

## IAS34.COM Daily Quiz Solutions: Day 11

Q1. Consider the following statements:

1. The world's oldest bronze sculpture was found at Harappa.
2. The figure is in a 'tribhanga' dancing posture.
3. Harappan bronze statues were made using "Cire Perdue".

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

**Correct Option: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- **The Dancing Girl is the world's oldest bronze sculpture.**
- **Found in Mohenjo-Daro**, this four-inch figure depicts a naked girl wearing only ornaments, which include bangles in the left arm, and amulet and bracelet on the right arm.
- She stands in a '**tribhanga**' dancing posture with the right hand on her hip.
- **The bronze statues in the Harappan period were made using "lost wax technique" or "Cire Perdue".**

Source: NCERT (An introduction to the fine art)

Q2. In what ways the Mauryan pillars were different from the Achaemenian pillars?

1. Unlike the Achaemenian pillars, the Mauryan pillars are built of monolith.
2. Unlike the Achaemenian pillars, the Mauryan pillars have a smooth surface.
3. Lotus as a motif are found only on the Mauryan pillars.
4. Maurya's idea of inscribing proclamations on pillars is the unique feature that is absent on the Achaemenian pillars.

Select the correct option using the codes given below:

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

**Correct Option: (a)**

**Explanation:**

- **The Mauryan pillars are rock-cut pillars (built of monolith)** thus displaying the carver's skills, whereas the Achaemenian pillars are constructed in pieces by a mason (aggregated one above the other).

- **Most of the Persian pillars have a fluted/ ridged surface while the Mauryan pillars have a smooth surface.**
- **Both Maurya and Achaemenian pillars, used polished stones and have certain common sculpture motifs such as the lotus.**
- **Maurya's idea of inscribing proclamations (related to Buddhist teachings and court orders) on pillars has its origin in Persian pillars.**
- Inscriptions of both empires begin in the third person and then move to the first person.

Source: Nitin Singhania book

Q3. Consider the following statements:

1. Stupas as the burial mounds have been existed in India from the Vedic period.
2. Sanchi Stupa is one of the nine stupas that were erected after the death of Buddha.
3. The core of the stupa is made of unburnt brick while the outer surface is made by using burnt bricks.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

**Correct Option: (c)**

**Explanation:**

- **Stupas were burial mounds prevalent in India from the Vedic period.** It is a conventional representation of a funeral cumulus in which relics and ashes of the dead were kept.
- After the death of Buddha, 9 stupas were erected. 8 of them had the relics of Buddha at their medhi while the ninth had the pot in **which the relics were originally kept. The locations of the 9 stupas built after the death of Buddha are Rajagriha, Vaishali, Kapilavastu, Allakappa, Ramagrama, Vethapida, Pava, Kushinagar and Pippalivana.**
- These during the time of Asoka, were dug out and redistributed which led to the construction of other Stupas - the sacred places of Buddhism. Sanchi Stupa in Madhya Pradesh is the most famous of the Ashokan stupas. Almost 84000 stupas were erected during his period.
- The Stupas have the shape of a bowl turned upside down. At the top, which was a bit flat, used to be its harmika, i.e. the abode of the Gods. It was here that the urns containing the remains of the Buddha or a great personality connected with the religion was placed in a gold or silver casket. A wooden rod (Yashti) was placed in its middle and the bottom of the rod was fixed on the top of the Stupa. On the top of this rod were placed three small umbrella type discs symbolising respect, veneration and magnanimity.
- **The core of the stupa was made of unburnt brick while the outer surface was made by using burnt bricks,** which were then covered with a thick layer of plaster. The medhi and the toran were decorated by wooden sculptures. Devotees walk around the pradakshina patha or open ambulatory passageway as a token of worship.

Source: Nitin Singhania book

Q4. Consider the following statements:

1. Unlike Gandhara School, the Mathura School was developed indigenously.
2. The sculptures of Amaravati School were made using white marbles whereas, the sculptures of Mathura and Gandhara Schools were made using sandstones.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

**Correct Option: (c)**

**Explanation:**

#### **Gandhara School**

- The Gandhara School of Art developed in the western frontiers of Punjab, near modern day Peshawar and Afghanistan. The Greek invaders brought with them the traditions of the Greek and Roman sculptors, which influenced the local traditions of the region. Thus, Gandhara School also came to be known as Greco-Indian School of Art.
- **Early Gandhara School used bluish-grey sandstone while the later period saw the use of mud and stucco.**

