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**DESIGN OF QUESTION PAPER  
HISTORY  
CLASS XII**

TIME : 3 hours

Max. Marks : 100

**I. Weightage to form of questions**

<b>Form of question</b>	<b>No. of questions</b>	<b>Marks for each question</b>	<b>Total marks</b>
Long answer (LA)	2	8	16
Short answer (SA)	8	5	40
Very short answers	5	2	10
Passage based questions*	3	8	24
Skill (Map work)	2	5	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>		<b>100</b>

**Note :** Each Passage based question will have 3-4 questions with marks ranging from 1 to 4.

**II. Weightage to content**

Themes in Indian History (Part 1)	25 marks
Themes in Indian History (Part 2)	30 marks
Themes in Indian History (Part 3)	35 marks
Map work	10 marks

**III. Weightage to Difficulty Level**

<b>Essential difficulty level</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
A Easy	30%
B Average	50%
C Difficult	20%

#### **IV. Division of Question Paper**

The question paper will be divided into A, B, C, D and E.

- Part A will carry 5 questions of 2 marks each.
- Part B will carry 8 questions of 5 marks each.
- Part C will carry three source-based questions. The number of questions will vary from 3 to 4. The marks will range from 1 to 4. The sources will be taken from the textbooks as directed therein.
- Part D will carry 2 questions of 8 marks each.
- Part E will have 2 maps questions of 5 marks each.

#### **V. Scheme of Option**

Part A will have no choice

Part B will be divided into 3 sections (books). Section 1 will have 4 questions out of which the student will attempt any 3. Section 2 will have 3 questions out of which the student will attempt any 2. Section 3 will have 4 questions out of which the student will attempt any 3 questions.

Part C will be source-based questions. There will be six sources, two from each section followed by questions. The student will attempt one source from each section.

In Part D, the questions will be from Section 2 (Book 2) and Section 3 (Book 3). There will be an internal choice in each question.

In Part E, there will be two map questions – one for identification (no choice) and one for location and labeling (will have a choice).

#### **VI. Weightage of Marks Book-wise**

Book I (Ancient India) =  $8 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 2$  = 25 marks

Book II (Medieval India) =  $8 + 5 + 5 + 8 + 2 + 2$  = 30 marks

Book III (Modern India) =  $8 + 5 + 5 + 5 + 8 + 2 + 2$  = 35 marks

Map = 10 marks

Total = 100 marks

## LIST OF MAPS

### Book 1

1. P-2. Mature Harappan sites :

Harappa, Banawali, Kalibangan, Balakot, Rakhigadi, Dholavira, Nageshwar, Lothal, Mohenjodaro, Chanhudaro, Kot Diji.

2. P-30. Mahajanapada and cities :

Vajji, Magadha, Koshala, Kuru, Panehala, Gandhara, Avanti, Rajgir, Ujjain, Taxila, Varanasi.

3. P-33. Distribution of Ashokan inscriptions :

(i) Pataliputra — Capital of Ashoka.

(ii) Majas Rock Edicts — Girnar, Sopara, Sanati, Kalsi, Shishupalgarh.

(iii) Pillar inscriptions — Sanchi, Topra, Meerut, Pillar, Kaushambi.

(iv) Kingdom of Cholas, Keralaputras and Pandyas.

4. P-43. Important kingdoms and towns :

(i) Kushans, Shakas, Satvahana, Vakarakas, Gupta

(ii) Cities/towns : Mathura, Kanauj, Puhar, Brahukachchha

5. P-95. Major Buddhist Sites :

Nagarjunakonda, Sanchi, Amaravati, Lumbini.

### Book 2

1. P-174. Bidar, Golconda, Bijapur, Vijayanagar, Chandragiri, Kanchipuram, Mysore, Thanjavur, Kolar.

2. P-214. Territories under Babur, Akbar and Aurangzeb :

Delhi, Agra, Panipat, Amber, Ajmer, Lahore, Goa.

### Book 3

1. P-297. Territories/cities under British Control in 1857 :

Punjab, Sindh, Bombay, Madras, Fort St. David, Masulipatnam, Berar, Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, Avadh, Surat, Calcutta, Dacca, Chitagong, Patna, Benaras, Allahabad and Lucknow.

2. P-305. Main centres of the Revolt :

Delhi, Meerut, Jhansi, Lucknow, Kanpur, Azamgarh, Calcutta, Benaras, Jabalpur, Agra.

3. P-305. Important centres of the national movement :

Champaran, Kheda, Ahmedabad, Benaras, Amritsar, Chauri Chaura, Lahore, Bardoli, Dandi, Bombay (Quit India Resolution), Karachi.

