State and Society up to 1000 CE

Standard difficulty · 20 questions · 40 marks · Time: 36 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 Uttaramerur village elections took place under the:
(a) Guptas **(b)** Kushanas **(c)** Mauryas **(d)** Cholas

2. In the saptanga, “amatya” means:
(a) the ministers **(b)** the army **(c)** the allies **(d)** the treasury

3. What is meant by “shreni”?
(a) a ballot-pot election **(b)** a province of the Chola kingdom
(c) a kin-based clan **(d)** a guild

4. What can we learn from the Mandsaur inscription?
(a) inscriptions of three rulers over about 700 years
(b) village elections by ballot pot
(c) silk weavers moving with their guild
(d) a five-member district office

5. What was the royal emblem of the Cheras?
(a) fish **(b)** lion **(c)** peacock **(d)** bow

6. The Saka era began in 78; the Gupta dynasty ended in 550. How many years apart were these?
(a) 472 years **(b)** 469 years **(c)** 473 years **(d)** 482 years

7. Mauryan land tax was generally one-sixth of the produce. How much does a farmer pay on 840 kg?
(a) 150 kg **(b)** 84 kg **(c)** 140 kg **(d)** 420 kg

8. A guild pays 2 coins a month as interest for every 100 coins deposited. How much interest does a deposit of 2,800 coins earn in a month?
(a) 560 coins **(b)** 5,600 coins **(c)** 56 coins **(d)** 66 coins

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

9. What were the sabha and samiti?

10. What does each limb of the state mean? (a) kosha (b) mitra

11. Explain each term: (a) mantri-parishad (b) janapada

12. What does each source tell us? (a) the Mandsaur inscription (b) the Nashik cave inscription

13. Which came first, and by how many years? (a) Aryabhata worked, around (500) (b) the Gupta dynasty ended (550)

14. A guild pays 2 coins a month for every 100 deposited. How much interest does 2,600 coins earn in 12 months?

15. The Gupta dynasty ruled from 320 to 550 CE. (a) For how many years did it rule? (b) How many years before 2048 did it begin?

16. Give the saptanga word for (a) the forts (b) the treasury

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

17. How did political life change from janas to mahajanapadas?

18. Match each with its meaning: (a) mandalam (b) jana (c) ur. Choose from: a village in the Chola system; a province of the Chola kingdom; a kin-based clan.

19. (a) Put these in order, earliest first: Aryabhata worked, around (500); Rudradaman I repaired the Sudarshana Lake (150); the Saka era began (78). (b) How many years from the first to the last? (c) Choose one and explain why it was important.

20. A farmer harvests 3,000 kg of grain. (a) How much is the Mauryan one-sixth tax? (b) How much is left? (c) If the family eats 450 kg, how much can be sold?

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Answer key

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Q	Answer	Working
1	**(d) Cholas**	—
2	**(a) the ministers**	—
3	**(d) a guild**	—
4	**(c) silk weavers moving with their guild**	—
5	**(d) bow**	—
6	**(a) 472 years**	550 − 78 = 472
7	**(c) 140 kg**	840 ÷ 6
8	**(c) 56 coins**	2,800 ÷ 100 × 2
9	**Early assemblies: the sabha was small and dealt with justice; the samiti was larger and discussed policy.**	—
10	**(a) the treasury (b) the allies**	—
11	**(a) the council of ministers (b) the land where a jana settled**	—
12	**(a) silk weavers moving with their guild (b) guilds paying interest on deposits**	—
13	**Aryabhata worked, around, by 50 years**	550 − 500
14	**624 coins**	2,600 ÷ 100 × 2 × 12
15	**(a) 230 years (b) 1,728 years**	550 − 320; 2048 − 320
16	**(a) durga (b) kosha**	—
17	**Kin-based janas settled into territories (janapadas), which grew into 16 larger mahajanapadas, some kingdoms and some republics, with Magadha becoming the strongest.**	—
18	**(a) a province of the Chola kingdom (b) a kin-based clan (c) a village in the Chola system**	—
19	**(a) the Saka era began; Rudradaman I repaired the Sudarshana Lake; Aryabhata worked, around (b) 422 years (c) Answers will vary; see the chapter.**	—
20	**(a) 500 kg (b) 2,500 kg (c) 2,050 kg**	3,000 ÷ 6; − that; − 450