

ForumIAS

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Prelims Marathon

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HISTORY
ECONOMICS
POLITY
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT

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Miscellaneous-VI

1. Consider the following statements regarding Bougainville Island:

1. It is the easternmost main island of Brunei.
2. It holds significant world reserves of copper and gold at Panguna open-cast mine.
3. It currently functions as an autonomous region.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Bougainville is the largest island in the Solomon Islands archipelago geographically, but politically forms the easternmost territory of Papua New Guinea (PNG) in the Solomon Sea.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The island contains the massive Panguna mine, which was once one of the world's largest open-pit copper and gold mines and a major driver of PNG's national economy prior to its closure due to civil conflict.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Bougainville currently holds autonomous status within PNG. In 2019, an official non-binding referendum was held where over 97% of voters chose full independence from Papua New Guinea.

2. With reference to the Tokara Islands, consider the following statements:

1. It constitute a chain of volcanic islands forming part of the Nansei Island arc of South Korea.
2. Located between the larger island of Kyushu to the north and the Amami Islands to the south.
3. Experiences frequent earthquake swarms driven by the active subduction of the Philippine Sea Plate beneath the Eurasian Plate.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

Answer: (b)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The Tokara Islands are a sub-archipelago of twelve small islands (seven inhabited) belonging to Kagoshima Prefecture in southern Japan, situated along an active volcanic arc.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Geographically, the chain lies in the East China Sea / Pacific border zone, positioned directly between the mainland southern island of Kyushu and the Amami Islands.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The area lies on a major subduction zone where the Philippine Sea Plate plunges beneath the Eurasian (Okinawa) Plate, frequently triggering seismic swarms involving thousands of micro-to-moderate earthquakes.

3. Consider the following statements regarding the South Pars field:

1. It is the world's largest single offshore natural gas field, located in the Qatar.

2. The field is a shared transboundary geological structure split between the territorial waters of Iran and Qatar.
3. The Iranian sector accounts for more than half of Iran's total domestic natural gas production.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The South Pars / North Dome structure is universally ranked as the world's largest non-associated natural gas field, containing roughly 8% of global natural gas reserves.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The field is bisected by the maritime boundary between Iran (which operates the northern sector named South Pars) and Qatar (which operates the southern sector named North Dome).
- **Statement 3 is correct:** South Pars provides around 70% of Iran's domestic gas demand and feeds its primary petrochemical processing industries and gas injection projects.

4. With reference to global Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) infrastructure and India's energy imports, consider the following statements:

1. Ras Laffan City in Qatar operates as the world's largest single export site LNG.
2. India's Petronet LNG imports a substantial volume of its long-term LNG contracts from the Ras Laffan.
3. Ras Laffan is connected to Iran via an underwater trans-Persian Gulf natural gas pipeline.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Ras Laffan Industrial City, located **80 km** north of Doha, is Qatar's primary hub for liquefying and shipping natural gas extracted from the offshore North Dome field.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** India relies heavily on Qatari LNG, with state-backed Petronet LNG procuring millions of tonnes annually sourced directly from Ras Laffan terminal under long-term supply contracts.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** There is no cross-gulf pipeline linking Ras Laffan to Iran; Qatar and Iran process and export gas from their respective offshore zones independently due to sanctions and geopolitical divergence.

5. Consider the following statements regarding Kharg Island:

1. It is a coral island situated in the northern Persian Gulf, under the administrative jurisdiction of Iran.
2. It handles the vast majority of Iran's crude oil exports via heavy offshore loading berths and storage facilities.
3. It processes up to 90% of the country's oil exports..

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (d)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Kharg Island is a continental shelf coral island located ^{25 km} off the Iranian coast in the Persian Gulf.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The island hosts Iran's main oil terminal (Kharg Crude Oil Terminal), processing around 90% of Iran's crude oil exports through sea pipelines from mainland oilfields.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Kharg Island is a strategic Iranian coral island in the Persian Gulf famous for housing Iran's premier crude oil export terminal, which processes up to 90% of the country's oil exports. It is also geographically unique for having natural freshwater stored in its limestone.

6. Consider the following statements regarding the host of the 30th Conference of the Parties (COP30) to the UNFCCC:

1. COP30 was hosted in the Amazonian port city of Belem, Brazil.
2. Belem sits along Guajara Bay near the mouth of the Amazon River system and serves as a major gateway to the rainforest.
3. The location emphasized rainforest conservation and the implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (d)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Belem, the capital of Brazil's northern state of Para, was selected by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) as the official host venue for COP30.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Located at the confluence of the Guama River and Guajara Bay, Belém is widely known as the "Gateway to the Amazon" rainforest region.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Hosting COP30 in an Amazonian urban center was intended to center tropical forest biomes, indigenous land rights, and ecosystem restoration within climate diplomacy under the Paris Agreement.

7. With reference to international climate negotiations and UNFCCC host venues, consider the following statements:

1. The Mediterranean coastal city of Antalya in Itlay was selected to host the COP31 UN Climate Summit.
2. The presidency of COP31 involves a collaborative arrangement between Itlay and Australia following a consensus negotiated within the Western Europe and Others Group (WEOG).
3. The UNFCCC Secretariat is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.

Which of the statements given above is/are not correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 only

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

Answer: (d)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Antalya, a major Turkish resort and administrative hub on the Mediterranean coast, was chosen as the physical venue for the COP31 Climate Summit at the Expo Center.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Following competing bids between Türkiye and Australia under WEOG rules, an agreement was reached for Türkiye to host the conference in Antalya while Australia leads negotiations in key thematic areas.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The permanent headquarters of the UNFCCC Secretariat is located in Bonn, Germany.

8. Consider the following statements regarding the Ayni Airbase:

1. Ayni Airbase is situated in Tajikistan, in close geographic proximity to the Wakhan Corridor.
2. India played a key role in renovating the airbase infrastructure through the BRO.
3. The facility is located on the coast of the Caspian Sea to protect maritime oil pipelines.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Ayni Airbase lies approximately **15 km** west of Dushanbe in Tajikistan, holding strategic value near Central Asia and the Afghan border (including the Wakhan Corridor).
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Between 2002 and 2010, India spent approximately **\$70 million** to upgrade the airbase runway and infrastructure using engineers from the BRO (Ministry of Defence).
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Tajikistan is a double-landlocked country in Central Asia and has no coastline along the Caspian Sea.

