



UPSC

Prelims

Union Public Service Commission

Volume – 9

Previous Years Questions

UPSC Previous Year Question

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ANCIENT & MEDIEVAL HISTORY

Early History

Analysis

Early history UPSC focuses on archaeological sites, their locations, and cultural features (Chalcolithic, Megalithic, Neolithic). It also tests knowledge of material remains like terracotta, copper artefacts, and rock-cut structures linked to regional history.

1. Consider the following information:

(2024)

	Archaeological Site	State	Description
1.	Chandrasekhar	Odisha	Trading Port town
2.	Inamgaon	Maharashtra	Chalcolithic site
3.	Mangadu	Kerala	Megalithic site
4.	Salihundam	Andhra Pradesh	Rock-cut shrines

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

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

2. Consider the following pairs: (2021)

	Historical place	Well-known for
1.	Burzahom	Rock-cut shrines
2.	Chandrasekhar	Terracotta art
3.	Ganeshwar	Copper artefacts

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

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

Indus Valley Civilization

Analysis

In the Indus Valley Civilization chapter, UPSC focuses on urban features like town planning, drainage, trade, and crafts, along with sites and their unique findings. It also tests awareness of seals, scripts, religious practices, and cultural legacy.



3. The famous female figurine known as 'Dancing Girl', found at Mohenjo-daro, is made of (2025)

- (a) carnelian (b) clay
(c) bronze (d) gold

4. Which one of the following ancient towns is well-known for its elaborate system of water harvesting and management by building a series of dams and channelizing water into connected reservoirs? (2021)

- (a) Dholavira (b) Kalibangan
(c) Rakhigarhi (d) Ropar

5. Which one of the following is not a Harappan site? (2019)

- (a) Chanhudaro (b) Kot Diji
(c) Sohgaora (d) Desalpur

Vedic Age

Analysis

In Vedic Age UPSC focuses on society, polity, economy, and religious practices of the Early and Later Vedic periods. It also emphasizes sources like the Vedas, rituals, and changes leading to the emergence of kingdoms and new philosophies.



6. With reference to the difference between the culture of Rigvedic Aryans and Indus Valley people, which of the following statements is/are correct? (2017)

1. Rigvedic Aryans used the coat of mail and helmet in warfare whereas the people of Indus Valley Civilization did not leave any evidence of using them.

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2. Rigvedic Aryans knew gold, silver and copper whereas Indus Valley people knew only copper and iron.
3. Rigvedic Aryans had domesticated the horse whereas there is no evidence of Indus Valley people having been aware of this animal.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Buddhism And Jainism

Analysis

In the Buddhism and Jainism chapter, UPSC focuses on the life and teachings of the Buddha and Mahavira, key doctrines, councils, and sects. It also emphasizes their spread, patronage, art-architecture, and contemporary relevance.



7. Souls are not only the property of animal and plant life, but also of rocks, running water and many other natural objects not looked on as living by other religious sects. (2023)

The above statement reflects one of the core beliefs of which one of the following religious sects of ancient India?

- (a) Buddhism (b) Jainism
(c) Shaivism (d) Vaishnavism

8. With reference to the religious history of India, consider the following statements: (2020)

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 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

9. With reference to the cultural history of India, which one of the following is the correct description of the term 'paramitas'? (2020)

- (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

10. With reference to the cultural history of India, consider the following pairs: (2020)

1.	Pativrajaka	-	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

11. Consider the following: (2019)

1. Deification of the Buddha
2. Treading the path of Bodhisattvas
3. Image worship and rituals

Which of the above is/are the feature/features of Mahayana Buddhism?

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

12. With reference to the Indian History, who among the following is a future Buddha, yet to come to save the world? (2018)

- (a) Avalokiteshvara (b) Lokeshvara
(c) Maitreya (d) Padmapani

13. With reference to the religious practices in India, the "Sthanakvasi" sect belongs to (2018)

- (a) Buddhism (b) Jainism
(c) Vaishnavism (d) Shaivism

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14. With reference to the religious history of India, consider the following statements: (2017)

1. Sautrantika and Sammitiya were the sects of Jainism.
2. Sarvastivadin held that the constituents of phenomena were not wholly momentary, but existed forever in a latent form.

