

Art and Culture of Ancient India

Instructions: Each question carries one mark.
Choose the most appropriate answer.

Section: Architecture

1. The earliest surviving structural temples in India belong to the:
a) Mauryan period
b) **Gupta period**
c) Vedic period
d) Indus Valley period
2. The Nagara style of temple architecture is characterized by:
a) Pyramidal towers
b) **Curvilinear spire (Shikhara)**
c) Flat roof
d) Dome
3. The Dravida style of temple architecture is characterized by:
a) Curvilinear tower
b) **Pyramidal tower (Vimana)**
c) Dome
d) Flat roof
4. The Vesara style of temple architecture is a combination of:
a) Nagara and Buddhist styles
b) **Nagara and Dravida styles**
c) Dravida and Islamic styles
d) Buddhist and Jain styles
5. The earliest rock-cut caves in India are at:
a) Ajanta
b) Ellora
c) **Barabar Hills (Lomas Rishi Cave)**
d) Elephanta
6. The Chaitya hall at Karle is dedicated to:
a) Shiva
b) Vishnu
c) **Buddha**
d) Mahavira
7. The largest monolithic statue in the world is:
a) Gomateshwara at Shravanabelagola
b) **Statue of Bahubali at Venur**
c) Buddha statue at Bamiyan
d) Ashoka pillar at Sarnath
8. The Shore Temple at Mahabalipuram was built by:
a) Cholas
b) **Pallavas**
c) Chalukyas
d) Rashtrakutas
9. The Kailasanatha Temple at Ellora was built by:
a) Pallavas
b) Cholas
c) **Rashtrakutas**
d) Chalukyas
10. The Brihadeshwara Temple at Thanjavur was built by:
a) **Rajaraja Chola I**
b) Rajendra Chola I
c) Krishnadevaraya
d) Narasimhavarmam
11. The Sun Temple at Konark was built by:
a) **Narasimhadeva I of Eastern Ganga dynasty**
b) Rajaraja Chola I
c) Chandragupta II
d) Harshavardhana
12. The temple known for its erotic sculptures is:
a) Brihadeshwara Temple
b) **Kandariya Mahadeva Temple (Khajuraho)**
c) Sun Temple, Konark
d) Meenakshi Temple
13. The first tomb built in India is:
a) Taj Mahal

- b) Humayun's Tomb
- c) **Sultan Ghari's Tomb**
- d) Bibi Ka Maqbara
14. The Quwwat-ul-Islam mosque in Delhi was built by:
a) **Qutb-ud-din Aibak**
b) Iltutmish
c) Alauddin Khalji
d) Firoz Shah Tughlaq
15. The Iron Pillar at Delhi dates back to the period of:
a) Ashoka
b) **Chandragupta II**
c) Harsha
d) Samudragupta

Section: Sculpture and Painting

16. The Sarnath School of Art flourished under the patronage of:
a) **Guptas**
b) Mauryas
c) Kushanas
d) Satavahanas
17. The Gandhara School of Art was influenced by:
a) Indian tradition
b) **Hellenistic (Greek) tradition**
c) Persian tradition
d) Chinese tradition
18. The Mathura School of Art flourished under the patronage of:
a) Guptas
b) **Kushanas**
c) Mauryas
d) Satavahanas
19. The famous "Dancing Girl" of Mohenjo-Daro is made of:
a) Stone
b) **Bronze**
c) Terracotta
d) Gold
20. The "Didarganj Yakshi" belongs to the:
a) **Mauryan period**
b) Gupta period
c) Kushana period
d) Satavahana period
21. The Ajanta caves are famous for:
a) **Fresco paintings**
b) Rock-cut architecture
c) Both a and b
d) Neither a nor b
22. The Bagh caves are famous for:
a) **Tempera paintings**
b) Sculptures
c) Architecture
d) Inscriptions
23. The Ellora caves represent:
a) Only Hindu art
b) **Hindu, Buddhist and Jain art**
c) Only Buddhist art
d) Only Jain art
24. The earliest paintings in India are found at:
a) Ajanta
b) **Bhimbetka**
c) Ellora
d) Bagh
25. The Lepakshi temple is famous for its:
a) **Murals**
b) Architecture
c) Sculptures
d) Inscriptions
26. The "Chaugan players" painting belongs to:
a) Ajanta
b) **Bagha**