9. Consider the following pairs:

Row	Geographic Feature	Administrative Jurisdiction / Location	Associated Security or Conservation Initiative
1.	Bitra Island	Union Territory of Lakshadweep	Indian Navy Detachment under INS Jatayu network
2.	Kariyachalli Island	Gulf of Mannar, Tamil Nadu	TNSHOR Artificial Reef Restoration Project

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

- (a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: (c)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Pair 1 is correctly matched:** Bitra is the smallest inhabited island in Lakshadweep with the archipelago's largest lagoon. The Indian Navy established a naval detachment here to augment maritime domain awareness and extend the radar/surveillance network linked with INS Jatayu (Minicoy).
- **Pair 2 is correctly matched:** Kariyachalli Island is an uninhabited coral island in the Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park, Tamil Nadu. To counter severe coastal erosion and land submergence caused by sea-level rise, the Tamil Nadu State Department of Environment launched the TNSHOR (Tamil Nadu Sustainably Harnessing Ocean Resources) project to deploy artificial reef modules.

10. Consider the following statements regarding the Nyoma Advanced Landing Ground (ALG):

1. Nyoma Airbase is situated in Eastern Ladakh at an altitude 13,000 feet, south of the Pangong Tso Lake.
2. The upgrade of Nyoma into a full-fledged operational airbase capable of handling fighter jets was undertaken by BRO.
3. Nyoma lies along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and falls under the operational command of the Northern Air Command.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Nyoma is located in the Changthang region of Eastern Ladakh near the Indus River, south of Pangong Tso, at an elevation of approximately **13,700 feet**.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The BRO executed the runway lengthening and asphalt surfacing work at Nyoma to convert the staging airfield into a permanent forward airbase for heavy transport and fighter aircraft.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Aerial assets and operations at Nyoma Airbase are managed by the Western Air Command (WAC) of the Indian Air Force.

Ancient India (Pre-history phase)

1. Which of the following statements with regard to the Palaeolithic tool cultures in the Indian subcontinent is/are correct?

1. Robert Bruce Foote identified the first Palaeolithic stone tool in India at Pallavaram in 1863.
2. Acheulian culture characterized by bifacial quartzite handaxes is uniformly distributed across all geographic zones.
3. Soanian culture, named after the Soan River valley, is characterized primarily by choppers and chopping tools.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** British geologist Robert Bruce Foote discovered India's first Palaeolithic tool (a quartzite handaxe) at Pallavaram near Chennai in 1863.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Acheulian culture is widely distributed in Central, Western, and Southern India, but it is conspicuously absent in the dense tropical forests of the Western Ghats, coastal stretches, and North-East India.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The Soanian tool tradition (mainly pebble-based choppers and chopping tools) developed primarily in the Soan River valley in present-day Pakistan.

2. Which of the following statements with regard to the Palaeolithic Age is/are correct?

1. Lower Palaeolithic period represents the longest phase of the Stone Age.
2. Middle Palaeolithic phase is characterized technologically by a shift toward refined flake-tool industries.
3. Upper Palaeolithic phase coincided with the last phase of the Ice Age and marked the appearance of *Homo sapiens*.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Palaeolithic Age lasted from roughly **2 million years ago** to **10,000 BCE**, covering almost the entire Pleistocene Ice Age.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The Middle Palaeolithic (**100,000--40,000 BCE**) saw a technological shift from core tools (handaxes) to specialized flake tools like scrapers, points, and borers.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The Upper Palaeolithic (**40,000--10,000 BCE**) coincided with a warming climate, the emergence of anatomically modern humans (*Homo sapiens*), parallel blade-and-burin tools, and early cave art.

3. Consider the following information:

	Archaeological Site	Region	Description
1.	Hunsgi	Karnataka	Lower Palaeolithic factory site with quartzite tools
2.	Kurnool Caves	Andhra Pradesh	Palaeolithic cave site yielding bone tools and ash remnants
3.	Chopani-Mando	Uttar Pradesh	Continuous sequence from Upper Palaeolithic to Neolithic

4.	Bhimbetka	Madhya Pradesh	Rock shelters with cave art spanning Palaeolithic to Mesolithic
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In which of the above rows is the given information correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **Row 1 is correct:** Hunsgi Valley in Yadgir district, Karnataka, is a prominent Lower Palaeolithic site featuring limestone handaxes and tool manufacturing centers.
- **Row 2 is correct:** The Kurnool Caves (Muchchatla Chintamani Gavi) in Andhra Pradesh yielded Upper Palaeolithic bone tools and ash deposits, proving early controlled use of fire.
- **Row 3 is correct:** Chopani-Mando in the Belan River valley, UP, shows a rare multi-layer sequence transitioning from the Upper Palaeolithic to Mesolithic and early Neolithic phases.
- **Row 4 is correct:** Bhimbetka in MP is famous for rock shelters containing prehistoric paintings from the Upper Palaeolithic through the Mesolithic era.

4. Which of the following statements with regard to the Mesolithic Age is/are correct?

1. Shift to a warmer, drier post-glacial climate led to a transition from big-game hunting to small-animal hunting.
2. The characteristic technological feature of the Mesolithic Age was the production of microliths.
3. Mesolithic burial sites show no evidence of grave goods or ceremonial rituals, indicating a complete absence of spiritual or afterlife concepts.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Holocene warming trend around **10,000 BCE** shifted ecosystems, encouraging small-game hunting, wild grain collecting, and early animal domestication.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Microliths (geometrics like trapezes, crescents, and triangles measuring less than **5 cm**) served as arrowheads and spear barbs.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Mesolithic burials (e.g., at Mahadaha and Langhnaj) frequently contained grave goods such as microliths, animal bones, shells, and ornaments, pointing to early ritualistic beliefs and concepts of an afterlife.

5. Consider the following information:

	Archaeological Site	State	Description
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1.	Bagor	Madhya Pradesh	Largest Mesolithic site with early animal domestication evidence
2.	Langhnaj	Gujarat	Mesolithic site showing human burials and microlithic tools
3.	Patne	Maharashtra	Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic site with ostrich eggshell beads
4.	Adamgarh	Madhya Pradesh	Early evidence of animal domestication dated to around 5000 BCE

In which of the above rows is the given information correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Row 1 is incorrect:** Bagor on the Kothari River in Rajasthan is the largest excavated Mesolithic site in India, yielding early evidence of domesticated cattle, sheep, and goats.
- **Row 2 is correct:** Langhnaj in Gujarat revealed Mesolithic habitations, microliths, animal bones, and 14 human skeletons buried in flexed positions.
- **Row 3 is correct:** Patne in Jalgaon district, Maharashtra, revealed Upper Palaeolithic ostrich eggshell fragments and engraved beads along with Mesolithic layers.
- **Row 4 is correct:** Adamgarh near Hoshangabad, MP, provides clear zooarchaeological proof of early animal husbandry alongside stone tools.