#### **Mathura School**

- The Mathura School flourished on the banks of the river Yamuna in the period between 1st and 3rd centuries B.C.
- The sculptures of the Mathura School were influenced by the stories and imageries of all three religions of the time – Buddhism, Hinduism and Jainism. The images were modelled on the earlier Yaksha images found during the Mauryan period.
- The Mathura School showed a striking use of symbolism in the images. The Hindu Gods were represented using their avayudhas (weapons), and the Halo of Buddha was larger than that of Gandhara school.
- **The sculptures of Mathura School were made using spotted red sandstone.**

#### **Amaravati School**

- In the eastern Deccan, in the lower valleys of the Krishna and the Godavari developed the Amaravati school of art during this period. This was patronaged by Satavahana rulers and later by Ikshvaku rulers, by other political dignitaries and families, by officials, merchants, etc. Inspired by Buddhist themes the main centres of this art were Nagarjunakonda, Amaravati, Goli, Ghantasala, Jaggayyapeta etc.
- **Like Mathura Art, it was developed indigenously and not influenced by external cultures.**
- **The sculptures of Amaravati School were made using white marbles.**

- Unlike Mathura and Gandhara Arts which were patronaged by Kushana rulers, the Amaravati art was patronaged by Satavahans.

Source: Spectrum

Q5. In which of the following ways are Ajanta caves different from the Ellora caves?

1. Unlike Ajanta caves, the Ellora caves were patronaged by various guilds.
2. Unlike Ajanta, Ellora has monasteries associated with all the three religions viz. Hinduism, Buddhism and Jainism.
3. Some of the Ajanta caves are of triple storeys which is absent at Ellora.

Select the correct option using the codes given below:

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

**Correct Option: (a)**

**Explanation:**

**Ajanta caves**

- Ajanta is a series of rock-cut caves in the Sahyadri ranges on Waghora river near Aurangabad in Maharashtra.
- There is a total of 29 caves of which 25 were used as Viharas or residential caves while 4 were used as Chaitya or prayer halls. The caves were developed in the period between 200 B.C. to 650 A.D.
- **The Ajanta caves were inscribed by the Buddhist monks, under the patronage of the Vakataka kings – Harishena being a prominent one.** The figures in these caves were done using fresco painting and demonstrate considerable naturalism.
- The paintings are generally themed around Buddhism – the life of Buddha and Jataka stories.
- Of the 29 caves, 5 were developed during the Hinayana phase while the remaining 24 were developed during the Mahayana phase of Buddhism.

**Ellora caves**

- It is located nearly 100 Kms away from Ajanta caves in the Sahyadri ranges of Maharashtra. It is a group of 34 caves – 17 Brahmanical, 12 Buddhist and 5 Jain. **It is a unique art-historical site in the country as it has monasteries associated with the three religions.**
- It is also unique in terms of stylistic eclecticism, i.e., confluence of many styles at one place.
- These set of caves were developed during the period between 5th and 11th centuries A.D. (newer as compared to Ajanta Caves) by **various guilds from Vidarbha, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.**
- **Buddhist caves are big in size and are of single, double and triple storeys.** Their pillars are massive. **Ajanta also has excavated double-storeyed caves but at Ellora, the triple storey is a unique achievement.** On the other hand, the only double-storey cave of the Brahmanical faith is Cave No. 14.
- Various guilds at Ellora came from different places like Vidarbha, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu and carved the sculptures. Thereby it is the most diverse site in India in terms of the sculptural styles.

Sources: Nitin Singhania book, NCERT (An introduction to the fine art)

Q6. Which of the following are the features of the Nagara style of architecture?

1. The temples were generally built on raised platforms.
2. Absence of assembly halls or mandaps in front of the principal shrine.
3. The garbhagriha is always located directly under the tallest tower.