- c) Ellora
- d) Sittanavasal
27. The Sittanavasal caves are famous for:
a) **Jain paintings**
b) Buddhist paintings
c) Hindu paintings
d) Secular paintings
28. The "Bodhisattva Padmapani" painting is in:
a) **Ajanta Cave 1**
b) Bagh Cave 2
c) Ellora Cave 10
d) Sittanavasal Cave

Section: Music and Dance

29. The "Natya Shastra" was written by:
a) **Bharata Muni**
b) Matanga
c) Sarangadeva
d) Nandikeshvara
30. The oldest treatise on music is:
a) Natya Shastra
b) **Sama Veda**
c) Gandharva Veda
d) Sangita Ratnakara
31. The "Sangita Ratnakara" was written by:
a) Bharata Muni
b) **Sarangadeva**
c) Matanga
d) Nandikeshvara
32. The "Abhinaya Darpana" was written by:
a) Bharata Muni
b) **Nandikeshvara**
c) Matanga
d) Sarangadeva
33. Bharatnatyam dance form originated in:
a) Kerala
b) **Tamil Nadu**
c) Andhra Pradesh
d) Karnataka
34. Kathakali dance form originated in:
a) **Kerala**
b) Tamil Nadu
c) Andhra Pradesh
d) Karnataka
35. Kathak dance form originated in:
a) Tamil Nadu
b) Kerala
c) **Uttar Pradesh**
d) Rajasthan
36. Odissi dance form originated in:
a) Tamil Nadu
b) Kerala
c) **Odisha**
d) Andhra Pradesh
37. Kuchipudi dance form originated in:
a) Tamil Nadu
b) Kerala
c) **Andhra Pradesh**
d) Karnataka
38. Mohiniyattam dance form is from:
a) Tamil Nadu
b) **Kerala**
c) Andhra Pradesh
d) Karnataka
39. Manipuri dance form is from:
a) Tamil Nadu
b) Kerala
c) **Assam**
d) Manipur

Section: Literature and Languages

41. The earliest literature in India is:

- a) Buddhist literature
- b) Jain literature
- c) **Vedic literature**
- d) Sangam literature

42. The "Sangam literature" is in:

- a) Sanskrit
- b) Pali
- c) **Tamil**
- d) Prakrit

43. The "Thirukkural" was written by:

- a) **Thiruvalluvar**
- b) Ilango Adigal
- c) Tolkappiyar
- d) Kapilar

44. The "Silappadikaram" was written by:

- a) Thiruvalluvar
- b) **Ilango Adigal**
- c) Tolkappiyar
- d) Kapilar

45. The "Manimekalai" was written by:

- a) Thiruvalluvar
- b) Ilango Adigal
- c) **Sittalai Sattanar**
- d) Tolkappiyar