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

15. With reference to the religious history of India, consider the following statements: (2016)

1. The concept of Bodhisattva is central to Hinayana sect of Buddhism.
2. Bodhisattva is a compassionate one on his way to enlightenment.
3. Bodhisattva delays achieving his own salvation to help all sentient beings on their path to it.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Magadh Empire

Analysis

In the Magadh Empire chapter, UPSC focuses on the rise of Magadha through geography, resources, and strong rulers. It also emphasizes administrative innovations, military strength, and its role in the foundation of the Mauryan Empire.

16. With reference to ancient India (600–322 BC), consider the following pairs: (2025)

Territorial region	River flowing in the region
I. Asmaka	Godavari
II. Kamboja	Vipasa
III. Avanti	Mahanadi
IV. Kosala	Sarayu

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two
(c) Only three (d) All the four

Mauryan Empire

Analysis

In the Mauryan Empire chapter, UPSC focuses on administration, economy, society, and the role of rulers like Chandragupta, Bindusara, and Ashoka. It also emphasizes sources like Arthashastra and edicts, along with Mauryan art, architecture, and decline.



17. Consider the following pairs: (2022)

	Site of Ashoka's major rock edicts		Location in the State of
1.	Dhauili	—	Odisha
2.	Erragudi	—	Andhra Pradesh
3.	Jaugada	—	Madhya Pradesh
4.	Kalsi	—	Karnataka

How many pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one pair (b) Only two pairs
(c) Only three pairs (d) All four pairs

18. Who among the following rulers advised his subjects through this inscription? (2020)
“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) Samundragupta
(c) Harshavardhana
(d) Krishanadeva Raya

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19. Who of the following had first deciphered the edicts of Emperor Ashoka? (2016)

- (a) Georg Buhler (b) James Prinsep
(c) Max Muller (d) William Jones

The Gupta Empire

Analysis

In the Gupta Age, UPSC focuses on rulers, foreign accounts, administration, economy (land revenue, ports, taxation), and cultural achievements in literature, art, and science. It also emphasizes scholars, inscriptions, coins, and reasons for decline.



20. Fa-hien (Faxian), the Chinese pilgrim, travelled to India during the reign of (2025)

- (a) Samudragupta (b) Chandragupta II
(c) Kumaragupta I (d) Skandagupta

21. With reference to Indian history, consider the following pairs: (2022)

	Historical person		Known as
1.	Aryadeva	—	Jaina scholar
2.	Dignaga	—	Buddhist scholar
3.	Nathamuni	—	Vaishnava scholar

How many pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) None of the pairs
(b) Only one pair
(c) Only two pairs
(d) All three pairs

22. With reference to the scholars/litterateurs of ancient India, consider the following statements: (2020)

- 1. Panini is associated with Pushyamitra**

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

23. With reference to the history of India, the terms 'kulyavapa' and 'dronavapa' denote (2020)

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

24. With reference to the period of Gupta dynasty in ancient India, the towns Ghantasala, Kadura and Chaul were known as (2020)

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

25. With reference to forced labour (Vishti) in India during the Gupta period, which one of the following statements is correct? (2019)

- (a) It was considered a source of income for the State, a sort of tax paid by the people.
(b) It was totally absent in the Madhya Pradesh and Kathiawar regions of the Gupta Empire.
(c) The forced labourer was entitled to weekly wages.
(d) The eldest son of the labourer was sent as the forced labourer.

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Harshavardhana

Analysis

In the Post-Gupta/Harshavardhana Age, UPSC focuses on political developments, Harsha's reign, and foreign accounts. It also emphasizes religion, education centers like Nalanda, literature (Banabhatta), and features of feudal polity.

26. From the decline of Guptas until the rise of Harshavardhana in the early seventh century, which of the following kingdoms were holding power in Northern India? (2021)

1. The Guptas of Magadha
2. The Paramaras of Malwa
3. The Pushyabhutis of Thanesar
4. The Maukharis of Kanauj
5. The Yadavas of Devagiri
6. The Maitrakas of Valabhi

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1, 2 and 5 only (b) 1, 3, 4 and 6 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4 only (d) 5 and 6 only

Kingdom of South

Analysis

From the Kingdoms of South, UPSC focuses on rulers and their titles, land grant systems, and temple-centered administration. It also emphasizes cultural aspects like Ghatikas (temple colleges), Bhakti traditions, and Pallava–Chola contributions to architecture.