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**Sample Question Paper-I**

*Subject : History*

*Marks : 100 marks*  
*Time : 3 hours*

Theme	Very Short Answer (2)	Short Answer (5)	Long Answer (8)	Passage-based (8)	Skill (5)	Total
1 and 2	2(1)	-	-	8(1)	5(1)*	10
3 and 4	-	15(3)	-	-	-	15
5 and 6	4(2)	-	-	8(1)	-	12
7 and 8	-	5(1)	8(1)	-	5(1)*	13
9	-	5(1)	-	-	-	5
10 and 11	-	10(2)	-	-	5(1)*	10
12 and 13	4(2)	-	8(1)	-	-	12
14 and 15	-	5(1)	-	8(1)	-	13
						25
						30
						35

There are two map questions – one four identification (no choice) themes 7 and 8 and one for location and labelling (choice) themes 1 and 2 or 10 and 11.

**SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER I**  
**HISTORY**  
**CLASS-XII**

**Time Allowed : 3 Hours**

**Max. Marks : 100**

**General Instructions**

- (i) *Answer all the questions. Marks are indicated against each question.*
- (ii) *Answers to questions carrying 2 marks (Part 'A' – Questions 1 to 5) should not exceed 30 words.*
- (iii) *Answers to questions carrying 5 marks (Part 'B' – Section I, II, III – Questions 6 to 16) should not exceed 100 words.*
- (iv) *Answers to questions carrying (Part 'C' – Questions 17 to 18) should not exceed 250 words.*
- (v) *Part 'D' has questions based on 3 sources.*
- (vi) *Attach maps with the answer scripts (Part 'E').*

**PART A**

- 1. Mention any two strategies that were used to increase agricultural production from the 6th century BCE. 2
- 2. State any two problems faced by AlBiruni in writing an account of India. 2
- 3. Describe any two practices associated with the Chishti Silsila of the Sufis. 2
- 4. State any two difficulties faced by the census commissioners in collecting and classifying the data. 2
- 5. What was the attitude of the Indian National Congress towards the Second World War? 2

**PART B**

**SECTION I**

Answer any **three** of the following questions

- 6. Describe the growth of temple architecture in the early Indian period. 5
- 7. Explain the factors that should be kept in mind by the historian while handling textual traditions. 5
- 8. Explain the relationship between the Varna system and the occupation

according to the Brahmanical texts. How did the Brahmanas reinforce these? Explain two.

4+½+½ = 5

9. Mahabharata is a good source to study the social values of ancient times. Support this statement with suitable arguments.

5  
(3×5 = 15)

**PART B**  
**SECTION II**

Answer any **two** of the following questions.

10. Who were Nayakas and Amara Nayakas? Describe their role in the administration of Vijayanagar Empire.
11. Analyse how the Mughal Emperor's Court procedures reflected his status and power.
12. Describe any three strengths and two limitations of the 'Ain-i-Akbari' as an important document in the study of the Mughal period.

5  
5  
5  
(2×5 = 10)

**PART B**  
**SECTION III**

Answer any **three** of the following questions :

13. Describe the life style of the Pahariyas in the late 19th century.
14. 'Rumours circulate only when they resonate, with the deep fears and suspicion of the people'. How was this statement true in the context of the Revolt of 1857?
15. Critically examine the impact of Cabinet Mission Proposals on Indian polity.
16. List any **five** ways in which the Taluqdars of Awadh were affected by the British policy.

5  
5  
5  
5  
(3×5) = 15

**PART C**

17. Explain why the Zamindars were central to the agrarian relations in the Mughal period.

8

**OR**

Explain how the fortification and roads in the city of Vijayanagara were unique and impressive.

8

18. Explain any four changes that came about in the social life in the new cities under colonial rule.

4×2 = 8

**OR**

Explain, how the coming of Gandhiji broadened the base of the Indian national movement.

8

**PART D – Passage Based Questions**

19. Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :

**Prabhavati Gupta and the village of Danguna**

This is what Prabhavati Gupta states in her inscription :

Prabhavati Gupta ... commands the *gramakutumbinas* (householders/peasants living in the village). Brahmanas and others living in the village of Danguna.

“Be it known to you that on the twelfth (lunar day) of the bright (fortnight) of Karttika, in order to increase our religious merit donated this village with the pouring out of water, to the Acharya (teacher) Chanalasvamin ... You should obey all (his) commands ...

We confer on (him) the following exemptions typical of an *agrahara* ... (this village is) not to be entered by soldiers and policemen : (it is) exempt from (the obligation to provide) grass, (animal) hides as seats, and charcoal (to touring royal offices); exempt from (the royal prerogative of) purchasing fermenting liquors and digging (salt); exempt from (the right to) mines and *khadira* trees; exempt from (the obligation to supply) flowers and milk; (it is donated) together with (the right to) hidden treasures and deposits (and) together with major and minor taxes...”

