

## PRELIMS SPECIAL (FOR UPSC CSE 2018)

1. Pancha Siddhantika, a work of Varahamihira, deals with
  - (a) Geographical domains of India
  - (b) Astronomical systems
  - (c) Occult and mysticism
  - (d) Principles of social living
2. In India, the safety aspects of genetically modified crops are assessed by which of these bodies?
  1. Institutional Biosafety Committees (IBSCs)
  2. Review Committee on Genetic Manipulation (RCGM)
  3. Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC)
  4. National Biopiracy authority (NBA)

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

  - (a) 1, 2 and 3 only
  - (b) 2 and 4 only
  - (c) 1 and 3 only
  - (d) 2, 3 and 4 only
3. With reference to Ancient India, who introduced the Pattini cult in Tamil Nadu?
  - (a) Cheran Senguttuvan
  - (b) Rajaraja II
  - (c) Pulakesin I
  - (d) Narasinghvarmana
4. Family Participatory Care (FPC) as an important concept of health care mainly focuses on
  - (a) Newborn healthcare
  - (b) Geriatric population
  - (c) Urban sanitation and hygiene
  - (d) Health insurance in India
5. The NITI Aayog has approved several high-tech mass rapid transport proposals to improve public transport. Consider the following about them.
  1. Hyperloop is a high air pressure tube connecting cities at speeds matching that of an aircraft.
  2. Freight rail roads will be elevated corridors with rail lines where freight trucks can move on rails at high speed.
  3. Pod taxis are underground transit systems that run entirely on solar power.
  4. Hybrid electric buses combine a conventional internal combustion engine with an electric propulsion system.

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

  - (a) 1 and 3 only
  - (b) 2 and 4 only
  - (c) 2, 3 and 4 only
  - (d) 1 and 2 only
6. Aadhaar is presently being used as an identifier in respect of following school education related schemes?
  1. Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDMS)
  2. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)
  3. Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA)
  4. Inclusive Education for Disabled at Secondary Stage (IEDSS)

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- (a) 1 and 2 only  
 (b) 2, 3 and 4 only  
 (c) 3 and 4 only  
 (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4
7. The Satavahanas patronized Buddhism and Brahmanism. The evidence of this is clear from the fact that
1. They built several chaityas and viharas.
  2. They prohibited Buddhist monks from acquiring land to help in their spiritual pursuit.
  3. They persecuted Brahmanism.
  4. They patronized the Prakrit language and literature.
- Select the correct answer using the codes below.
- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only  
 (b) 1 and 4 only  
 (c) 1, 3 and 4 only  
 (d) 2 and 3 only
8. With reference to Ancient India, in the northern part of the country, the village headman was known as the
- (a) Gramabhojaka  
 (b) Agrahara  
 (c) Dhammsurna  
 (d) Sentokwara
9. Sangam poems mention the term *muwendar*. It was used for
- (a) Land allotted to temples by Kings  
 (b) Administrative arrangements made to felicitate scholars of Tamil  
 (c) Heads of three ruling dynasties of Southern India  
 (d) Classical commentary on Vedas
10. Which of these developments can be attributed to Later Vedic age, as against the practice in the Vedic age?
1. Women lost their political rights of attending assemblies.
  2. Child marriage were banned and the practice of sati was absent.
  3. Women were not allowed to wear garments made of cotton.
- Select the correct answer using the codes below.
- (a) 1 only  
 (b) 2 and 3 only  
 (c) 3 only  
 (d) 2 only
11. With reference to Ancient texts, consider the following statements.
1. The Brahmanas are the law texts under Manusmriti that helped establish the predominance of Brahmana community.
  2. Upanishads are treatises relating to prayer and sacrificial ceremony.
  3. Aranyakas are called forest books and they deal with mysticism.
  4. Yajurveda deals with music, chanting and medicine.
- Select the correct answer using the codes below.
- (a) 1 and 2 only  
 (b) 3 only  
 (c) 1, 3 and 4 only  
 (d) 2 and 4 only

**12. Irula people**

1. Are a tribe of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands
2. Practice iron smelting as the main occupation
3. Do not speak any known dialect

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 3 only
- (c) 2 only
- (d) None of the above

**13. Buddhmitra was known for**

1. Writing virasoliyam which is a work on Tamil Grammar
2. Erecting inscriptions on images of bodhisattvas and the Buddha near Ganges river

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) None

**14. Adipurana written by Gunabhadra is a work on the**

- (a) Commentary of esoteric aspects found in the Vedas
- (b) Life stories of various Jain saints
- (c) Sanskrit Grammar
- (d) Verses used in sacrificial ceremony

**15. The images of Shiva represented in various forms like Nataraja, Gangadhara, Ardhanareesvara, Somaskanda and Trimurthi can be found in**

- (a) Elephanta caves
- (b) Ajanta caves
- (c) Karla caves
- (d) Kanheri rock-cut caves

**ANSWER KEYS**

01 b 02 a 03 a 04 a 05 b 06 d 07 b 08 a 09 c 10 a  
11 b 12 d 13 c 14 b 15 a