6. Which of the following statements with regard to the Neolithic Age in India is/are correct?

1. Adoption of agriculture and cattle pastoralism led to permanent village settlements.
2. Neolithic era included polished and ground stone axes, adzes, and the widespread development of pottery for storage.
3. Neolithic sites suggest the emergence of fertility cults and symbolic Mother Goddess worship.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Australian archaeologist V. Gordon Childe coined the term Neolithic Revolution to describe the shift from nomadic foraging to sedentary food production.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Polished stone tools with sharp cutting edges allowed clearing of forests for cultivation, while wheel-made and hand-made pottery permitted long-term grain and water storage.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Female terracotta figurines found at sites like Mehrgarh indicate symbolic concerns with soil/human fertility and early religious practices.

7. Consider the following information:

	Archaeological Site	State / Union Territory	Description
1.	Burzahom	Jammu & Kashmir	Underground pit-dwellings and unique animal burials alongside humans
2.	Mehrgarh	Baluchistan	Earliest agricultural site in South Asia with mud-brick houses
3.	Hallur	Karnataka	South Indian Neolithic-Megalithic transition site with early millet and horse remains
4.	Gufkral	Laddakh	Cave of the Weaver featuring circular pit-dwellings and polished bone tools

In which of the above rows is the given information correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Row 1 is correct:** Burzahom near Srinagar is famous for subterranean pit-dwellings, coarse grey pottery, and unusual dog burials in human graves.
- **Row 2 is correct:** Mehrgarh on the Bolan Pass is South Asia's earliest known agricultural settlement (c. 7000 BCE), showing wheat/barley farming and rectangular mud-brick structures.
- **Row 3 is correct:** Hallur on the Tungabhadra River in Karnataka marks the transition from Neolithic pastoralism to the Iron Age (Megalithic), yielding finger millet (Ragi) and horse bones.
- **Row 4 is incorrect:** Gufkral (Cave of the Weaver) in Kashmir revealed pit-dwellings, bone needles, stone celts, and agricultural tools.

8. Consider the following pairs:

	Historical Place	Well known for
1.	Bori	Earliest documented Lower Palaeolithic tephra and stone tool site in Maharashtra
2.	Koldihwa	Early global evidence of cultivated rice along with cord-marked pottery
3.	Mahadaha	Mesolithic site yielding bone ornaments, double burials, and butchering areas

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

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

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1 is correctly matched:** Bori in Pune district, Maharashtra, is known for volcanic tephra deposits associated with early Lower Palaeolithic stone tools.
- **Pair 2 is correctly matched:** Koldihwa in the Belan Valley, UP, yielded rice husk imprints embedded in clay pottery, providing some of the earliest evidence of rice cultivation in South Asia (c. 6000 BCE).
- **Pair 3 is correctly matched:** Mahadaha in Pratapgarh district, UP, is a key Mesolithic site that yielded bone arrowheads, earrings, necklaces, butchering floors, and dual burials.

9. Consider the following pairs:

Row	Historical Place	Well known for
1.	Utnur	Neolithic ash mounds created by burnt accumulated cattle dung
2.	Paiyampalli	Neolithic-Megalithic site with evidence of grain cultivation and bone tools
3.	Maski	Ash mound site and famous rock edict site of Emperor Bimbisara

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1 is correctly matched:** Utnur in Telangana is a key Neolithic site famous for "ash mounds"—heaps of accumulated cattle dung burned periodically in ritualistic pastoral gatherings.
- **Pair 2 is correctly matched:** Paiyampalli in Vellore district, Tamil Nadu, revealed a Neolithic habitation layer featuring polished stone axes, bone points, and charred pulses/grains.
- **Pair 3 is incorrectly matched:** Maski in Raichur district, Karnataka, contains both Neolithic ash mounds/habitation sites and the Minor Rock Edict where the name Ashoka directly appears alongside Devanampriya.

10. Consider the following information:

	Archaeological Site	Territory	Description
1.	Chirand	Bihar	Neolithic site famous for polished bone tools made of deer antlers
2.	Tekkalakota	Karnataka	South Indian Neolithic settlement with gold ornaments and ash mounds

3.	Daojali Hading	Assam	North-Eastern Neolithic site yielding jadeite stone axes and cord-marked pottery
4.	Sanana	Odisha	Chalcolithic site with copper hoards and black-and-red pottery

In which of the above rows is the given information correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Row 1 is correct:** Chirand in Saran district, Bihar, is unique among Indian Neolithic sites for its vast collection of specialized bone tools made primarily from antlers.
- **Row 2 is correct:** Tekkalakota in Bellary district, Karnataka, is a major South Indian Neolithic hilltop settlement yielding polished celts, copper artifacts, gold ear ornaments, and ash mounds.
- **Row 3 is correct:** Daojali Hading in the Dima Hasao district of Assam revealed polished stone celts made of jadeite (imported from Myanmar/China), corn-grinders, and cord-marked pottery typical of Eastern Asian Neolithic links.
- **Row 4 is incorrect:** Sanana is not a recognized major Chalcolithic copper-hoard site in Odisha; the major copper-hoard sites are found in West Bengal/Jharkhand (e.g., Tamajuri) and UP (e.g., Saipai).

Chalcolithic, Megalithic, Bronze, and Iron Ages

1. Which of the following statements with regard to the Chalcolithic Age in India is/are correct?

1. Represents the first metal-using phase where copper was used alongside stone tools.
2. Chalcolithic communities were predominantly urban settlements characterized by baked-brick storeyed structures.
3. Black-and-Red Ware was the dominant pottery type.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: (b)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Chalcolithic (Copper-Stone) Age marked the first use of metals, with copper being the first metal used in the Indian subcontinent alongside microlithic and ground stone tools.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Unlike the urban Harappan civilization, Chalcolithic communities were predominantly rural village cultures. They lived in wattle-and-daub or mud-brick houses (such as at Inamgaon and Gilund), and baked bricks were rarely used.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Black-and-Red Ware (BRW) pottery, fired using inverted firing techniques was the most ubiquitous ceramic style across Ahar-Banas, Malwa, and Jorwe cultures.

2. Which of the following statements with regard to Chalcolithic crafts and material culture is/are correct?

1. The Khetri copper mines served as a key source of raw copper for regional tool-making communities.
2. Semi-precious stone beads made of carnelian, steatite, and quartz crystal were manufactured for trade and ornament.
3. Absence of spindle whorls across sites indicates they had no knowledge of textile spinning.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: (a)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Ganeshwar-Jodhpura culture near the Khetri copper belt in Rajasthan supplied raw copper and copper objects to neighboring regions, including the Malwa and Ahar cultures.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Bead-making using semi-precious stones (carnelian, agate, jasper, steatite, and chalcedony) was a highly developed craft at sites like Navdatoli and Inamgaon.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The discovery of terracotta spindle whorls at sites in Malwa and Maharashtra (such as Navdatoli and Nevasa), along with thread impressions of cotton and silk, proves knowledge of spinning and weaving.

