub-questions: (33.1) Why were the national leaders countering demand for separate electorates? (1) (33.2) Imagine you were a member of the Constituent Assembly. Would you have supported the idea of separate electorates? Give reasons. (2) (33.3) What was the argument given by B. Pocker Bahadur to which Govind Ballabh Pant agreed? (1) 4 marks

**Q32.** Source-based ('Why was salt the symbol of protest?'): extract of Mahatma Gandhi on the salt tax as a 'fourfold curse' that deprives people of a village industry and destroys national property. Sub-questions: (33.1) What does Gandhi's reference to the 'power of peace and non-violence' suggest about his strategic approach to resistance against British colonial rule? (1) (33.2) What parallels can be drawn between Gandhi's critique of the salt tax and broader movements for social justice and human rights? (1) (33.3) How does Gandhi's reference to the destruction of salt by the government shed light on the broader implications of colonial policies on India's natural resources? (2) 4 marks

**Q33.** Source-based (reconstructing the Buddha's teachings): passage stating that the Buddha's teachings have been reconstructed by editing, translating and analysing Buddhist texts, and his life reconstructed from hagiographies written at least a century after his time (Source - Chapter 4, Themes in Indian History-I, NCERT). Sub-questions: (31.1) What do you understand by the term 'hagiographies'? (1) (31.2) Write any one teaching/philosophy of Buddha. (1) (31.3) Why did art historians need to acquire familiarity with hagiographies? (2) 4 marks

## Section E

Section E - Map-based Question, question number 34, 5 marks total. On an outline map of India: locate and label significant sites (3 items x 1 mark, with internal choice among sites) and identify two places marked A and B (2 marks). Significant test items span Harappan sites, mahajanapadas, Buddhist/stupa sites, centres of the Revolt of 1857 and centres of the National Movement. Visually Impaired candidates attempt an alternative written question in lieu of the map.

**Q34.** On the given political outline map of India mark and label any one of the following with appropriate symbols: (i) The place where Jallianwala Bagh Massacre happened. OR (ii) The place where Salt Law was broken by Gandhiji. [1] (A sighted-candidate alternative is also given for visually impaired candidates: name the place of the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre / where Gandhiji broke the Salt Law.) — 1 mark

**Q35.** Examine the role of Panchayat in advocating for the rights of common people during the Mughal era. — 1 mark

**Q36.** 'The rebellion of 1857 was seen as a war in which both Hindus and Muslims had equally to lose or gain.' Analyse the statement. — 1 mark

**Q37.** Identify the ruler of the ancient India with the help of following information: He was a prominent Shaka ruler; He rebuilt Sudarshana Lake in the second century CE; He showcased his engagement with Sanskritic traditions. A. Vikramaditya II B. Bhaskaravarman C. Bimbisara D. Rudradaman — 2 marks

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