Select the correct option using the codes given below:

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

**Correct Option: (c)**

**Explanation:**

**Nagara style of architecture**

- From fifth century A.D. onwards, a distinct style of temple architecture developed in the northern part of India, known as the Nagara style of architecture.
- Even in the Nagara school, different sub-schools emerged in western, central and eastern parts of the country.
- The temples were generally built on raised platforms.
- The temples generally followed the Panchayatan style of temple making, which consisted of subsidiary shrines laid out in a crucified ground plan with respect to the principal shrine.
- **Presence of assembly halls or mandaps in front of the principal shrine.** It is called Jagmohan in Odisha region.
- Outside the garbhagriha, images of the river goddesses, Ganga and Yamuna, were placed.
- The porticos had a pillared approach.
- While the earliest temples had just one tower, or shikhara, later temples had several. **The garbhagriha is always located directly under the tallest tower.**
- The Shikharas were generally of three types:
  - Latina or rekha-prasad: They were square and at the base the walls curve inward to a point on the top.
  - Phamsana: They had a broader base and were shorter in height than the Latina ones. They slope upwards on a straight line.
  - Valabhi: They had a rectangular base with the roof rising into vaulted chambers. They were also called wagon-vaulted roofs.

Source: Nitin Singhania book

Q7. Consider the following statements:

1. Both Dravidians as well as Nagara temples are made in the panchayatana style.
2. Unlike the Nagara temples, the Dravidian temples are surrounded by high boundary walls.
3. The subsidiary shrines in the Dravidian architecture do not have vimanas, unlike in Nagara architecture.
4. The presence of a water tank inside the temple enclosure are present in the Dravidian style, unlike in the Nagara architecture.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

**Correct Option: (d)**

**Explanation:**

#### **Dravidian style**

- Under the patronage of the Chola rulers, hundreds of temples were built in South India. It was a continuation of the previous Pallava architecture, with some variations. This is what came to be known as the Dravidian style of temple architecture. The features of the Dravidian style or chola style are:
  - Unlike the Nagara temples, the Dravidian temples were surrounded by high boundary walls.
  - The front wall had a high entrance gateway known as the gopuram.
  - **Like the Nagara temples, the temple premise was laid out in the panchayatana style with a principal temple and four subsidiary shrines.**
  - The shape of the main temple tower known as vimana in Dravidian temples is like a stepped pyramid that rises up geometrically rather than the curving shikhara of North India. In the South Indian temple, the word 'shikhara' is used only for the crowning element at the top of the temple which is usually shaped like a small stupika or an octagonal cupola— this is equivalent to the amalaka and kalasha of North Indian temples.
  - There is only one vimana in the Dravidian architecture on top of the main temple. **The subsidiary shrines do not have vimanas, unlike in Nagara architecture.**
  - The assembly hall was connected with the garbhagriha by a vestibular tunnel known as antarala.
  - The entrance of the garbhagriha had sculptures of Dwaarpal, mithun and yakshas.
  - **The presence of a water tank inside the temple enclosure was a unique feature of the Dravidian style.**

Source: NCERT (An introduction to the fine art)

Q8. Consider the following statements regarding the Vesara Architecture:

1. The most characteristic feature of Hoysala temples that the ground plan of these temples is like a star instead of panchayatana style.
2. The Shikharas of Vesara temples are of the curvilinear shape.

3. Apsara sculptures are found in almost all temples of the Kalyan Chalukya region except the Ishwara temple of Jalasangvi, Bidar.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

**Correct Option: (a)**

**Explanation:**

**Vesara style**

- Also known as the Karnataka school of architecture, it was conceptualised under the later Chalukya rulers in the mid-seventh century A.D.
- It combined features of both Nagara school and Dravidian school and resulted in a hybridised style.
- Three prominent dynasties who made Vesara style temples are:
  - Chalukyas of Badami and Kalyani.
  - Rashtrakutas (750-983 AD). For Example,
  - Kailashnath temple in Ellora, etc.
  - Hoysala Dynasty (1050-1300 AD). For example, temples at Halebid, Belur etc.
- **Influence of Nagara style is in Curvilinear Shikhara and square base of Vesara temples.**
- Influence of Dravida style is seen in intricate carvings and sculptures, design of Vimana and Step or terraced Shikhara of Vesara temples.
- **In Hoyashala Art style, unlike the crucified ground plan of the Panchayatan style, the shrines led out in the shape of an intricately designed star. It is known as the Stellate plan. Apsara sculptures are found in almost all temples of the Kalyan Chalukya region, most significantly Ishwara temple of Jalasangvi or Jalasangi, a small village in Karnataka's Bidar District.**

Source: NCERT (An introduction to the fine art)

Q9. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. Humayun's tomb is the first garden tomb built in India.
- 2. Sultan e Garhi is the first Islamic Mausoleum built in India.
- 3. The only new element in the Quwwat-ul-Islam Mosque that was introduced by the Muslims is the Arabic inscription.