3. Which of the following statements with regard to Chalcolithic trade and exchange systems is/are correct?

1. Regional Chalcolithic settlements engaged in inter-regional exchange using a barter system.
2. Ahar culture supplied copper implements to settlements in the Malwa and Gujarat regions.
3. Presence of gold and ivory artifacts in Jorwe sites suggests exchange links with South Indian sites like Tekkalakota.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: (d)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** In the absence of metallic coinage, Chalcolithic communities relied on a barter network to exchange agricultural surpluses, ceramics, and specialized craft goods.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Ahar (Tambavati, meaning a place rich in copper) processed local copper ores and traded finished tools to neighboring Malwa and northern Gujarat settlements.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Small gold ornaments and ivory objects recovered from Jorwe culture levels (e.g., Inamgaon and Daimabad) point to trade contacts with gold-yielding Neolithic-Chalcolithic centers in Karnataka (such as Tekkalakota and Maski).

4. Which of the following statements with regard to Chalcolithic burial practices is/are correct?

1. In Jorwe culture the dead were typically buried underneath house floors in a north-to-south orientation.

2. Chalcolithic sites of South India, the prevailing orientation for extended inhumation burials was generally east-to-west.
3. Grave goods such as copper bangles and ceramic pots were uniform across all burials.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: (a)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** In Maharashtra (Jorwe culture), adults and children were buried within the settlement, often under house floors. Adults were placed in extended pits and children in twin urns aligned north-to-south.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Southern Chalcolithic-Neolithic burials show a general preference for an east-to-west body orientation.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Grave goods varied significantly. Some child burials contained copper necklaces and multiple painted vessels, while others had only a single unpainted pot—indicating social stratification and inherited status.

5. Consider the following information:

	Archaeological Site	State	Description
1.	Balathal	Rajasthan	Fortified Ahar-Banas culture site with mud-brick structures
2.	Ganeshwar	Gujrat	Major copper-producing center with abundant copper arrowheads and celts
3.	Kayatha	Madhya Pradesh	Type site featuring sturdy pottery and copper hoard deposits
4.	Inamgaon	Maharashtra	Large Jorwe culture settlement with granaries and fortified walls

In which of the above rows is the given information correctly matched?

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

Answer: (c)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Row 1 is correct:** Balathal near Udaipur (Rajasthan) is a key Ahar-Banas site featuring a multi-roomed mud-brick complex and fortification wall.
- **Row 2 is incorrect:** Ganeshwar in Sikar district (Rajasthan) yielded thousands of copper items (arrowheads, spearheads, fish hooks, celts) supplying the Harappans and Ahar culture.

- **Row 3 is correct:** Kayatha near Ujjain (MP) is the type site of the Kayatha culture, famous for specialized ceramic types and copper axes/bangles in caches.
- **Row 4 is correct:** Inamgaon on the Ghod River (Maharashtra) is an extensively excavated Jorwe site showing public irrigation channels, granaries, and fortified enclosures.

6. Consider the following pairs:

	Historical Place	Well known for
1.	Navdatoli	Extensive Chalcolithic site on Narmada yielding diverse cultivated food grains
2.	Daimabad	Recovery of exquisite solid bronze sculptures including a rider-driven chariot
3.	Songaon	Jorwe culture house structures with circular pit dwellings and house-floor burials

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

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

Answer: (d)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Pair 1 is correctly matched:** Navdatoli (MP) on the Narmada River revealed rich archaeobotanical evidence of diverse crops including wheat, barley, rice, lentils, black gram, green gram, and flax.
- **Pair 2 is correctly matched:** Daimabad (Maharashtra) yielded a famous cache of solid cast bronzes: a two-wheeled chariot pulled by oxen with a rider, a rhinoceros, an elephant, and a water buffalo.
- **Pair 3 is correctly matched:** Songaon (Maharashtra) contains Jorwe culture domestic structures with circular mud-wall pit houses and child urn burials beneath house floors.

7. Which of the following statements with regard to the Megalithic Age in India is/are correct?

1. Megaliths refer to stone structures used as burial monuments or non-sepulchral commemorative memorials.
2. Dolmenoid cists, cairn circles, and capstones represent prominent sepulchral megalithic architectural types.
3. Megalithic sites are geographically confined to the peninsular state of Tamil Nadu.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: (a)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Megaliths ("large stones") served as stone-built graves (sepulchral) or erect memorial stones like menhirs (non-sepulchral).

- **Statement 2 is correct:** Major structural forms include box-like stone chambers (dolmenoid cists), stone boulder rings around a central pit (cairn circles), and mushroom-shaped stone slabs (capstones/hoodstones).
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** While peninsular South India (Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra) has the highest concentration of megaliths, they are not exclusive to Tamil Nadu—megalithic sites also exist in the Vindhyan region, Kashmir (Burzahom), and North-East India.

8. Which of the following statements with regard to the Bronze Age in the Indian subcontinent is/are correct?

1. It corresponds primarily to the urban phase of the Indus Valley Civilization characterized by copper-tin alloying.
2. Settlements were marked by town planning, standardized burnt-brick architecture, and centralized drainage systems.
3. The Bronze Age in India completely lacked long-distance external trade routes or maritime ports.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: (a)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Bronze Age in South Asia is represented by the Mature Harappan phase, defined by advanced metallurgy in combining copper with tin to make bronze.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Key markers include grid-pattern street planning, standardized brick ratios, covered street drains, and centralized granaries or public structures.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Maritime dockyards like Lothal and Harappan seals found in Mesopotamia (Akkadian texts referencing Meluhha) prove active long-distance international trade.

9. Which of the following statements with regard to the Iron Age in India is/are correct?

1. The introduction of iron axes and ploughshares facilitated large-scale forest clearance and dense agricultural settlements in the Ganga plains.
2. Painted Grey Ware pottery is closely associated with the early Iron Age settlements of Northern India.
3. Recent AMS radiocarbon dating from sites like Sivagalai and Mayiladumparai in Tamil Nadu pushes iron technology in India back into the 2nd and 3rd millennia BCE.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: (d)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Tougher iron tools allowed clearing of heavy monsoon forests in the middle Ganga valley, leading to agricultural expansion, surplus generation, and eventual urbanization (Mahajanapadas).