This charter has been written in the thirteenth (regnal) year. (It has been) engraved by Chakradasa.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| (i) Who has issued this inscription?  | 1 |
| (ii) Why does she want to donate the land? Who is the receiver of the land? | 2 |
| (iii) What were the exemptions conferred on a typical <i>agrahara</i> land? | 2 |
| (iv) State the significance of this source. Give any three points.          | 3 |

**OR**

### How artefacts are identified

Processing of food required grinding equipment as well as vessels for mixing, blending and cooking. These were made of stone, metal and terracotta. This is an excerpt from one of the earliest reports on excavations at Mohenjodaro, the best-known Harappan site :

Saddle querns ... are found in considerable numbers ... and they seem to have been the only means in use for grinding cereals. As a rule, they were roughly made of hard, gritty, igneous rock or sandstone and mostly show signs of hard usage. As their bases are usually convex, they must have been set in the earth or in mud to prevent their rocking. Two main types have been found : those on which another smaller stone was pushed or rolled to and fro, and others with which a second stone was used as a pounder, eventually making a large cavity in the nether stone. Querns of the former type were probably used solely for grain; the second type possibly only for pounding herbs and spices for making curries. In fact, stones of which latter type are dubbed “curry stones” by our workmen and our cook asked for the loan of one from the museum for use in the kitchen.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| (i) What are the two types of querns?   | 2 |
| (ii) What materials were these querns made of?  | 2 |
| (iii) Why are they described as “curry stones”?   | 1 |
| (iv) Explain any two ways in which the archaeologists classify finds and one way they determine the function. | 3 |

20. Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :

### On Horse and on foot

This is how Ibn Battuta described the postal system :

In India the postal system is of two kinds : The horse-post called ‘Uluq’, is run by royal horses stationed at distance of every four miles. The foot-post has three stations per mile. It is called ‘dawa’, that is, one third of a mile ... Now, at every third of a mile there is a well populated village, outside which are three pavilions in which sit men with girded loins ready to start. Each of them carries a rod, two cubits in length with copper bells at the top. When the courier starts from the city, he holds the letter in one hand and the rod with its bells on the other; and he runs as fast as he can. When the men in the pavilion hear the ringing of bell they get ready. As soon as the courier reaches them one of them takes the letter from his hand and runs at the top speed shaking the rod all the

while until he reaches the next dawa. And the same process continues till the letter reaches its destination. This foot-person is quicker than the horse-post; and often it is used to transport the fruits of Khurasan which are much desired in India.

- (i) Name the two kinds of postal systems. 1
- (ii) Explain how the foot post worked. 3
- (iii) Why does Ibn-Battuta think that the postal system in India was efficient? 3
- (iv) How did the State encourage merchants in the 14th century? 1

**OR**

**The pilgrimage of the Mughal princess Jahanara, 1643**

The following is an excerpt from Jahanara's biography of Shaikh Muinuddin Chishti, titled *Munis al Arwah* (The Confidant of Spirits) :

After praising the one God ... this lowly *faqira* (humble soul) Jahanara ... went from the capital Agra in the company of my great father (Emperor Shah Jahan) towards the pure region of incomparable Ajmer ... I was committed to this idea, that every day in every station I would perform two cycles of optional prayer.

For several days ... I did not sleep on a leopard skin at night, I did not extend my feet in the direction of the blessed sanctuary of the revered saving master, and I did not turn my back towards him. I passed the days beneath the trees.

On Thursday, the fourth of the blessed month of Ramzan, I attained the happiness of pilgrimage to the illuminated and the perfumed tomb ... With an hour of daylight remaining, I went to the holy sanctuary and rubbed my pale face with the dust of that threshold. From the doorway to the blessed tomb I went barefoot, kissing the ground. Having entered the dome, I went around the light-filled tomb of my master seven times ... Finally with my own hand I put the finest quality of *itar* on the perfumed tomb of the revered one, and having taken off the rose scarf that I had on my head, I placed it on the top of the blessed tomb ...

