



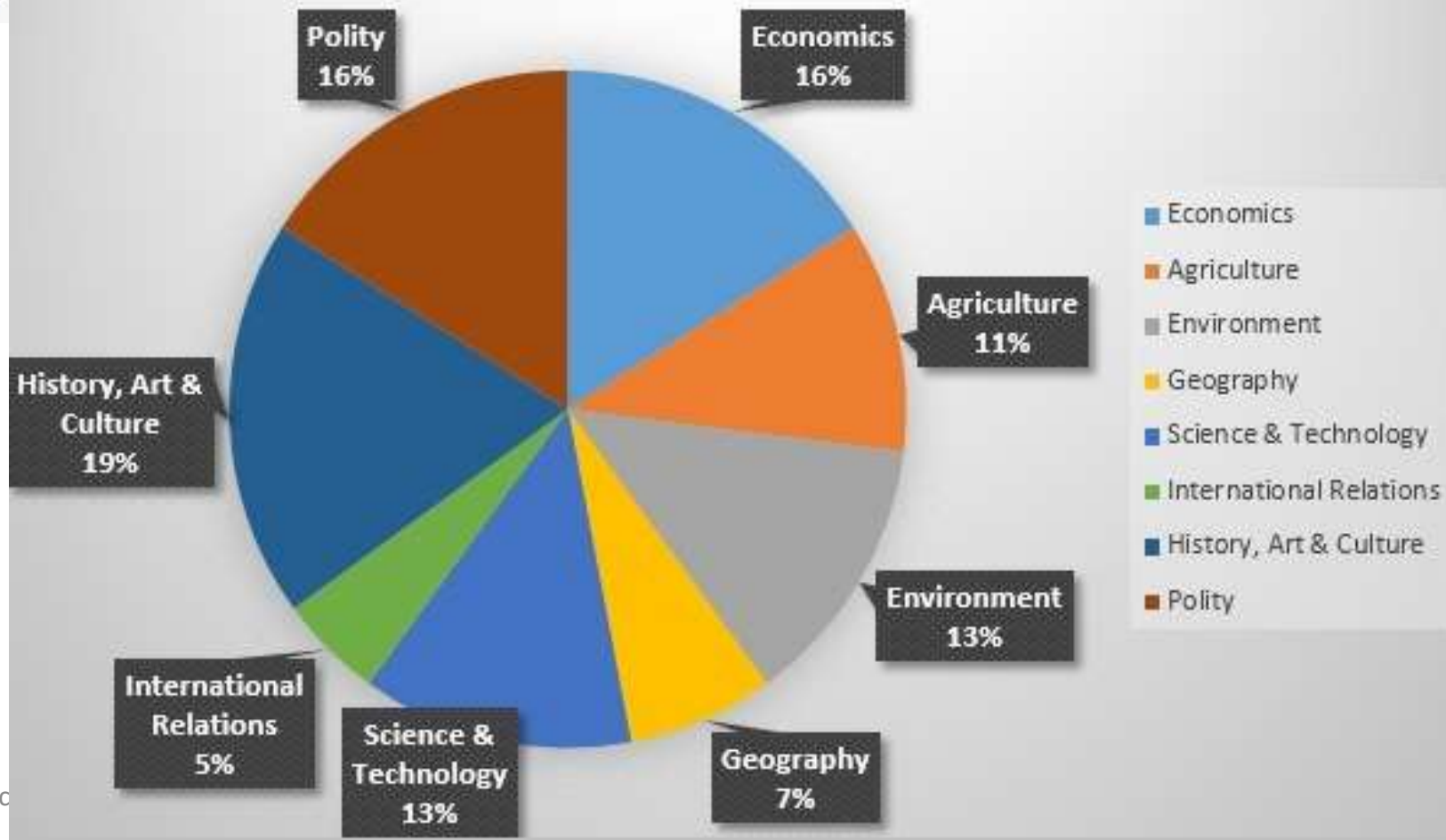
UPSC Prelims 2020



Complete Analysis
of Questions with
Answers



UPSC 2020 Question break up - Subject wise





Subject	No. of Questions
History, Art and Culture	19
Polity	16
Environment	13
Geography	7
Science and Tech	13
Economics	16
Agriculture	11
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7. With reference to the history of India, consider the following pairs :

	<i>Famous Place</i>		<i>Present State</i>
1.	Bhilsa	—	Madhya Pradesh
2.	Dwarasamudra	—	Maharashtra
3.	Girinagar	—	Gujarat
4.	Sthanesvara	—	Uttar Pradesh

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched ?