- **Statement 2 is correct:** Painted Grey Ware (PGW) is the distinctive ceramic culture of the early Iron Age in Northern India (e.g., Hastinapur, Ahichchhatra).
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Scientific dating (Accelerator Mass Spectrometry) of charcoal associated with iron artifacts at Mayiladumparai and Sivagalai window in Tamil Nadu demonstrates that iron smelting in India originated much earlier than previously assumed.

10. Consider the following pairs:

	Historical Place	Well known for
1.	Hastinapur	Important Painted Grey Ware (PGW) and early Iron Age site in Uttar Pradesh
2.	Malhar	Iron-smelting furnaces and early slag deposits in the Karamnasa River valley
3.	Adichanallur	Urn burial Megalithic site in Tamil Nadu yielding iron weapons and gold diadems

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

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

Answer: (d)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Pair 1 is correctly matched:** Hastinapur in Meerut district (UP), excavated by B.B. Lal, revealed a clear Iron Age occupancy layer characterized by Painted Grey Ware pottery, iron implements, and domestic livestock remains.
- **Pair 2 is correctly matched:** Malhar in Chandauli district (UP) yielded early evidence of iron smelting furnaces, slag, and iron artifacts dating back to the 2nd millennium BCE.
- **Pair 3 is correctly matched:** Adichanallur on the Thamirabarani River in Thoothukudi district (TN) is an iconic Megalithic-Iron Age site famous for large urn burials (*Thali*), iron swords, daggers, spears, bronze artifacts, and gold forehead bands (diadems).

Harappan Civilization

1. Consider the following information:

	Scholar	Key Contribution
1.	James Prinsep	Deciphered Brahmi and Kharosthi scripts in 1837
2.	William Jones	Founded Asiatic Society of Bengal in 1784
3.	Georg Bühler	Pioneered Indian epigraphy and study of Ashokan inscriptions
4.	Max Muller	Popularized academic Aryan theory and edited Sacred Books of the East

In which of the above rows is the given information correctly matched?

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

(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: (d)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Row 1 is correctly matched:** James Prinsep, an officer at the Calcutta Mint, deciphered the Brahmi and Kharosthi scripts in 1837, unlocking the readings of the Edicts of Ashoka.
- **Row 2 is correctly matched:** Sir William Jones established the Asiatic Society of Bengal in 1784 and proposed the common origin of Indo-European languages, translating key texts like Abhijnanasakuntalam.
- **Row 3 is correctly matched:** Georg Bühler was an eminent Indologist whose work on Indian palaeography (Indische Palaeographie) and Ashokan rock/pillar inscriptions laid the groundwork for Indian epigraphy.
- **Row 4 is correctly matched:** Friedrich Max Müller edited the massive 50-volume series Sacred Books of the East and popularized the philological (academic) theory of Aryan linguistic migration.

2. Consider the following information:

	Scholar	Associated Institutional Role or Key Discovery
1.	Alexander Cunningham	Directed initial excavations at Harappa in 1921
2.	Daya Ram Sahni	First Director-General of ASI
3.	John Marshall	DG of ASI who formally announced the discovery of IVC
4.	Mortimer Wheeler	Introduced stratigraphic and grid excavation methods at Harappa

In which of the above rows is the given information correctly matched?

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

Answer: (b)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Row 1 is incorrectly matched:** Alexander Cunningham is known as the "Father of Indian Archaeology." He served as the first Director-General of the ASI created in 1861.
- **Row 2 is incorrectly matched:** Rai Bahadur Daya Ram Sahni led the primary archaeological excavations at Harappa (Punjab, Pakistan) in 1921 under the ASI.
- **Row 3 is correctly matched:** Sir John Marshall was the Director-General of ASI when he formally declared the discovery of the Indus Valley Civilization to the world in 1924.
- **Row 4 is correctly matched:** Sir Robert Eric Mortimer Wheeler revolutionized Indian field archaeology by introducing scientific grid-system excavation based on stratigraphy after 1944.

3. Which of the following characterizes/characterize the urban evolution of the Indus Valley Civilization?

1. The Mature Harappan phase was characterized by baked-brick structures and organized long-distance trade.
2. The Late Harappan phase witnessed the total expansion of monumental palaces and royal stone temples.

3. The Early Harappan phase represented a proto-urban stage with mud structures and elementary craft specialization.

Select the correct statement/statements using the codes given below:

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

Answer: (b)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Mature Harappan Phase (2600--1900 BCE) represents full urbanization with standardized fired bricks, grid town planning, and extensive inter-regional trade.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Late Harappan Phase (1900--1400 BCE) was a period of de-urbanization and decline, marked by abandonment of cities, disappearance of writing/weights, and transition to rural agricultural settlements. Furthermore, IVC lacked both palaces and royal temples.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The Early Harappan Phase (3500--2600 BCE) was a regional, proto-urban formative phase (found at sites like Kot Diji, Amri, and Kalibangan) with mud-brick homes and emerging craft specialization.

4. Consider the following information:

	Boundary Marker	Region / Location	Associated Archaeological Site
1.	Northernmost outpost	Afghanistan	Shortugai
2.	Southernmost settlement	Maharashtra	Daimabad
3.	Westernmost settlement	Baluchistan (Pakistan)	Sutkagendor
4.	Easternmost settlement	Uttar Pradesh	Alamgirpur

In which of the above rows is the given information correctly matched?

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

Answer: (d)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Row 1 is correctly matched:** Shortugai in northern Afghanistan (near the Oxus River) was a specialized trading colony established by the Harappans to control lapis lazuli trade.
- **Row 2 is correctly matched:** Daimabad on the Pravara River in Maharashtra marks the southernmost spatial extent of mature/late Harappan cultural influence.
- **Row 3 is correctly matched:** Sutkagendor on the Dasht River in Baluchistan (near the Iran border) served as a fortified coastal trading station and western border.
- **Row 4 is correctly matched:** Alamgirpur on the Hindon River in Meerut district (UP) represents the easternmost boundary in the Ganga-Yamuna Doab.

5. Consider the following information:

	Archaeological Site	State	Feature
1.	Dholavira	Gujarat	Rock-cut water reservoirs and complex water harvesting system
2.	Mohenjo-daro	Balochistan	Monumental public bath structure lined with bitumen
3.	Lothal	Gujarat	Artificial brick basin functioning as a tidal dockyard
4.	Kalibangan	Rajasthan	Fortified lower town featuring pre-Harappan ploughed field marks

In which of the above rows is the given information correctly matched?