27. Who among the following rulers in ancient India had assumed the titles 'Mattavilasa', 'Vichitrachitta' and 'Gunabhara'? (2025)

- (a) Mahendravarman I
(b) Simhavishnu
(c) Narasimhavarman I
(d) Simhavarman

28. In the context of the history of India, consider the following pairs: (2016)

Term	Description
1. Eripatti	Land, revenue from which was set apart for the maintenance of the village tank
2. Taniyurs	Villages donated to a single Brahmin or a group of Brahmins
3. Ghatikas	Colleges generally attached to the temples

Which of the pairs given above correctly matched?

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

Sangam Age

Analysis

In the Sangam Age, UPSC focused on ports and trade centers (Korkai, Poompuhar, Muchiri), customs like Vattakirutal, and the warrior ethic reflected in literature. It also emphasizes polity, society, and material culture as depicted in Sangam poems.



29. With reference to ancient South India, Korkai, Poompuhar and Muchiri were well known as (2023)

- (a) capital cities (b) ports
(c) centres of iron-and-steel making
(d) shrines of Jain Tirthankaras

30. Which one of the following explains the practice of Vattakirutal' as mentioned in Sangam poems? (2023)

- (a) Kings employing women bodyguards.
(b) Learned persons assembling in royal courts to discuss religious and philosophical matters
(c) Young girls keeping watch over agricultural fields and driving away birds and animals
(d) A king defeated in a battle committing ritual suicide by starving himself to death

ANCIENT & MEDIEVAL HISTORY

31. Which one of the following statement about Sangam literature in ancient South India is correct? (2022)

- (a) Sangam poems are devoid of any reference to material culture.
- (b) The social classification of Varna was known to Sangam poets.
- (c) Sangam poems have no reference to warrior ethic.
- (d) Sangam literature refers to magical forces as irrational.

Early Medieval Period

Analysis

In the Early Medieval Period, UPSC focused on regional kingdoms like Cholas, Chalukyas, Rashtrakutas, and their campaigns, trade, and administration. It also emphasizes ports, dynastic founders, and cultural achievements.

32. Who among the following led a successful military campaign against the kingdom of Srivijaya, the powerful maritime State, which ruled the Malay Peninsula, Sumatra, Java and the neighbouring islands? (2025)

- (a) Amoghavarsha (Rashtrakuta)
- (b) Prataparudra (Kakatiya)
- (c) Rajendra I (Chola)
- (d) Vishnuvardhana (Hoysala)

33. Consider the following pairs: (2022)

	King	Dynasty
1.	Nannuka	Chandela
2.	Jayashakti	Paramara
3.	Nagabhata II	Gurjara-Pratihara
4.	Bhoja	Rashtrakuta

How many pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one pair (b) Only two pairs
- (c) Only three pairs (d) All four pairs

34. Which one of the following was a very important seaport in the Kakatiya kingdom? (2017)

- (a) Kakinada
- (b) Motupalli
- (c) Machilipatnam (Masulipatnam)
- (d) Nelluru

Delhi Sultanate

Analysis

In the Delhi Sultanate, UPSC focuses on political history (Mongol invasions, rulers, foreign contacts) and administrative systems like Iqta and revenue collection. It also emphasizes society, Sufi groups, and Persian influence.



35. With reference to Indian history, consider the following statements: (2022)

1. The first Mongol invasion of India happened during the reign of Jalal-ud-din Khalji.
2. During the reign of Ala-ud-din Khalji, one Mongol assault marched up to Delhi and besieged the city.
3. Muhammad-bin-Tughlaq temporarily lost portions of the north-west of his kingdom to Mongols.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

36. With reference to Indian history, who of the following were known as "Kulah-Daran"? (2022)

- (a) Arab merchants
- (b) Qalandars
- (c) Persian calligraphists
- (d) Sayyids

ANCIENT & MEDIEVAL HISTORY

37. Consider the following statements:

(2021)

1. It was during the reign of Iltutmish that Chengiz Khan reached the Indus in pursuit of the fugitive Khwarezm prince.
2. It was during the reign of Muhammad-bin-Tughluq that Taimur occupied Multan and crossed the Indus.
3. It was during the reign of Deva Raya II of Vijayanagara Empire that Vasco da Gama reached the coast of Kerala.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

38. Consider the following statements:

(2019)

1. In the revenue administration of Delhi Sultanate, the in-charge of revenue collection was known as 'Amil'.
2. The Iqta system of Sultans of Delhi was an ancient indigenous institution.
3. The office of 'Mir Bakshi' came into existence during the reign of Khalji Sultans of Delhi.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Vijayanagara and Bahmani Kingdom

Analysis

In the Vijayanagara and Bahmani Kingdoms, UPSC focuses on rulers, foreign contacts, irrigation works, and taxation systems. It also emphasizes cultural accounts from travellers like Nuniz.

