

**Study Circle Career Development Institute**

# **100 Important Points : SSP**



**(3) History : Maurya Empire & after, Guptas,  
Vardhans & after**

## **(1) General Studies Paper I**

- 1) **History of India and Indian National Movement (15)**
- 2) **Maharashtra, India and World Geography (15)**
- 3) **Maharashtra and India - Indian Polity and Governance (15)**
- 4) **Economic and Social development (15)**
- 5) **Environmental Ecology, Bio-diversity & Climate Change (10)**
- 6) **General Science (15)**
- 7) **Current Events of State, National and International Importance (15)**

### **(1) History of India and Indian National Movement (15)**

- 1) **History of Ancient India (4)**
- 2) **History of Mediavel India (3)**
- 3) **History of Modern India (4)**
- 4) **Indian National Movement (4)**
- \* *Architecture, Literature, SocioCultural, Political and economical history*
  
- 1) **Indus Valley & Prehistory**
- 2) **Vedic Culture, Buddhism & Jainism**
  
- 3) **Maurya Empire & after, Guptas, Vardhans & after**
  
- 4) **Satavahanas, Vakataks, Chalukyas, Rashtrakutas, Shilahars & Yadavas, South India**
- 5) **Delhi sultanate & Mughal Empire**
- 6) **Bhakti & Sufi Movement**
- 7) **Bahmanis & Vijayanagar, Maratha Empire**
- 8) **Anglo - British Wars & British Rule**
- 9) **Constitutional Acts, commissions, pacts**
- 10) **Sociorelegious reforms, organisations**
- 11) **Education, Press & Leaders**
- 12) **Rise of nationalism, Congress &**
- 13) **Militant Nationalism, Farmer & Labour movements**
- 14) **Freedom movements - Swadeshi, Noncoopeartion, Civil Disobedience, Quit India**
- 15) **Muslim League & others, Independence & Samyukt Maharashtra**

State Service Preliminary Examination 2024

Preparation & Guidance : Topics & Subtopics of the Syllabus

100 Important Points : Hist 03

1) Which is not a feature of the Maurya dynasty in India?

- I) Widespread education II) Provincial administration  
III) Biggest empire during that period in Indian. IV) Use of gold, silver and copper coins

**Answer options :**

- 1) Only I 2) Only I and III 3) Only IV 4) All the above.

2) **Assertion (A) :** Ashoka annexed Kalinga to the Mauryan Empire.

**Reason (R) :** Kalinga controlled the land and sea routes to South India.

**Answer Options :**

- 1) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A  
2) Both A and R are true but R is NOT a correct explanation of A  
3) A is true but R is false  
4) A is false but R is true

3) Consider the following statements :

- a) The last Mauryan ruler, Brihadratha was assassinated by his commander-in- chief, Pushyamitra Sunga.  
b) The last Sunga king, Devabhuti was assassinated by his Brahmana minister Vasudeva Kanava who usurped the throne.  
c) The last ruler of the Kanva dynasty was deposed by the Andhras.

**Answer Options :**

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

4) What were the causes of the fall of Mauryan empire?

- a) financial crises  
b) feudal economy and political structure  
c) absence of the concept of statehood 4) Non-violent policy of Ashoka, which rendered the army useless

**Answer Options :**

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

5) Consider the following statements :

- a) The Chinese pilgrim Fa-Hien attended the fourth Great Buddhist Council held by Kanishka.  
b) The Chinese pilgrim Hiuen-Tsang met Harsha and found him to be antagonistic to Buddhism.  
Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- 1) (a) only 2) (b) only 3) Both (a) and (b) 4) Neither (a) nor (b)