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

Answer: (c)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Row 1 is correctly matched:** Dholavira in Khadir Bet (Gujarat) is world-famous for its sophisticated series of stone-cut water reservoirs and storm-water drains.
- **Row 2 is incorrectly matched:** The Great Bath at Mohenjo-daro in Sindh is an iconic public brick structure sealed with a layer of natural bitumen (asphalt) to make it watertight.
- **Row 3 is correctly matched:** Lothal features a burnt-brick trapezoidal basin identified as a tidal dockyard linked to the ancient bed of the Bhogavo River.
- **Row 4 is correctly matched:** Kalibangan (Hanumangarh, Rajasthan) yielded a fortified lower town along with unique evidence of a grid-pattern ploughed field from its early phase.

6. Consider the following information:

	Feature	Archaeological Site	Specific Socio-Cultural Evidence
1.	Bronze Metallurgy	Mohenjo-daro	Discovery of lost-wax cast dancing girl figurine
2.	Cosmetic Artifacts	Chanhudaro	Evidence of cinnabar use and lipstick/facepaint containers
3.	Primary Burial	Harappa	Pit burials with grave pottery, mirror, and bead ornaments
4.	Fire Rituals	Kalibangan	Raised brick platforms containing series of fire altars

In which of the above rows is the given information correctly matched?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 3 and 4 only

(c) 1, 2 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: (d)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Row 1 is correctly matched:** The world-famous bronze statuette of the "Dancing Girl" made using the lost-wax (cire perdue) casting method was recovered from Mohenjo-daro.
- **Row 2 is correctly matched:** Chanhudaro (an exclusive craft manufacturing centre) yielded cosmetic items including vanity cases, kohl sticks, and terracotta lipstick molds.
- **Row 3 is correctly matched:** Cemetery R-37 at Harappa revealed extended primary pit burials containing grave goods like pots, shell bangles, and steatite beads.
- **Row 4 is correctly matched:** Kalibangan revealed a series of rectangular clay-lined "fire altars" containing animal bones and ash on Citadel mounds, indicating fire rituals.

7. Which of the following characterizes/characterize the religious beliefs and practices of the Indus Valley Civilization?

1. They constructed large congregational temples dedicated to a supreme priestly monarch.
2. They practiced symbolic worship of trees, animals, and terracotta female figurines.
3. They employed horse-drawn chariots in sacred ceremonial processions.

Select the correct statement/statements using the codes given below:

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) 2 only

(c) 1 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (b)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** No monumental temples, shrines, or royal religious buildings have ever been identified at any Harappan site. Harappan religion was predominantly decentralized and non-monumental.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Seals and terracotta artifacts demonstrate worship of nature—including sacred trees (peepal), mythical animals (unicorn), real animals (humped bull, elephant), and female Mother Goddess figurines alongside a proto-Shiva figure.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Horse-drawn chariots were completely absent in the Indus Valley Civilization. Spokes-wheel technology and horse warfare were introduced much later during the Vedic period.

8. Which of the following characterizes/characterize the agrarian economy of the Indus Valley Civilization?

1. Cultivation of crops such as wheat, barley, sesame, and mustard.
2. Complete reliance on wild game with no evidence of domesticated cattle or sheep.
3. Absence of any evidence of rice husk or grain cultivation anywhere in the subcontinent.

Select the correct statement/statements using the codes given below:

(a) 1 only

(b) 1 and 2 only

(c) 2 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (a)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Harappans grew a diverse array of crops including multi-row barley, wheat, cotton, sesame, mustard, and pulses.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Harappans extensively domesticated animals including humped zebu cattle, water buffaloes, sheep, goats, and pigs for agriculture, milk, and meat.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Rice remains and impressions on pottery have been excavated from Harappan sites in Gujarat, specifically at Lothal and Rangpur.

9. Which of the following characterizes/characterize the trade infrastructure and metrology of the Indus Valley Civilization?

1. Use of highly standardized cubical stone weights following a combined binary and decimal system.
2. Development of coastal port stations such as Sutkagendor, Sotkakoh, and Balakot along the Arabian Sea region.
3. Complete ignorance of woven textiles, spinning technology, or decorated cloth.

Select the correct statement/statements using the codes given below:

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

Answer: (a)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Harappan weights made of chert were remarkably standardized across thousands of miles, using a binary system for lower denominations (1,2,4,8,16,32,64) and a decimal system for higher units.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The Harappans maintained a network of coastal trading outposts including Sutkagendor (Dasht river), Sotkakoh (Shadikoh river), and Balakot (Vidar river) to facilitate maritime trade with West Asia.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Harappans mastered textile production. Excavations at Mohenjo-daro yielded preserved woven cotton cloth fragments dyed with madder, and spindle whorls are common across sites.

10. Which of the following statements with regard to the external trade networks of the Indus Valley Civilization is/are correct?

1. Cuneiform records from Mesopotamia mention active trade with a region termed Meluhha, generally identified as the Indus region.
2. Harappan communities imported key industrial raw materials such as lapis lazuli from Afghanistan and turquoise from Khorasan.

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: (c)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Mesopotamian cuneiform texts dating from Sargon of Akkad (c. 2300 BCE) refer to maritime trade with Meluhha (Indus region), Dilmun (Bahrain), and Magan (Oman coast), listing imports like carnelian, timber, and copper.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Lapis lazuli was imported directly from Badakhshan/Shortugai in Afghanistan, while turquoise was procured through long-distance trade routes passing through Khorasan (Northeast Iran).

Harappan Civilization-II

1. With reference to the trade and exchange systems of the Indus Valley Civilization, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The Harappans maintained internal trade networks to procure copper from Rajasthan and gold from South India.
2. Cuneiform texts from Mesopotamia mention maritime trade with Meluha via Dilmun and Magan.
3. The Harappan civilization relied on standardized metallic coinage for conducting long-distance trade.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: (a)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Harappans procured copper from the Khetri mines of Rajasthan and gold from Karnataka (Tekkalakota/Kolar region).
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Mesopotamian texts refer to *Meluha* (Indus region) trading via *Dilmun* (Bahrain) and *Magan* (Oman/Makran coast).
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The Harappans operated purely on a **barter system**. No evidence of minted or metallic coins has been found at any Harappan site.

2. With reference to the culture and technology of the Indus Valley people compared to the Rigvedic Aryans, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Indus Valley people knew gold, silver, copper, and bronze, but were unaware of iron.
2. Steatite, agate, carnelian, and terracotta were widely used for bead and seal manufacturing in the Indus Valley Civilization.
3. Seals of the Indus Valley Civilization depict various animals, humped bull, tiger, elephant, rhinoceros and horses.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: (b)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Indus Valley Civilization was a Bronze Age culture (2600--1900 BCE). Iron was discovered later around 1000 BCE during the Vedic period.