39. Who of the following rulers of medieval India gave permission to the Portuguese to build a fort at Bhatkal? (2024)

- (a) Krishnadevaraya
(b) Narasimha Saluva
(c) Muhammad Shah III
(d) Yusuf Adil Shah

40. Who among the following rulers of Vijayanagara Empire constructed a large dam across Tungabhadra River and canalcum-aqueduct several kilometres long from the river to the capital city? (2023)

- (a) Devaraya I (b) Mallikarjuna
(c) Vira Vijaya (d) Virupaksha

41. According to the Portuguese writer Nuniz, the women in the Vijayanagara Empire were expert in which of the following areas? (2021)

1. Wrestling
2. Astrology
3. Accounting
4. Soothsaying

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

42. Regarding the taxation system of Krishna Deva, the ruler of Vijayanagar, consider the following statements:

(2016)

1. The tax rate on land was fixed depending on the quality of the land.
2. Private owners of workshops paid an industries tax.

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

ANCIENT & MEDIEVAL HISTORY

Mughal empire

Analysis

In the Mughal Empire, UPSC focuses on administration (Jagirdars, Zamindars), foreign contacts, and policies of rulers like Akbar, Jahangir, and Aurangzeb. It also emphasizes cultural contributions in literature, translations, music, and art patronage.

43. Who among the following rulers of mediaeval Gujarat surrendered Diu to the Portuguese? (2023)

- (a) Ahmad Shah
- (b) Mahmud Begarha
- (c) Bahadur Shah
- (d) Muhammad Shah

44. "Yogavasistha" was translated into Persian by Nizamuddin Panipati during the reign of: (2022)

- (a) Akbar
- (b) Humayun
- (c) Shahjahan
- (d) Aurangzeb

45. With reference to Mughal India, what is/are the difference/differences between Jagirdar and Zamindar? (2019)

1. Jagirdars were holders of land assignments in lieu of judicial and police duties, whereas Zamindars were holders of revenue rights without obligation to perform any duty other than revenue collection.
2. Land assignments to Jagirdars were hereditary and revenue rights of Zamindars were not hereditary.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

46. With reference to Mian Tansen, which one of the following statements is not correct? (2019)

- (a) Tansen was the title given to him by Emperor Akbar.
- (b) Tansen composed Dhrupads on Hindu gods and goddesses.
- (c) Tansen composed songs on his patrons.
- (d) Tansen invented many Ragas.

47. Who among the following Mughal Emperors shifted emphasis from illustrated manuscripts to album and individual portrait? (2019)

- (a) Humayun
- (b) Akbar
- (c) Jahangir
- (d) Shah Jahan

Bhakti and Sufi movement

Analysis

In the Bhakti and Sufi Movement, UPSC focuses on the teachings, philosophies, and chronology of saints (Ramanuja, Kabir, and Nimbarka). It also emphasizes the role of these movements in promoting devotion, social reform.

48. The world's second tallest statue in sitting pose of Ramanuja was inaugurated by the Prime Minister of India at Hyderabad recently. Which one of the following statements correctly represents the teachings of Ramanuja? (2022)

- (a) The best means of salvation was devotion.
- (b) Vedas are eternal, self-existent and wholly authoritative.
- (c) Logical arguments were essential means for the highest bliss
- (d) Salvation was to be obtained through meditation.

ANCIENT & MEDIEVAL HISTORY

49. Consider the following statements:

(2019)

1. Saint Nimbarka was a contemporary of Akbar.
2. Saint Kabir was greatly influenced by Shaikh Ahmad Sirhindi.

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

Through the eyes of travellers

Analysis

In the 'foreign Travellers' chapter, UPSC focuses on accounts of foreign visitors regarding India's trade, economy, society, and polity. It also emphasizes observations on crafts, mines, religion, and culture.

