

UPSC IAS Prelims: Ancient History : MCQ

Set 5 : Prehistoric Age

1. What is the correct sequence of occurrence events in the Indian Subcontinent?

1. The beginning of agriculture with growing of crops like wheat and barley along the Sulaiman and Kirthar hills.
2. Cities developed on the banks of the Ganga and its tributaries.
3. Earliest cities flourished on the banks of the river-Indus and its tributaries.
4. Formation of Nalanda University.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

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

Answer .b

2. Consider the following statements:

1. The word India comes from the Indus, called Sindhu in Sanskrit.
2. The name 'Bharata' was used for a group of people who lived in the northwest, and who are mentioned in the Rigveda.
3. Manuscripts were written by hand (this comes from the Latin word 'manu', meaning Hand). Usually written on palm leaf, or on the specially prepared bark of a tree known as the birch, which grows in the Himalayas.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer .d

3. Consider the following statements:

1. AD stands for two Latin words, 'Anno Domini', meaning 'in the year of the Lord' (i.e. Christ).
2. Sometimes CE is used instead of AD and BCE instead of BC. The letters CE stand for 'Common Era' and BCE for 'Before Common Era'.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) None of these

Answer .c

4. Consider the following pairs:

Paleolithic Age Site	State
1. Bhimbetka	: Madhya Pradesh
2. Hunsgi	: Karnataka
3. Daojali Hading	: Arunachal Pradesh
4. Chirand	: Uttar Pradesh

Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Answer .a

5. Choose the false statement among the following statements:

- (a) The period when we find environmental changes, beginning about 12,000 years ago till about 10,000 years ago is called the Mesolithic (middle stone). Stone tools found during this period are generally tiny, and are called microliths.
- (b) Ostriches were found in India during the Palaeolithic period. Large quantities of ostrich egg shells were found at Patne in Maharashtra.
- (c) Places where stone was found and where people made tools are known as factory sites.

(d) Burzahom (in present-day Rajasthan) people built pit-houses, which were dug into the ground, with steps leading into them.

Answer .d

6. Chose the false statement among the following statements:

(a) Jadeite, a stone that may have been brought from China were found in Daojali Hading.

(b) Domestication was a gradual process that took place in many parts of the world. It began about 12,000 years ago.

(c) Mehrgarh site is near the Bolan Pass which is one of the most important routes into Iran. Mehrgarh was probably one of the places where women and men learnt to grow barley and wheat.

(d) One of the most famous Neolithic sites, Catal Huyuk, was found in Afghanistan.

Answer .d

7. With reference to the Indus valley civilization (Harappan), Consider the following statements:

1. Cities were usually divided into two or more parts. The part to the East was smaller but higher. Archaeologists describe this as the citadel. The part to the west was larger but lower. This is called the lower town.

2. In some cities, special buildings were constructed on the citadel. For example, in Mohenjodaro, a very special tank, which archaeologists call the Great Bath, was built in this area.

3. Cities such as Kalibangan and Lothal had fire altars, where sacrifices may have been performed. And some cities like Mohenjodaro, Harappa, and Lothal had elaborate store houses.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 1, 2 and 3

(d) 1 and 3 only

Answer .b

8. Consider the following pairs with respect to Harappan civilization:

Stone/Metals	Usage
1. Carnelian(red stone)	: beads
2. Chert	: weights
3. Copper and Bronze	: tools, weapons, ornaments and vessel
4. Gold and Silver	: ornaments and vessel

Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Answer .d

9. Chose the false statement among the following statements:

- (a) Dholavira was located on Khadir Beyt in the delta of Krishna river. Unlike some of the other Harappan cities, Dholavira was divided into three parts, and each part was surrounded with massive stone walls, with entrances through gateways.
- (b) Lothal stood beside a tributary of the sabarmati, in Gujarat, close to the Gulf of Khambat. It was situated near areas where raw materials such as semi-precious stones were easily available.
- (c) A stone statue of an important man found from Mohenjodaro shows him wearing an embroidered garment.
- (d) The Harappans also made seals out of stone. These are generally rectangular and usually have an animal carved on them.

Answer .a

10. Consider the following pairs:

Neolithic Age Sites	State
1. Mehrgarh	: Balochistan
2. Koldihwa	: Madhya Pradesh
3. Burzahom	: Jammu and Kashmir
4. Hallur	: Karnataka

Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?

(c) 1 and 2 only

(d) 1,2 and 3 only

(c) 1, 2, 3 and 4

(d) 1, 3 and 4 only

Answer .d