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



Answer A

- **Bhilsa – Vidisha – Madhya Pradesh**
- **Dwarsamudra – Halebidu – Karnataka**
- **Girnar – Junagarh - Gujarat**
- **Sthanesvara - Thanesar – Haryana**



12. With reference to the period of Gupta dynasty in ancient India, the towns Ghantasala, Kadura and Chaul were well known as

- (a) ports handling foreign trade
- (b) capitals of powerful kingdoms
- (c) places of exquisite stone art and architecture
- (d) important Buddhist pilgrimage centres



Answer A

- **Kadura and Ghantashala – Near Machlipattinam, Andhra Pradesh**
- **Chaul – Konkan Coast of Maharashtra**

Gupta time period ports –

- ***Tamralipti, Ghantashala, and Kadura in the east***
- ***Broach, Chaul, Kalyan, and Cambay in the west***

21. With reference to the cultural history of India, consider the following pairs :

- | | | | |
|----|-------------|---|---------------------------|
| 1. | Parivrajaka | — | Renunciant and Wanderer |
| 2. | Shramana | — | Priest with a high status |
| 3. | Upasaka | — | Lay follower of Buddhism |

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched ?

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



Answer B

- **Shramana traditions – Jainism , Buddhism, Ajivaks**
- **Shramana means “seeker, one who performs acts of austerity, ascetic”.**
- **Shramana = wandering monk**

61. With reference to the cultural history of India, which one of the following is the correct description of the term 'paramitas' ?

- (a) The earliest Dharmashastra texts written in aphoristic (sutra) style
- (b) Philosophical schools that did not accept the authority of Vedas
- (c) Perfections whose attainment led to the Bodhisattva path
- (d) Powerful merchant guilds of early medieval South India



Answer - C

- ***Paramita* is a Buddhist term often translated as "perfection".**
- **It is described in Buddhist commentaries as noble character qualities generally associated with enlightened beings.**



62. In the context of Indian history, the Rakhmabai case of 1884 revolved around

- 1.** women's right to gain education
- 2.** age of consent
- 3.** restitution of conjugal rights

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

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



Doctor Rakhmabai (2016)

2h 4min | Biography

★ 7.1 /10
31

★ Rate
This



The story of India's first practicing lady doctor, social rebel and medical pioneer who paved the way for a fight against gender discrimination.

Director: Ananth Narayan Mahadevan

Writers: Bikas Ranjan Mishra (screenplay), Mohini Varde (story)

Stars: Alexx O'Nell, Tannishtha Chatterjee, Bharat Dabholkar |
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Answer - B

Dr Rakhmabai Raut, born in 1864 and educated at a medical college in the UK, was one of **India's first female *practising* doctors.**

She was also one of the first few women in India to **file a divorce case.** She did not want to live with her husband as she had been married off to him without her choice being considered in the matter.

In March 1887, Rukhmabai was ordered to go live with her husband or spend six months in jail.

The Queen overruled the court's verdict and dissolved the marriage.



- **After the case, Intellectual reformist opinion exerted a moral pressure on the British to pass the **Age of Consent Bill in 1891** to prevent early consummation of marriage**
- **10 to 12 years**

63. Indigo cultivation in India declined by the beginning of the 20th century because of

- (a) peasant resistance to the oppressive conduct of planters
- (b) its unprofitability in the world market because of new inventions
- (c) national leaders' opposition to the cultivation of indigo
- (d) Government control over the planters



- **1898 – Invention of artificial Indigo dye**
- **Still cultivated in Bihar**
- **Upsurge during WW1**



64. Wellesley established the Fort William College at Calcutta because

- (a) he was asked by the Board of Directors at London to do so**
- (b) he wanted to revive interest in oriental learning in India**
- (c) he wanted to provide William Carey and his associates with employment**
- (d) he wanted to train British civilians for administrative purpose in India**



Answer D

1800 - Fort William College aimed at training British officials in Indian languages and, in the process, fostered the development of languages such as Bengali and Urdu.

Closed down later on due to opposition of company directors

65. With reference to the history of India, “Ulgulan” or the Great Tumult is the description of which of the following events ?

- (a) The Revolt of 1857
- (b) The Mappila Rebellion of 1921
- (c) The Indigo Revolt of 1859 – 60
- (d) Birsa Munda’s Revolt of 1899 – 1900

Answer - D

- Munda Rebellion is one of the prominent 19th century tribal rebellions in the subcontinent.
- **Birsa Munda** led this movement in the region south of Ranchi in 1899-1900.
- The **ulgulan**, meaning 'Great Tumult', sought to establish Munda Raj and independence





66. With reference to the scholars/litterateurs of ancient India, consider the following statements :

1. Panini is associated with Pushyamitra Shunga.
2. Amarasimha is associated with Harshavardhana.
3. Kalidasa is associated with Chandra Gupta – II.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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



Answer - C

- **Panini – Nanda King**
- **Amarsimha and Kalidadasa – Chandragupta II**

71. With reference to the history of India, consider the following pairs :

1. Aurang — In-charge of treasury of the State
2. Banian — Indian agent of the East India Company
3. Mirasidar — Designated revenue payer to the State