Select the correct option using the codes given below:

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

(d) None of the above

**Correct Option: (c)**

**Explanation:**

- Although Sikander Lodi's tomb as the first garden tomb built in India, it is Humayun's tomb which strikes a new note.
- Sultan e Garhi was the first Islamic Mausoleum built in 1231 AD for Prince Nasiru'd-Din Mahmud, eldest son of Iltumish, in the "funerary landscape of Delhi" in the Nangal Dewat Forest, Near Nangal Dewat Vasant Kunj.
- The Quwwat-ul-Islam Mosque was constructed by Qutub-ud-din Aibak around 1197 A.D. and as is very clear from inscriptions he demolished 27 Hindu and Jain temples within the Rajput citadel of Lalkot as well as the Quila-Rai Pithora and that their carved columns, lintels, ceiling slabs, all showing Hindu gods and goddesses, Purnaghatas and temple bells hanging by chains, were utilised to construct the mosque known as the "Might of Islam". The only new element that was introduced by the Muslims is the Arabic inscription.

Source: <http://ccrtindia.gov.in/indoislamicarchitecture.php>

Q10. Which of the following pairs regarding the Medieval Indian Architecture is/are correctly matched?

1. Dakhil Darwaza: Ahmedabad
2. Chand Minar: Daulatabad
3. Kirtistambha: Chittorgarh

Select the correct option using the codes given below:

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

**Correct Option: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- The Chand Minar or the Tower of the Moon is a medieval tower in Daulatabad, Maharashtra.
- At Gaur (West Bengal) the earliest building representing the constructional and ornamental methods of this style, is the Dakhil Darwaja built by Barbak Shah (1359-74) as a ceremonial gateway in front of the citadel.
- The Kirtistambha, or Tower of Fame, was constructed by the Solanki ruler of Gujarat and one such is that of the Chittor Fort, the capital of Mewar before Udaipur.

Source: NCERT, <http://ccrtindia.gov.in/indoislamicarchitecture.php>

Q11. Term Arrokoth, recently in news, is related to\_\_

- (a) Malware

- (b) Farthest cosmic body.
- (c) Hybrid vehicle technology.
- (d) None of the above.

**Correct Option: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has recently renamed farthest cosmic body, earlier known as 'Ultima Thule' to 'Arrokoth' or Sky. The old name attracted controversy because the word 'Thule' has been associated with Nazis in the past.
- On January 1 2019, NASA's New Horizons spacecraft became the first explorer to fly past the mysterious object- Ultima Thule, located some 4 billion miles from Earth. This is a historic flyby of the farthest, and quite possibly the oldest, cosmic body ever explored by humankind.

Q12. Shondol is a\_\_

- (a) Buddhist monastery in Arunachal Pradesh.
- (b) Nomadic tribal community of Sikkim.
- (c) Laddakhi dance festival.
- (d) None of the above.

**Correct Option: (c)**

**Explanation:**

- Ladakhi Shondol dance has created history by breaking into the Guinness book of world records as the largest Ladakhi dance. It is performed on the occasion of annual Naropa festival.

Q13. UNEP Colombo declaration is related to\_\_

- (a) Global nitrogen challenge.
- (b) Emission gap reduction.
- (c) Sustainable fishing.
- (d) Combating desertification.

**Correct Option: (a)**

**Explanation:**

- UN Environment Programme (UNEP) member states recently adopted the "Colombo Declaration" which calls for tackling global nitrogen challenge .

Q14. RUCO initiative is associated with\_\_

- (a) MoHFW.
- (b) FSSAI.
- (c) C) Ministry of women and child development.
- (d) Ministry of road transport and highway.

**Correct Option: (b)**

**Explanation:**

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- RUCO (REPURPOSE USED COOKING OIL) initiative is launched by FSSAI. FSSAI has fixed a limit for Total Polar Compounds at 25 percent beyond which the vegetable oil shall not be used. The initiative will enable collection and conversion of used cooking oil to bio-diesel.

Q15. Raisina dialogue, India annual flagship geopolitical event is organized by\_\_

- (a) Ministry of Defense .
- (b) Prime minister office.
- (c) Ministry of external affairs and Observer research foundation.
- (d) CII and FICCI.

**Correct Option: (c)**

**Explanation:**

- Fifth edition of the Raisina Dialogue (2020) was held in New Delhi. This year`s Dialogue is titled`Navigating the Alpha Century. It is an annual geo-political event, organised by the Ministry of External Affairs and Observer Research Foundation (ORF).

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