- **Statement 2 is correct:** Bead-making using semi-precious stones (carnelian, agate, steatite) was a major craft, especially at Chanhudaro and Lothal.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Harappan seals depict animals like the unicorn, humped bull, tiger, elephant, and rhinoceros, but there is no depiction of the horse on any Harappan seal.

3. Consider the following information:

	Object	Primary Material / Technique	Key Excavation Site
1.	Dancing Girl	Bronze (Lost-wax casting)	Mohenjo-daro
2.	Bearded Priest	Steatite stone bust	Mohenjo-daro
3.	Copper Dog	Cast Copper	Lothal
4.	Terracotta Horse Figurines	Fired Clay	Surkotada

In which of the above rows is the given information correctly matched?

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

Answer: (b)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Row 1 is correctly matched:** The lost-wax cast bronze statuette of the "Dancing Girl" was excavated at Mohenjo-daro.
- **Row 2 is correctly matched:** The steatite stone bust depicting a bearded man wearing a trefoil-patterned shawl was recovered from Mohenjo-daro.
- **Row 3 is correctly matched:** A small copper figurine of a dog was found at Lothal (Gujarat).
- **Row 4 is incorrectly matched:** Terracotta horse figurines are primarily reported from Lothal and Rangpur, whereas Surkotada is known for horse bone remains, not terracotta figurines.

4. Which of the following characterizes/characterize the religious motifs found on the seals of the Indus Valley Civilization?

1. Depiction of a three-headed male deity seated in a yogic posture surrounded by animals.
2. Inscription of royal patron names on all religious seals.
3. Presence of a horned deity wearing a trishula-like headpiece identified as Pashupati.

Select the correct statement/statements using the codes given below:

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

Answer: (c)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statements 1 and 3 are correct:** The famous Pashupati seal from Mohenjo-daro depicts a seated three-faced horned deity surrounded by four animals (elephant, tiger, rhinoceros, buffalo) with two ibexes/deer at his feet.

- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Harappan script remains undeciphered, and seals do not contain names of royal patrons, as there is no evidence of an absolute monarchy.

5. With reference to the social stratification and administrative organization of the Indus Valley Civilization, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Royal tombs containing massive gold treasures confirm the presence of a centralization and hereditary rule.
2. Settlements like Dholavira and Kalibangan show division into distinct spatial units, indicating social differentiation.
3. Variation in dwelling sizes ranging from single-room units to multi-room structures reflects non-rigid social hierarchy.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: (c)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statements 2 and 3 are correct:** Urban layouts with multiple divisions (Citadel, Middle Town, Lower Town at Dholavira) and varying house sizes (1 to 12 rooms) demonstrate class stratification among priests, merchants, and laborers.
- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Unlike ancient Egypt or Mesopotamia, Harappan sites completely lack royal tombs, massive treasures, or physical evidence of a hereditary monarchy.

6. With reference to the religious beliefs and burial traditions of the Indus Valley Civilization, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Terracotta female figurines with plant sprouts emerging from the womb suggest fertility goddess worship.
2. Discovery of fire altars at Kalibangan and Lothal indicates prevalence of ritualistic fire practices.
3. Grave goods burials indicating belief in life after death.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: (d)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** A famous terracotta seal from Harappa depicts a woman with a plant growing from her embryo, representing an Earth/Fertility Goddess.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Rectangular clay-lined fire altars containing ash and charcoal were excavated at Kalibangan and Lothal.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Harappan burials (extended, coffin, urn) routinely included grave goods such as pottery, copper mirrors, and beads, indicating belief in life after death.

7. Which of the following characterizes/characterize the writing system of the Indus Valley Civilization?

1. The script is largely pictographic, featuring between 250 and 400 distinct signs.
2. The longest multi-sign inscription was discovered on a wooden signboard at Dholavira.

Select the correct statement/statements using the codes given below:

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

Answer: (a)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statements 1 and 2 are correct:** The script contains **250--400** pictographic signs. A major sign/inscription board with 10 large white gypsum signs was found at Dholavira.

8. Which of the following characterizes/characterize the system of weights and measures in the Indus Valley Civilization?

1. Weights were predominantly standardized cubical stones following a binary system in lower values.
2. Shell and ivory measuring scales have been recovered from Mohenjo-daro and Lothal.
3. Standardized weights varied completely from city to regions.

Select the correct statement/statements using the codes given below:

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

Answer: (a)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Harappans used uniform cubical chert weights. Lower denominations followed a binary ratio (**1,2,4,8,16,32,64**), while higher ones followed a decimal system.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Linear measurement scales made of shell were found at Mohenjo-daro and ivory scales at Lothal.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The weights and measures showed remarkable accuracy and strict uniformity across the entire Harappan geographical region.

9. Which of the following characterizes/characterize the site of Harappa in Western Punjab?

1. It was the first site of the Indus Valley Civilization to be discovered and excavated.
2. It has yielded evidence of wooden coffin burials.
3. It contains a monumental dockyard basin connected to the Arabian Sea.

Select the correct statement/statements using the codes given below:

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

Answer: (a)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Harappa was the first site excavated (in 1921 by Daya Ram Sahni), giving the civilization its name "Harappan."
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Harappa is the only site where evidence of a wooden coffin burial was discovered.

- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The artificial tidal dockyard was excavated at Lothal in Gujarat, not at Harappa.

10. Which of the following characterizes/characterize the site of Mohenjo-daro?

1. Presence of a monumental Great Bath and a large granary complex on the Citadel.
2. Discovery of woven cotton textile fragments, needles, and spindle whorls.
3. Uninterrupted occupation without any evidence of natural flooding throughout its history.

Select the correct statement/statements using the codes given below:

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

Answer: (a)

Detailed Explanation:

- **Statements 1 and 2 are correct:** Mohenjo-daro contained both the Great Bath and the Great Granary. It also yielded actual woven cotton cloth fragments preserved on a silver vase, alongside spindle whorls.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Mohenjo-daro was severely affected by periodic, massive flooding from the Indus River and was rebuilt at least seven times, raising its ground elevation by over 30 feet over time.

IVC Sites and Vedic Age

1. Which of the following characterizes/characterize the archaeological site of Kalibangan?

1. Evidence of a pre-Harappan ploughed field.
2. Presence of seven fire altars indicating ritualistic practices.
3. Discovery of camel bones.

Select the correct statement/statements using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) None of the above

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Kalibangan (Rajasthan) yielded clear evidence of a grid-pattern ploughed field from its Pre-Harappan levels.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** A series of seven clay-lined fire altars on a raised mud-brick platform was excavated on the Citadel mound.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Remains of camel bones were specifically recovered from Kalibangan.

