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CLASS 12

History

Chapterwise Important Questions

12 sections | 48 original questions | 2026-27

Read each chapter, attempt the questions, and support explanations with working or textbook evidence.

Choose a chapter or topic

Themes in Indian History	
Theme 1	Bricks, Beads and Bones
Theme 2	Kings, Farmers and Towns
Theme 3	Kinship, Caste and Class
Theme 4	Thinkers, Beliefs and Buildings
Theme 5	Through the Eyes of Travellers
Theme 6	Bhakti-Sufi Traditions
Theme 7	An Imperial Capital: Vijayanagara
Theme 8	Peasants, Zamindars and the State
Theme 9	Colonialism and the Countryside
Theme 10	Rebels and the Raj
Theme 11	Mahatma Gandhi and the Nationalist Movement
Theme 12	Framing the Constitution

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THEME 1

Bricks, Beads and Bones

Themes in Indian History

1. Explain how archaeologists infer social differences from Harappan material remains.
2. Describe evidence for craft production and exchange.
3. Why does an undeciphered script limit some historical conclusions?
4. Compare an inference supported by several finds with a speculative explanation based on one object.

THEME 2

Kings, Farmers and Towns

Themes in Indian History

1. Explain how inscriptions contribute to the study of early states.
2. Compare the information provided by coins and texts.
3. How did agricultural change influence political and economic organisation?
4. Discuss the limitations of using royal inscriptions as neutral descriptions of society.

THEME 3

Kinship, Caste and Class

Themes in Indian History

1. Explain why historians read normative texts alongside other evidence.
2. Distinguish a prescriptive rule from an actual social practice.
3. How do kinship and marriage rules reveal concerns about status and property?

4. Discuss the challenges of treating a long text as if it had one author and one unchanging meaning.

THEME 4

Thinkers, Beliefs and Buildings

Themes in Indian History

1. Explain how Buddhist and Jain ideas responded to questions about life and suffering.
2. Describe how a stupa's structure supported religious practice.
3. What can sculpture reveal that a written teaching may not?
4. Discuss the importance of patronage in the preservation of religious buildings.

THEME 5

Through the Eyes of Travellers

Themes in Indian History

1. Compare the perspectives of two prescribed travellers.
2. Explain how a traveller's background influences description.
3. Why can comparison with a traveller's home society produce both insight and misunderstanding?
4. Discuss how historians test a traveller's claims against other sources.

THEME 6

Bhakti-Sufi Traditions

Themes in Indian History

1. Explain how devotional poetry could reach audiences beyond formal scholarly circles.
2. Compare a feature of Bhakti expression with a feature of Sufi practice.
3. How did regional languages shape religious communication?
4. Discuss why devotional traditions should not be treated as completely uniform.

THEME 7

An Imperial Capital: Vijayanagara

Themes in Indian History

1. Explain how geography and fortifications shaped the capital.
2. Describe evidence for royal and sacred spaces.
3. How do archaeological remains and travellers' accounts complement each other?
4. Discuss what water structures reveal about urban organisation.

THEME 8

Peasants, Zamindars and the State

Themes in Indian History

1. Explain how the Ain-i Akbari helps historians study agrarian society.
2. Compare the positions of peasants and zamindars.
3. How did revenue collection connect the state with rural production?

4. Discuss why an administrative account needs to be interpreted in relation to its purpose.

THEME 9

Colonialism and the Countryside

Themes in Indian History

1. Explain how the Permanent Settlement altered relations around land revenue.
2. Describe why an official archive may reveal more about administration than about everyday experience.
3. How did moneylending and market changes affect cultivators?
4. Compare official descriptions of a rural protest with evidence of the participants' concerns.

THEME 10

Rebels and the Raj

Themes in Indian History

1. Explain how different groups could join the 1857 uprising for different reasons.
2. Describe the role of rumours and symbols in mobilisation.
3. How do visual and written representations shape interpretations of the rebellion?
4. Discuss why the absence of rebels' own records creates a historical difficulty.

THEME 11

Mahatma Gandhi and the Nationalist Movement

Themes in Indian History

1. Explain how Gandhi's methods connected political action with everyday concerns.

2. Describe the significance of the Salt March.

3. How can newspapers reveal both events and editorial perspectives?

4. Discuss the relation between national leadership and local participation.

THEME 12

Framing the Constitution

Themes in Indian History

1. Explain how Constituent Assembly debates reveal competing priorities.

2. Discuss arguments surrounding citizenship or minority safeguards.

3. How did concerns about unity coexist with demands for representation and rights?

4. Why is a constitution's drafting history useful for interpreting its values?

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