- 6) The correct chronological order in which the following appeared in India is...
- a) Gold coins.                      b) Punch-marked silver coins.  
c) Iron plough.                      d) Urban culture.
- Select the correct answer using the codes given below:
- 1) (c), (d), (a), (b)      2) (c), (d), (b), (a)      3) (d), (c), (a), (b)      4) (d), (c), (b), (a)
- 7) With reference to the scientific progress of ancient India, which of the statements given below are correct?
- a) Different kinds of specialized surgical instruments were in common use by 1st century AD.  
b) Transplant of internal organs in the human body had begun by the beginning of 3rd century AD,  
c) The concept of sine of an angle was known in 5th century AD.  
d) The concept of cyclic quadrilaterals was known in 7th century AD.
- Answer Options :**
- 1) (a) and (b) only      2) (c) and (d) only      3) (a), (c) and (d) only      4) (a), (b), (c) and (d)
- 8) **Assertion (A) :** The Aham and Puram poems of the Padinen Kilukanakku group formed a continuation of the Sangam composition.  
**Reason (R) :** They were included under the Post-Sangam works as against the Sangam works proper.
- 1) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A  
2) Both A and R are true but R is NOT a correct explanation of A  
3) A is true but R is false                      4) A is false but R is true
- 9) Saka era commenced from ....
- 1) 78 A.D.                      2) 120 A.D.                      3) 1000 A.D.                      4) 1953 A.D
- 10) Chaitra 1 of the national calender based on the Saka Era corresponds to which one of the following dates of the Gregorian calendar in a normal year of 365 days?
- 1) 22nd March ( or 21st March)                      2) 15th May (or 16th May)  
3) 31st March (or 30 th March)                      4) 21st April (or 20th April)
- 11) With reference to the invaders in ancient India, which one of the following is the correct chronological order ?
- 1) Greeks - Sakas - Kushans                      2) Greeks - Kushans - Sakas  
3) Sakas - Greeks - Kushans                      4) Sakas - Kushans - Greeks
- 12) Which of the following gives the contemporaries of Kanishka?
- 1) Kambar, Banabhatta, Asvagosha                      2) Nagarjuna, Asvagosha, Vasumitra  
3) Asvagosha, Kalidasa, Nagarjuna                      4) Asvagosha and Kambar
- 13) Which one of the following books of ancient India has the love story of the son of the founder of Sunga dynasty?
- 1) Swapnavasavadatta      2) Malavikagnimitra      3) Meghadoota                      4) Ratnavali

- 14) The Indo-Greek kingdom set up in north Afghanistan in the beginning of the second century B. C. was  
1) Bactria                      2) Scythia                      3) Zedrasia                      4) Aria
- 15) From the third century AD when the Hun invasion ended the Roman Empire, the Indian merchants relied more and more on the  
1) African trade                      2) West-European trade  
3) South-East Asian trade                      4) Middle-Eastern trade
- 16) Consider the following passage :  
"In the course of a career on the road spanning almost thirty years, he crossed the breadth of the Eastern hemisphere, visited territories equivalent to about 44 modern countries, and put behind him a total distance of approximately 73,000 miles'.  
The world's greatest traveller of premodern times to whom the above passage refers is :  
1) Megasthenes                      2) Fa Hien                      3) Marco Polo                      4) Ibn Battuta
- 17) **Assertion (A)** : Fa-Hien visited India during the reign of Chandragupta Vikramaditya.  
**Reason (R)** : He came to see the development of temple, art and architecture.  
**Answer Options :**  
1) If both 'A' and 'R' are correct and R is the correct explanation of 'A'.  
2) If both 'A' and 'R' are true but 'R' is not the correct explanation of 'A'.  
3) If 'A' is true but 'R' is false.  
4) If 'A' is false but 'R' is true.
- 18) Mark the true statements about Huen Tsang?  
a) first Chinese visitor to India                      b) was a Buddhist monk  
c) studied at Nalanda for 10 years                      d) invaded India a number of times  
1) (a),(b),(c)                      2) (a),(b),(c),(d)                      3) (b),(c)                      4) (b),(c),(d)
- 19) The following persons came to India at one time or another :  
a) Fa-Hien                      b) I-Tsing                      c) Megasthenese                      d) Hieun-Tsang  
The correct chronological sequence of their visits is :  
1) (c), (a), (b), (d)                      2) (c), (a), (d), (b)                      3) (a), (c), (b), (d)                      4) (a), (c), (d), (b)
- 20) The Chinese traveller Yuan Chwang (Hiuen Tsang) who visited India recorded the general conditions and culture of India at that time. In this context, which of the following statements is/are correct?  
a) The roads and river-routes were completely immune from robbery.  
b) As regards punishment for offences, ordeals by fire, water and poison were the instruments for determining the innocence or guilt of a person.  
c) The tradesmen had to pay duties at                      ferries and barrier stations.  
**Answer Options :**  
1) (a) only                      2) (b) and (c) only                      3) (a) and (c) only                      4) (a), (b) and (c)
- 21) The Allahabad Pillar inscription is associated with which one of the following ?  
1) Mahapadma Nanda                      2) Chandragupta Maurya                      3) Ashoka                      4) Samudragupta

- 22) Match List - I with List - II and select the correct answer using the code given below the lists :

**List - I (Finding/Invention/Calculation)**

- a) Time Taken by the Earth to orbit the Sun
- b) Calculation of the value of  $\pi$  ('pi')
- c) Invention of the digit zero
- d) The game of snakes and ladders

**List - II (Ancient Indian Scholar)**

- 1. Aryabhata
- 2. Bhaskaracharya
- 3. Budhayana
- 4. Gyandev

**Answer Options :**

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

- 23) Who among the following is not associated with medicine in ancient India ?