2. Which of the following characterizes/characterize the Harappan port town of Lothal?

1. Presence of an artificial brick basin functioning as a tidal dockyard.
2. Discovery of terracotta figurines of a horse and a seal depicting a ship.
3. Division of the city into three distinct fortified complexes.

Select the correct statement/statements using the codes given below:

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

(d) 1, 2 and 3

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statements 1 and 2 are correct:** Lothal features a burnt-brick dockyard, a seal depicting a sailing ship, and a questionable terracotta horse figurine alongside rice husk remains.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Lothal did not have a strict division into a Citadel and Lower Town separated by inner walls; the entire settlement was enclosed within a single peripheral wall.

3. Which of the following characterizes/characterize the Harappan settlements of Surkotada and Chanhudaro?

1. Surkotada provides archaeological evidence of actual horse bones.
2. Chanhudaro is a Harappan settlement that lacks a fortified Citadel.
3. Chanhudaro functioned as an industrial center for bead-making and seal manufacturing.

Select the correct statement/statements using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) None of the above

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Surkotada (Gujarat) is notable for yielding bones identified as domestic horse remains (*Equus caballus*).
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Chanhudaro (Sindh, Pakistan) is unique among major Harappan sites as it was completely unfortified and lacked a Citadel.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Chanhudaro was exclusively an industrial township dedicated to craft production, including bead-making workshops, shell-cutting, and seal-making.

4. Which of the following characterizes/characterize the archaeological site of Sutkagen-Dor?

1. Total absence of stone fortification walls around the site
2. Location near the Makran coast near the Pakistan-Iran border.
3. Functioned as a fortified coastal trading outpost for West Asian trade.

Select the correct statement/statements using the codes given below:

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statements 2 and 3 are correct:** Sutkagen-Dor on the Dasht River served as the westernmost coastal frontier and port of the Harappan civilization, engaging in trade with the Persian Gulf.
- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Sutkagen-Dor possessed a massive defense wall built of natural rubble and dressed stone.

5. Consider the following information:

	Archaeological Site	Location	Description
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1.	Ropar	Punjab	Oval pit burials with human buried alongside a dog
2.	Banawali	Haryana	Radial street pattern yielding large quantities of charred barley
3.	Rakhigarhi	Haryana	One of the largest Harappan sites showing DNA continuity
4.	Chanhudaro	Sindh	Industrial settlement with evidence of an inkpot and cart models

In which of the above rows is the given information correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **Row 1 is correct:** Ropar (Sutlej River, Punjab) yielded a burial showing a human buried together with a pet dog.
- **Row 2 is correct:** Banawali (Fatehabad, Haryana) revealed radial town planning and high quantities of cultivated barley.
- **Row 3 is correct:** Rakhigarhi is an extensive site where skeletal DNA analysis has provided insights into Harappan ancestry.
- **Row 4 is correct:** Chanhudaro yielded evidence of craft tools, terracotta toy carts, and a small clay pot interpreted as an inkpot.

6. Consider the following information:

	Archaeological Site	State	Description
1.	Amri	Sindh	Yielded faunal remains of the Indian Rhinoceros
2.	Mehrgarh	Balochistan	Early aceramic Neolithic site showing early cotton cultivation
3.	Bhirrana	Haryana	Early Ghaggar-Hakra site showing continuous cultural sequence
4.	Ganweriwala	Cholistan	Major unexcavated Harappan city along the Hakra riverbed

In which of the above rows is the given information correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Row 1 is correct:** Amri provided evidence of wild animal remains including the rhinoceros.
- **Row 2 is correct:** Mehrgarh on the Bolan Pass showed continuous occupation from the Neolithic age and early evidence of cotton (*Gossypium*).
- **Row 3 is correct:** Bhirrana (Haryana) revealed Pre-Harappan to Mature Harappan occupational phases along the dried Ghaggar channel.
- **Row 4 is correct:** Ganweriwala is an extensive Harappan city site situated in the Cholistan desert along the Hakra course.

7. With reference to the main differences between the Indus Valley Civilization and the Early Vedic Culture, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The Indus Valley Civilization was urban and trade-oriented, whereas the Early Vedic society was pastoral and rural.
2. Indus Valley people used copper, bronze, gold, and iron, whereas Early Vedic people knew only gold and copper.
3. Rigvedic Aryans utilized horse-drawn chariots, whereas the Indus Valley civilization left no clear evidence of horse-drawn chariots in warfare.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Harappan culture was urbanized with planned cities, whereas Rigvedic society was rural and pastoral, centered around cattle rearing.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Indus Valley people did not know iron (it was a Bronze Age culture). Iron (Krishna Ayas) appeared later during the 1st millennium BCE.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Horse-drawn spoked-wheel chariots (ratha) were central to Rigvedic society, whereas Harappans used solid-wheeled bullock carts and lacked horse-drawn chariots.

8. Which of the following characterizes/characterize the Rigveda Samhita?

1. It is a collection of 1,028 hymns divided into 10 Mandalas.
2. Mandalas 2 to 7 are considered the oldest core family books.
3. The 10th Mandala contains the Purusha Sukta, mentioning the four Varnas for the first time.

Select the correct statement/statements using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1, 2 and 3
- (d) None of the above

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Rigveda contains 1,028 hymns (Suktas) organized into 10 books (Mandalas).

- **Statement 2 is correct:** Mandalas 2 through 7 (Family Books) represent the earliest stratum of compositions attributed to specific seer families (e.g., Vasishtha, Vishvamitra).
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The Purusha Sukta in the 10th Mandala explicitly mentions the four-fold Varna system (Brahmana, Rajanya/Kshatriya, Vaishya, Shudra).

9. With reference to the Vedic Samhitas, consider the following statements:

1. The Samaveda consists of verses largely taken from the Rigveda, set to musical melodies for chanting during sacrifices.
2. The Yajurveda was composed entirely by non-Aryan populations and contains no ritual instructions for priests.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Samaveda is a liturgical text whose verses are overwhelmingly derived from the Rigveda and arranged rhythmically for the Udgatri priests to chant.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Yajurveda is a core ritualistic text containing prose formulas (yajus) and procedural directions for the Adhvaryu priests during Vedic sacrifices.

10. Which one of the following ancient Vedic texts is well-known for containing magic spells, charms to ward off evil spirits and diseases, and medical remedies reflecting popular everyday practices?

- (a) Rigveda
- (b) Samaveda
- (c) Yajurveda
- (d) Atharvaveda

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **Option (d) is correct:** The Atharvaveda (associated with the seers Atharvan and Angiras) contains hymns, spells, incantations, and charms for healing diseases, securing prosperity, and warding off evil forces, reflecting popular beliefs and everyday practices.