



Prelims Practice Questions 05-05-2018

01. Which of the following were the aims behind pillar inscriptions?

1. Symbol of the State
2. Commemorate battle victories
3. Propagate imperial sermons

Select the correct answer from the given codes.

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2, 3

Answer : d

Lauria Nandangarh pillar - Champaran

Sarnath pillar - Varanasi. It was built in the commemoration of the first sermon or the Dharmachakrapravartana.

02. Consider the following statements.

1. Stupas were burial mounds prevalent in India.
2. The art of Stupas reached its climax during Ashokan period.
3. Stupas belongs to Buddhist tradition.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2, 3

Answer : a

Stupa is a conventional representation of a funeral cumulus in which relics and ashes of the dead were kept. Although a vedic tradition, stupas were popularised by the Buddhists.

Sanchi stupa - Madhya Pradesh

Piprahwa stupa - Uttar Pradesh

03. Consider the following statements.

1. Yaksh and Yakshini were objects of worship related to Jainism only.
2. The earliest mention of Yakshini can be found in Silappatikaram.
3. Most of the Jain thirthankars were associated with a Yakshini.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2, 3

Answer : b

Yaksh and Yakshini were objects of worship related to Jainism, Hinduism and Buddhism.

04. Consider the following statements.

1. While Chaitya halls were developed during Mauryan empire, Viharas were developed during post-Mauryan period.
2. The rock-cut cave architecture includes open courtyards and stone screen walls to shield from rain.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer : b



SHANKAR
IAS PARLIAMENT
Information is Empowering

Viharas were developed during Mauryan empire, Chaitya halls were developed during post-Mauryan period.

Vihara - caves where monks reside

Chaitya - Prayer hall

05. Consider the following statements.

1. The Gandhara School used red sandstone for making sculptures.
2. The Mathura school used bluish-grey sandstone.
3. White marble was used by Amaravathi school.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 only
- c. 3 only
- d. 1, 2, 3

Answer : c

The Gandhara School used bluish-grey sandstone for making sculptures. The Mathura school used red sandstone.

Gandhara school developed in the western frontiers of Punjab. Mathura school flourished in the banks of Yamuna river.

Amaravathi school developed on the banks of Krishna river.

06. Consider the following statements.

1. Eventhough the later Gupta rulers were Brahmanical rulers, they showed exemplary tolerance for all other religions.
2. Use of mural paintings on the walls of the caves became famous during Gupta period.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer : c

07. Consider the following pairs.

Caves	Location
1. Bagh caves	Rajasthan
2. Junagadh caves	Gujarat
3. Ellora caves	Maharashtra

Which of the above pairs is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2, 3

Answer : b

Bagh caves - Madhya Pradesh ; developed around 6th century AD

Junagadh caves - Gujarat; famous for Upar Kot - citadel

Ellora caves - developed during 5th - 11th century AD

08. Which of the following were the features of Ajanta Caves?

1. Majority of the caves were developed during Hinayana phase of Buddhism.
2. Absence of blue color in the paintings.
3. Mentioned in the travel accounts of both Fa Hien and Hieun Tsang.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2, 3

Answer : b

Developed during 200 BC to 650 AD in Aurangabad, Maharashtra. Majority of the caves were developed during Mahayana phase of Buddhism.

09. Consider the following statements.

1. Ellora caves reflect a natural diversity in terms of theme and architectural styles.
2. While Ajanta caves are located on stiff slope, Ellora caves are located on the slant slope of the mountains.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer : c

Ellora caves were built by various guilds from Vidarba, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. Due to its construction on slant slope, courtyards are present here, which are absent in Ajanta.

10. Consider the following statements.

1. During the Maurya period, a new sculpture developed around Sarnath.
2. It was characterised by the use of cream coloured sandstone and metals.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer : b

Sarnath sculpture was developed during Gupta period. It was characterised by the use of cream coloured sandstone and metals. The sculptures were perfectly dressed. The halo around the head of Buddha was intricately decorated.

Ex. Sultanganj Buddha