- 1) Dhanvantri                      2) Bhaskaracharya                      3) Charaka                      4) Susruta

- 24) **Assertion (A) :** The origin of feudal system in ancient India can be traced to military campaigns.  
**Reason (R) :** There was considerable expansion of the feudal system during the Gupta period.

**Answer Options :**

- 1) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- 2) Both A and R are true but R is NOT a correct explanation of A
- 3) A is true but R is false
- 4) A is false but R is true

- 25) There are only two known examples of cave paintings of the Gupta period in ancient India. One of these is paintings of Ajanta caves. Where is the other surviving example of Gupta paintings?

- 1) Bagh caves                      2) Ellora caves                      3) Lomas Rishi cave                      4) Nasik caves

- 26) The given map relates to



- 1) Kanishka at the time of this death
- 2) Samudragupta after the close of his South Indian campaign
- 3) Ashoka towards close of his reign
- 4) Empire of Thaneswar on the eve of Harsha's accession

- 27) With reference to forced labour (Vishti) in India during the Gupta period, which one of the following statements is correct?
- 1) It was considered a source of income for the State, a sort of tax paid by the people.
  - 2) It was totally absent in the Madhya Pradesh and Kathiawar regions of the Gupta Empire.
  - 3) The forced labourer was entitled to weekly wages.
  - 4) The eldest son of the labourer was sent as the forced labourer.
- 28) What does Baudhayan theorem (Baudhayan Sulva Sutra) relate to ?
- 1) Lengths of sides of a rightangled triangle
  - 2) Calculation of the value of pi
  - 3) Logarithmic Calculations
  - 4) Normal distribution curve
- 29) Ashokan inscriptions were first deciphered by:
- 1) Buhler
  - 2) Robert Sewell
  - 3) James Prinsep
  - 4) Codrington
- 30) The Ashokan major rock edicts which tell us about the Sangam Kingdom include rock edicts
- 1) I and X
  - 2) I and XI
  - 3) II and XIII
  - 4) II and XIV
- 31) Match the following :
- |                  |               |
|------------------|---------------|
| a) Chaitya       | 1) Amravati   |
| b) Stupa         | 2) Besnagar   |
| c) Pillar        | 3) Karle      |
| d) Brick Temples | 4) Bhitragaon |
- Answer Options :**
- |    | (a) | (b) | (c) | (d) |
|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1) | 1   | 3   | 4   | 2   |
| 2) | 2   | 3   | 4   | 1   |
| 3) | 3   | 1   | 2   | 4   |
| 4) | 3   | 1   | 4   | 2   |
- 32) 'Mrichchhakatika' an ancient Indian book written by Shudraka deals with
- 1) the love affair of a rich merchant with the daughter of a courtesan
  - 2) the victory of Chandragupta II over the Shaka Kshatrapas of western India
  - 3) the military expeditions and exploits of Samudragupte
  - 4) the love affair between a Gupta king and a princess of Kamarupa
- 33) Which one of the following texts of ancient India allows divorce to a wife deserted by her husband?
- 1) Kamasutra
  - 2) Manavadharmashastra
  - 3) Sukra Nitisara
  - 4) Arthashastra
- 34) The ancient Indian play *Mudrarakshasa* of Vishakhadutt has its subject on
- 1) a conflict between Gods and Demons of ancient Hindu lore
  - 2) a romantic story of an Aryan prince and a tribal woman
  - 3) the story of the power struggle between two Aryan tribes
  - 4) the court intrigues at the time of Chandragupta Maurya

- 35) With reference to the scientific progress of ancient India, which of the statements given below are correct?
- Different kinds of specialized surgical instruments were in common use by 1st century AD.
  - Transplant of internal organs in the human body had begun by the beginning of 3rd century AD,
  - The concept of sine of an angle was known in 5th century AD.
  - The concept of cyclic quadrilaterals was known in 7th century AD.

**Answer Options :**

- 1) (a) and (b) only    2) (c) and (d) only    3) (a), (c) and (d)    4) (a),(b),(c), (d)
- 36) The term 'Yavanapriya' mentioned in ancient Sanskrit texts denoted .....
- a fine variety of Indian muslin
  - ivory
  - damsels sent to the Greek court for dance performance
  - pepper
- 37) With reference to India's culture and tradition, what is 'Kalaripayattu'?
- It is an ancient Bhakti cult of Shaivism still prevalent in some parts of South India.
  - It is an ancient style bronze and brasswork still found in southern part of Coromandel area.
  - It is an ancient form of dance-drama and a living traditional in the northern part of Malabar.
  - It is an ancient martial art and a living tradition in some part of South India.