- (i) How does Jahanara show her devotion to the Shaikh? Answer by giving examples. 2
- (ii) Why did the Dargah attract a lot of devotees? 2
- (iii) How do we know that Akbar also had a great regard for the Saint? 2
- (iv) What other activities were part of the Ziyarat or 'Pilgrimage'. 2

21. Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :

**A small basket of grapes**

This is what Khushdeva Singh writes about his experience during one of his visits to Karachi in 1949 :

My friends took me to a room at the airport where we all sat down and talked ... (and) had lunch together. I had to travel from Karachi to London ... at 2.30 a.m. ... At 5.00 p.m. ... I told my friends that they had given me so generously of their time, I thought it would be too much for them to wait the whole night and suggested they must spare themselves the trouble. But nobody left until it was dinner time ... Then they said they were leaving and that I must have a little rest before emplaning ... I got up at about 1.45 a.m. and, when I opened the door, I saw that all of them were still there ... They all accompanied me to the plane, and, before parting, presented me with a small basket of grapes. I had no words to express my gratitude for the overwhelming affection with which I was treated and the happiness this stopover had given me.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| (i) Who was Kushadeva Singh?  | 1 |
| (ii) How did his friends show their affection to him during his visit to Karachi?   | 3 |
| (iii) How was Kushadeva Singh seen as a symbol of humanity and harmony?   | 2 |
| (iv) This source is an example of oral history. How does oral history help historians reconstruct events of the recent past? Give two points. | 2 |

**OR**

**“There cannot be any divided loyalty”**

Govind Ballabh Pant argued that in order to become loyal citizen people had to stop focusing only on the community and the self :

For the success of democracy one must train himself in the art of self-discipline. In democracies one should care less for himself and more for others. There cannot be any divided loyalty. All loyalties must exclusively be centred round the State. If in a democracy, you create rival loyalties, or you create a system in which any individual or group, instead of suppressing his extravagance, cares nought for larger or other interests, then democracy is doomed.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| (i) Give three attributes of a loyal citizen in a democracy according to G.B. Pant. | 3 |
|---|---|

- (ii) What do you understand by 'Separate Electorate'? 1
- (iii) Why was the demand for Separate Electorate made during the drafting of the Constitution? 2
- (iv) Why was G.B. Pant against this demand? Give two reasons. 2

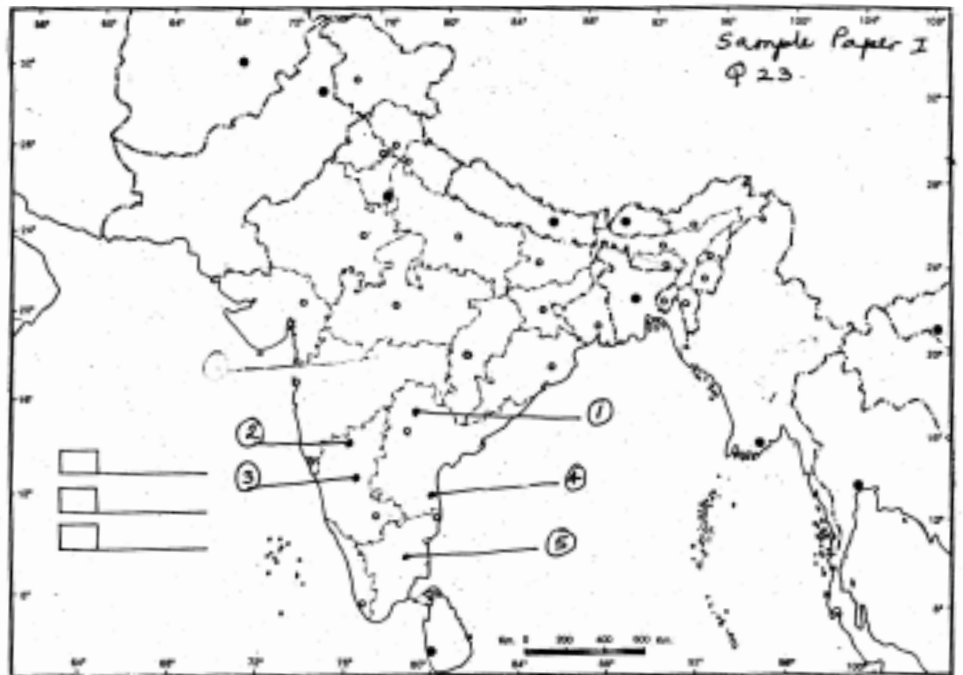
**Part 'E'**

22. On an outline map of India, mark and name Gandhara, Panchala, Magadha, Avanti, Vajji. 5

**OR**

On an outline map of India, mark and name five important centres of Revolt of 1857.

23. On an given outline map of India 5 places in South India between 14th to 16th centuries are marked as 1 to 5. Identify and write their names on the lines given. 5



**QUESTIONS FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED  
(In lieu of Questions 22 and 23)**

- Q 22. Name five important political centres in the Mauryan Empire. 5

**OR**

Name any five centers of the Revolt of 1857.

- Q 23. Name any three cities and two kingdoms in South India between 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> century. 3+2 marks