50. Which one of the following foreign travellers elaborately discussed about diamonds and diamond mines of India?

(2018)

- (a) Francois Bernier
(b) Jean-Baptiste Tavernier
(c) Jean de Thevenot
(d) Abbe Barthelemy Carre

Important Terminologies

51. The irrigation device called 'Arghatta' was

(2025)

- (a) A water bag made of leather pulled over a pulley
(b) A large wheel with earthen pots tied to the outer ends of its spokes
(c) A larger earthen pot driven by bullocks
(d) A large water bucket pulled up by rope directly by hand

52. Ashokan inscriptions suggest that the Pradeshika', Rajuka' and Yukta' were important officers at the

(2025)

- (a) village-level administration
(b) district-level administration
(c) provincial administration
(d) level of the central administration

53. With reference to ancient India, Gautama Buddha was generally known by which of the following epithets?

(2024)

1. Nayaputta
2. Shakyamuni
3. Tathagata

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

54. In medieval India, the term "Fanam" referred to:

(2022)

- (a) Clothing (b) Coins
(c) Ornaments (d) Weapons

55. With reference to medieval India, which one of the following is the correct sequence in ascending order in terms of size?

(2021)

- (a) Paragana-Sarkar-Suba
(b) Sarkar-Paragana-Suba
(c) Suba-Sarkar-Paragana
(d) Paragana-Suba-Sarkar

56. With reference to the economic history of medieval India, the term 'Arghatta' refers to

(2016)

- (a) bonded labour
(b) land grants made to military officers
(c) waterwheel used in the irrigation of land
(d) wasteland converted to cultivated land

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

(2020)

- (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

ANCIENT & MEDIEVAL HISTORY

58. Banjaras during the medieval period of Indian history were generally (2016)
 (a) agriculturists (b) warriors
 (c) weavers (d) traders

Miscellaneous

59. Consider the following dynasties: (2023)
 1. Hoysala
 2. Gahadavala
 3. Kakatiya
 4. Yadava

How many of the above dynasties established their kingdoms in early eighth century AD?

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

60. According to Kautilya's Arthashastra, which of the following are correct? (2022)

1. A person could be a slave as a result of a judicial punishment.
2. If a female slave bore her master a son, she was legally free.
3. If a son born to a female slave was fathered by her master, the son was entitled to the legal status of the master's son.

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

61. With reference to the history of ancient India, which of the following statements is/are correct? (2021)

1. Mitakshara was the civil law for upper castes and Dayabhaga was the civil law for lower castes.
2. In the Mitakshara system, the sons can claim right to the property during the lifetime of the father, whereas in the Dayabhaga system, it is only after the death of the father that the sons can claim right to the property.

3. The Mitakshara system deals with the matters related to the property held by male members only of a family, whereas the Dayabhaga system deals with the matters related to the property held by both male and female members of a family.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

62. Consider the following events in the history of India: (2020)

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

63. With reference to the history of India, consider the following pairs: (2020)

	Famous Place		Present State
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

64. With reference to the cultural history of India, the memorizing of chronicles, dynastic histories and epic tales was the profession of who of the following?

(2016)

- (a) Shramana (b) Parivraajaka
 (c) Agrahaarika (d) Maagadha

MODERN HISTORY

Arrival of European Powers In India

Analysis

From this chapter, UPSC focuses on the establishment of factories, trade privileges, and settlements of the Portuguese, Dutch, English, and French. It also emphasizes crops introduced by Europeans, along with battles, treaties, and early colonial rivalries.

1. Consider the following fruits: (2025)

I. Papaya

II. Pineapple

III. Guava

How many of the above were introduced in India by the Portuguese in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries?

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

2. In the first quarter of seventeenth century, in which of the following was/were the factory/factories of the English East India Company located?

(2021)

1. Broach
2. Chicacole
3. Trichinopoly

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Consolidation and Expansion

Analysis

From this chapter, UPSC focuses on British policies like the Subsidiary Alliance and Doctrine of Lapse, along with major Anglo-Mysore, Maratha, and Sikh wars. It also emphasizes treaties, annexations, and the establishment of British paramountcy over Indian states.

3. Which one of the following statements does not apply to the system of Subsidiary Alliance introduced by Lord Wellesley? (2018)

- (a) To maintain a large standing army at others expense
(b) To keep India safe from Napoleonic danger
(c) To secure a fixed income for the Company
(d) To establish British paramountcy over the Indian States

Administrative organization till 1857

Analysis

From this chapter, UPSC focuses on the evolution of British governance through the Regulating Act, Pitt's India Act, and Charter Acts. It also emphasizes the role of Governor-Generals, administrative reforms, and institutions.

4. By which one of the following Acts was the Governor General of Bengal designated as the Governor General of India? (2023)

- (a) The Regulating Act
(b) The Pitt's India Act
(c) The Charter Act of 1793
(d) The Charter Act of 1833

5. Wellesley established the Fort William College Calcutta because (2020)

- (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