- 38) Among the four works mentioned below which one is encyclopaedic in nature?
- Amarakosa
  - Siddhantasiromani
  - Brihat Samhita
  - Ashtangahrdaya

- 39) Arrange the following in ascending Chronological order
- Bhasa
  - Asvaghosha
  - Bhavabhuti
  - Kalidasa

**Answer Options :**

- 1) (a),(d),(b),(c)    2) (b),(a),(d),(c)    3) (c),(a),(d),(b)    4) (b),(c),(a),(d)
- 40) Match the following :
- |                 |                      |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| a) Rig Veda     | 1) Musical hymns     |
| b) Yajurveda    | 2) Hymns and rituals |
| c) Sama Veda    | 3) Charms and spells |
| d) Atharva Veda | 4) Hymns and prayers |

**Answer Options :**

- |    | (a) | (b) | (c) | (d) |
|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1) | 4   | 1   | 2   | 3   |
| 2) | 4   | 2   | 1   | 3   |
| 3) | 3   | 2   | 4   | 1   |
| 4) | 2   | 3   | 1   | 4'  |
- 41) The earliest rock-cut caves in western India are those at:
- Nasik, Ellora and Ajanta
  - Junnar, Kalyan and Pitalkhora
  - Ajanta, Bhaja and Kondane
  - Bhaja, Pitalkhora and Kondane



42) Which one of the following pairs is correctly matched ?

- 1) Vikramsila Monastery : Uttar Pradesh
- 2) Hemkund Gurudwara : Himachal Pradesh
- 3) Udayagiri Caves : Maharashtra
- 4) Amaravati Buddhist Stupa : Andhra Pradesh

43) Match the following :

- |                      |                                       |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| a) Col Todd          | 1) Ancient Indian Script              |
| b) Coomaraswamy      | 2) Annals of Antiquities of Rajputana |
| c) Sir John Marshall | 3) History of Indian Art              |
| d) James Princep     | 4) Indus valley civilization          |

**Answer Options :**

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

44) Which of the following pairs are correctly matched ?

- |                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| a) Lothal : Ancient dockyard       | b) Sarnath : First Sermon of Buddha          |
| c) Rajgir : Lion capital of Ashoka | d) Nalanda : Great seat of Buddhist learning |

**Answer Options :**

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

45) Which one of the following ancient Indian records is the earliest royal order to preserve foodgrains to be utilised during a crises in the country ?

- |                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| 1) Sohagaura Copperplate | 2) Rummindei pillar-edict of Ashoka       |
| 3) Prayaga-Prasasti      | 4) Mehrauli Pillar inscription of Chandra |

46) Which one of the following ports handled the north Indian trade during the Gupta period ?

- |               |           |           |           |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1) Tamralipti | 2) Broach | 3) Kalyan | 4) Cambay |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|

47) Which one of the following important trade centres of ancient India was on the trade route connecting Kalyana with Vengi ?

- |           |            |            |               |
|-----------|------------|------------|---------------|
| 1) Tagara | 2) Sripura | 3) Tripuri | 4) Tamralipti |
|-----------|------------|------------|---------------|

48) Match List I with List II and select the correct answer by using the codes given below the Lists :

**List I (Author)**

**List II (Text)**

- |                 |                          |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| a) Varahmihira  | 1) Prabandha Chintamani  |
| b) Vishakhadutt | 2) Mrichakatika          |
| c) Shudraka     | 3) Brihat-Samhita        |
| d) Bilhana      | 4) Devi-Chandragupta     |
|                 | 5) Vikramankadevacharita |

**Answer Options :**

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
1)	3	4	5	2
2)	3	4	2	5
3)	5	3	4	1
4)	1	3	5	2

49) In which of the following relief sculpture inscriptions is 'Ranyo Ashoka' (King Ashoka) mentioned along with the stone portrait of Ashoka?

- 1) Kanganahalli      2) Sanchi I      3) Shahbazgarhi      4) Sohgaura

50) **Assertion A :** According to Ashoka's edicts social harmony among the people was more important than religious devotion.

**Reason R :** He spread ideas of equity instead of promotion of religion.

**Answer Options :**

- 1) Both A and R are true but R is NOT a correct explanation of A  
2) A is true but R is false  
3) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A  
4) A is false but R is true

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