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

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



Answer - B

- **Aurang – Warehouse – Persian**
- **Banians - native interpreters, brokers and agents to the European merchants in the 18th and 19th centuries.**
- **Mirasidar - Tamil nadu - village elites - belonging to Brahman and other high castes, asserted their rights of ownership over the land of the entire village and controlled village affairs.**

72. With reference to the religious history of India, consider the following statements :

1. Sthaviravadins belong to Mahayana Buddhism.
2. Lokottaravadin sect was an offshoot of Mahasanghika sect of Buddhism.
3. The deification of Buddha by Mahasanghikas fostered the Mahayana Buddhism.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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



ANSWER - B

The first division in the Buddhist community occurred at the 2nd council, at Vaisali , when the Acariyavadins (followers of the traditional teaching) split away from the Sthaviravadins (followers of the Way of the Elders) and formed their own school, known as the Mahasanghikas.

73. Which of the following statements correctly explains the impact of Industrial Revolution on India during the first half of the nineteenth century?

- (a) Indian handicrafts were ruined.
- (b) Machines were introduced in the Indian textile industry in large numbers.
- (c) Railway lines were laid in many parts of the country.
- (d) Heavy duties were imposed on the imports of British manufactures.



Answer A

Cheap machine made textiles from Europe flooded Indian market and destroyed the Indian hand crafted textiles and other handicrafts.

74. Consider the following events in the history of India :

1. Rise of Pratiharas under King Bhoja
2. Establishment of Pallava power under Mahendravarman – I
3. Establishment of Chola power by Parantaka – I
4. Pala dynasty founded by Gopala

What is the correct chronological order of the above events, starting from the earliest time ?

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



Answer C

- **Mahendravarman – Early 7th century (600-630)**
- **Gopala I – Mid 8th century (~750)**
- **Mihir Bhoja – Late 9th century (died 885))**
- **Parantaka Chola I - Mid 10th century (died 955)**



75. Which of the following phrases defines the nature of the 'Hundi' generally referred to in the sources of the post-Harsha period ?

- (a) An advisory issued by the king to his subordinates
- (b) A diary to be maintained for daily accounts
- (c) A bill of exchange
- (d) An order from the feudal lord to his subordinates



- Hundi is a **financial instrument** that developed in Medieval India for use in **trade and credit transactions**.
- Hundis are used as a form of remittance instrument to transfer money from place to place, as a form of credit instrument to borrow money and as a **bill of exchange** in trade transactions.

76. With reference to the book "*Desh* Katha" written by Sakharam Ganesh Deuskar during the freedom struggle, consider the following statements :

1. It warned against the Colonial State's hypnotic conquest of the mind.
2. It inspired the performance of swadeshi street plays and folk songs.
3. The use of 'desh' by Deuskar was in the specific context of the region of Bengal..

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

- **Sakharam Ganesh Deuskar (1869-1912) was a close associate of Sri Aurobindo.**
- **A Marathi Brahmin who had settled in Bengal**
- **Book Written in 1904**
- **Banned by British government**
- **Swadeshi movement**
- **‘Swaraj’**

77. The Gandhi-Irwin Pact included which of the following ?

1. Invitation to Congress to participate in the Round Table Conference
2. Withdrawal of Ordinances promulgated in connection with the Civil Disobedience Movement
3. Acceptance of Gandhiji's suggestion for enquiry into police excesses
4. Release of only those prisoners who were not charged with violence

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

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



Answer B

- **No enquiry into police excesses was agreed upon**



78. The *Vital-Vidhvansak*, the first monthly journal to have the untouchable people as its target audience was published by

- (a) Gopal Baba Walangkar**
- (b) Jyotiba Phule**
- (c) Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi**
- (d) Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar**



Answer A

In 1888, Walangkar began publishing the monthly journal titled *Vital-Vidhvansak* (Destroyer of Brahmanical or Ceremonial Pollution), which was the first to have the untouchable people as its target audience



79. With reference to the history of India, the terms “kulyavapa” and “dronavapa” denote

- (a) measurement of land
- (b) coins of different monetary value
- (c) classification of urban land
- (d) religious rituals



Answer A

According to epigraphic evidence, we have references of measurement units such as – “Kulyavapa”, “dronavapa”, “adhavapa” and “Pataka” from Bengal, nivratanā and “bhumi” from Central India and “nivartana and “padavarta” from Western India.

80. Who among the following rulers advised his subjects through this inscription ?

“Whosoever praises his religious sect or blames other sects out of excessive devotion to his own sect, with the view of glorifying his own sect, he rather injures his own sect very severely.”

- (a) Ashoka
- (b) Samudragupta
- (c) Harshavardhana
- (d) Krishnadeva Raya



- **Major Rock Edict VII Girnar**
- **Requests tolerance for all religions.**
 - *"To foster one's own sect, depreciating the others out of affection for one's own, to exalt its merit, is to do the worst harm to one's own sect."*

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