The Age of Reorganisation

Standard difficulty · 20 questions · 40 marks · Time: 37 minutes

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: ____ / 40

Write full answers in Sections B and C. Answers are on the last page — try every question first!

Section A — Choose the correct answer — 8 × 1 = 8 marks

1. The Shunga dynasty was founded by:
   (a) Kanishka **(b)** Gautamiputra Satakarni
   (c) Kharavela **(d)** Pushyamitra Shunga

2. Gautamiputra Satakarni was a ruler of which dynasty?
   (a) Satavahana **(b)** Maurya **(c)** Nanda **(d)** Kushana

3. Where did the Satavahanas rule?
   (a) the Kerala coast **(b)** the northwest and the north
   (c) the Ganga plains **(d)** the Deccan

4. Which of these did the Satavahanas send to Rome?
   (a) Roman gold coins **(b)** glass
   (c) pearls **(d)** iron ships

5. The Shaka Samvat is about 78 years behind the Gregorian calendar (from April to December). Which Shaka year is it in October 1992?
   (a) 1914 **(b)** 1905 **(c)** 2070 **(d)** 1935

6. In May, the Shaka year is 1945. Which Gregorian year is it? (Shaka = Gregorian − 78)
   (a) 2002 **(b)** 1867 **(c)** 2032 **(d)** 2023

7. A Satavahana merchant sends 31 sacks of pepper to a Roman trader for 50 gold coins a sack. How many coins does the merchant earn?
   (a) 1,550 coins **(b)** 1,395 coins **(c)** 81 coins **(d)** 1,600 coins

8. Sculpture with red sandstone belongs to which school of art?
   (a) Mathura **(b)** Harappan **(c)** Amaravati **(d)** Gandhara

Section B — Short answer — 8 × 2 = 16 marks

9. Why is the period after the Mauryas called an age of reorganisation?

10. Name each ruler's dynasty: (a) Pushyamitra (b) Karikala

11. Where did each rule? (a) the Pandyas (b) the Kushanas

12. What is the Shaka year in September 2023? And in which Gregorian year will the Shaka year be 1955? (Shaka = Gregorian − 78)

13. Sort these into what India sent to Rome and what came back: perfumed ointments, Roman gold coins, textiles, spices.

14. Explain each: (a) the Kallanai (b) Sangam literature

15. Suppose a dam lets 630 fields be watered, and each field gives 20 kg more rice than before. How much more rice is grown in all?

16. Gandhara or Mathura? (a) statues with deep, flowing folds in the robes (b) red sandstone

Section C — Longer answers — 4 × 4 = 16 marks

17. Describe the main kingdoms that rose after the Mauryas.

18. Match each with its region: (a) the Kushanas (b) the Satavahanas (c) the Shungas. Choose from: the Ganga plains; the Deccan; the northwest and the north.

19. (a) What is the Shaka year in December 2032? (b) In which year did India adopt the Shaka Samvat as its National Calendar? (c) How many years ago was that from 2032?

20. Write about two rulers of this age: Pushyamitra and Karikala. Name each one's dynasty and say one thing it is known for.

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Answer key

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Q	Answer	Working
1	**(d) Pushyamitra Shunga**	—
2	**(a) Satavahana**	—
3	**(d) the Deccan**	—
4	**(c) pearls**	—
5	**(a) 1914**	1992 − 78 = 1914
6	**(d) 2023**	1945 + 78 = 2023
7	**(a) 1,550 coins**	31 × 50
8	**(a) Mathura**	—
9	**The large empire broke up, and different regions were reorganised into new, competing kingdoms.**	—
10	**(a) Shunga (b) Chola**	—
11	**(a) the Madurai region (b) the northwest and the north**	—
12	**1945; 2033**	2023 − 78; 1955 + 78
13	**Sent: textiles, spices; came back: perfumed ointments, Roman gold coins**	—
14	**(a) a dam on the Kaveri linked with Karikala (b) early Tamil poetry from poets' assemblies**	—
15	**12,600 kg**	630 × 20
16	**(a) Gandhara (b) Mathura**	—
17	**The Shungas in the north, the Satavahanas in the Deccan, the Chedis under Kharavela in Kalinga, the Cholas, Cheras and Pandyas in the far south, and the Indo-Greeks, Shakas and Kushanas who came from the northwest.**	—
18	**(a) the northwest and the north (b) the Deccan (c) the Ganga plains**	—
19	**(a) 1954 (b) 1957 (c) 75 years**	2032 − 78; 2032 − 1957
20	**Pushyamitra: Shunga dynasty, known for founding the Shunga dynasty after the Mauryas. Karikala: Chola dynasty, known for the Kallanai (Grand Anicut) on the Kaveri.**	—