46. The language of Ashoka's inscriptions is:

- a) Sanskrit
- b) **Prakrit**
- c) Pali
- d) Tamil

47. The script used in Ashoka's inscriptions is:

- a) Devanagari
- b) **Brahmi**
- c) Kharosthi
- d) Tamil

48. The "Panchatantra" was written by:

- a) Kalidasa
- b) **Vishnu Sharma**
- c) Bhasa
- d) Shudraka

49. The "Arthashastra" was written by:

- a) **Kautilya (Chanakya)**
- b) Kalidasa
- c) Vishnu Sharma
- d) Bhasa

50. The "Mudrarakshasa" was written by:

- a) Kalidasa
- b) **Vishakhadatta**
- c) Bhasa
- d) Shudraka

51. The "Rajatarangini" was written by:

- a) **Kalhana**
- b) Bilhana
- c) Jayadeva
- d) Bana

52. The "Gita Govinda" was written by:

- a) Kalhana
- b) Bilhana
- c) **Jayadeva**
- d) Bana

53. The "Harshacharita" was written by:

- a) Kalhana
- b) Bilhana
- c) **Bana**
- d) Jayadeva

54. The "Kadambari" was written by:

- a) Kalhana
- b) Bilhana
- c) **Bana**
- d) Jayadeva

55. The "Meghaduta" was written by:

- a) **Kalidasa**
- b) Bhasa
- c) Shudraka
- d) Vishakhadatta

56. The "Abhijnanashakuntalam" was written by:

- a) **Kalidasa**
- b) Bhasa
- c) Shudraka
- d) Vishakhadatta

Section: Miscellaneous

57. The "Surya Siddhanta" is a work on:

- a) Medicine
- b) **Astronomy**
- c) Mathematics
- d) Philosophy

58. The "Charaka Samhita" is a work on:

- a) **Medicine**
- b) Astronomy
- c) Mathematics
- d) Philosophy

59. The "Sushruta Samhita" is a work on:

- a) Medicine
- b) **Surgery**
- c) Astronomy
- d) Mathematics

60. The "Aryabhatiya" was written by:

- a) **Aryabhatta**
- b) Varahamihira
- c) Brahmagupta
- d) Bhaskara I

61. The "Brihat Samhita" was written by:

- a) Aryabhatta
- b) **Varahamihira**
- c) Brahmagupta
- d) Bhaskara I

62. The "Pancha Siddhantika" was written by:

- a) Aryabhatta
- b) **Varahamihira**
- c) Brahmagupta
- d) Bhaskara I

63. The "Lilavati" was written by:

- a) Aryabhatta
- b) Varahamihira
- c) Brahmagupta
- d) **Bhaskara II**

64. The "Kamasutra" was written by:

- a) **Vatsyayana**
- b) Kautilya
- c) Kalidasa
- d) Bharavi

65. The first grammar of Sanskrit was written by:

- a) **Panini**
- b) Patanjali
- c) Katyayana
- d) Bharata

66. The "Mahabhashya" was written by:

- a) Panini
- b) **Patanjali**
- c) Katyayana
- d) Bharata

67. The "Ashtadhyayi" was written by:

- a) **Panini**
- b) Patanjali
- c) Katyayana
- d) Bharata

68. The "Kavyadarsha" was written by:

- a) **Dandin**
- b) Bharata
- c) Kalidasa
- d) Bana

69. The "Natyashastra" deals with:

- a) **Drama and performance arts**
- b) Music only
- c) Dance only
- d) Architecture

70. The "Vastushastra" deals with:

- a) **Drama**

b) Music

c) **Architecture**

d) Dance

Answer Key

1. b) Gupta period
2. b) Curvilinear spire (Shikhara)
3. b) Pyramidal tower (Vimana)
4. b) Nagara and Dravida styles
5. c) Barabar Hills (Lomas Rishi Cave)
6. c) Buddha
7. b) Statue of Bahubali at Venur
8. b) Pallavas
9. c) Rashtrakutas
10. a) Rajaraja Chola I
11. a) Narasimhadeva I of Eastern Ganga dynasty
12. b) Kandariya Mahadeva Temple (Khajuraho)
13. c) Sultan Ghari's Tomb
14. a) Qutb-ud-din Aibak
15. b) Chandragupta II
16. a) Guptas
17. b) Hellenistic (Greek) tradition
18. b) Kushanas
19. b) Bronze
20. a) Mauryan period
21. c) Both a and b
22. a) Tempera paintings
23. b) Hindu, Buddhist and Jain art
24. b) Bhimbetka
25. a) Murals
26. b) Bagha
27. a) Jain paintings
28. a) Ajanta Cave 1
29. a) Bharata Muni
30. b) Sama Veda
31. b) Sarangadeva
32. b) Nandikeshvara
33. b) Tamil Nadu
34. a) Kerala
35. c) Uttar Pradesh
36. c) Odisha
37. c) Andhra Pradesh
38. b) Kerala
39. c) Manipur
40. c) Assam
41. c) Vedic literature
42. c) Tamil
43. a) Thiruvalluvar
44. b) Ilango Adigal
45. c) Sittalai Sattanar
46. b) Prakrit
47. b) Brahmi
48. b) Vishnu Sharma
49. a) Kautilya (Chanakya)
50. b) Vishakhadatta
51. a) Kalhana
52. c) Jayadeva
53. c) Bana
54. c) Bana
55. a) Kalidasa
56. a) Kalidasa
57. b) Astronomy
58. a) Medicine
59. b) Surgery
60. a) Aryabhatta
61. b) Varahamihira
62. b) Varahamihira
63. d) Bhaskara II
64. a) Vatsyayana
65. a) Panini
66. b) Patanjali
67. a) Panini
68. a) Dandin
69. a) Drama and performance arts

BREAKTHROUGH POINT