Affiliated to CBSE, New Delhi (Affiliation No. 1030642)

GNPS

GOMTI NANDAN PUBLIC SCHOOL

Gandhi Ward, Bina (M.P.) 470113. | 9165 609 333. | info@mygnps.com | www.mygnps.com

CLASS XII · HISTORY (027) · THEMES IN INDIAN HISTORY PART I · CBSE BOARD EXAMINATION 2027

HISTORY · THEME 1 **MODEL ANSWERS**

Bricks, Beads and Bones

Board-Style Answer Booklet · Answers as CBSE expects them

CBSE marking-scheme pattern | Word count on every answer | 95 model answers | Most-probable 2027 answers marked

INSIDE THIS BOOKLET

M	**How CBSE Marks History** Section layout, the seven marking rules, answer frames	2
A	**Textbook Check – Answers** 15 model answers	3
B	**Objective – Answer Key** 26 answers, each with a reason	10
C	**Board Pattern – Answers** 18 model answers	11
D	**Source-Based – Answers** 3 sources, 9 answers	19
E	**Map Work – Key** 11 places located	20
2	**Link Drills – Answers** 16 Key Words & Links drills	20

HOW TO USE IT

1. Write your own answer first, in the practice notebook.
2. Then open this booklet. Tick each numbered point you also wrote.
3. Give yourself 1 mark per matching point – that is how the examiner marks.
4. Copy any point you missed into My Mistakes (last page of the Chapter Booklet).
5. Rewrite the answer after 3 days, from memory.

USE WITH Chapter Booklet, History Theme 1

M

READ THIS FIRST · BASED ON THE CBSE SAMPLE PAPER AND MARKING SCHEME 2026–27

How CBSE Marks History

Every answer in this booklet follows the official marking-scheme pattern: numbered value points, keyword first, inside the word limit. Under each answer you will see its word count and how the marks are split.

The History paper in 2027 (as in Sample Paper 2026–27)

Paper 027 · 80 marks · 34 questions · 3 hours

Item	Type	Marks	Words	What earns the marks
Q1–Q21	MCQs: statements, matching, picture-based, chronology, assertion–reason	1 each	–	Letter + answer
Q22–Q27	Short answer; some with (A) **or** (B)	3 each	60–80	3 points × 1 mark
Q28–Q30	Long answer, (A) **or** (B)	8 each	300–350	8 points × 1, or 4 + 4
Q31–Q33	Source-based: three sub-questions each	4 each	–	1 + 1 + 2, from the source + chapter facts
Q34	Map: mark 3 places (Harappan, Buddhist, Vijayanagara, Mughal…) + identify 2 places of 1857 or the national movement	5	–	Right place + name written

Theme 1 usually gives a **3-mark** question (Q22 in the sample papers) and, in some years, an **8-mark** long answer (2024 Q28, 2026 Q30). A Harappan site comes in the **map question Q34** every year. Our 8-mark answers give the eight value points in about 150–230 words; the Model Answer Booklet then gives a full 300–350 word answer that shows how to expand them in the exam.

How the marking scheme gives marks

SEVEN RULES

- **Marks come from value points.** Each correct, relevant point earns 1 mark: one value point per mark – 3 marks = 3 points, 8 marks = 8 points (or 4 + 4 when the question has two parts). The scheme accepts “any other relevant point”, so a correct NCERT point that is not in our answer also scores.
- **Points are numbered and backed by evidence.** The examiner wants a fact in each point: a site, a find, a writer, a date, a place or an example. Our long answers add one opening and one closing line so the answer reads well; the marks come from the numbered points.
- **Keyword first.** Start each point with the key word and underline it – the examiner scans for it. Then give one fact: a name, a date, a number or an example.
- **MCQs:** write the letter and the answer text. Combination questions are answered like “(b) Only a, b and d”.
- **Case / source-based:** (i) and (ii) need one clear line each; the 2-mark part needs two separate points. Use the passage’s own clues, then add chapter facts.
- **Internal choice:** write “(A)” or “(B)” in the margin and attempt only one. Map questions: attach the map to the answer book.
- **Do not repeat** one idea in two points – it earns one mark only.

Answer frames – copy this shape

3-mark answer — 60–80 words

1. Keyword: point + site / find / date.
2. Keyword: point + example.
3. Keyword: point + result.

One or two sentences per point.

8-mark answer — 300–350 words

→ Opening line that answers the question in short.

1–8 Eight numbered points, keyword first, each with evidence: a site, a find, a writer or a date.

→ Closing line: “Thus / Hence …”.

If the question has two parts, answer under two sub-headings.

Source-based 1 + 1 + 2 · Q31–Q33

(i) One line, from the source.
(ii) One line: source clue + chapter fact.
(iii) Two separate points, one line each.

Never copy the whole passage.

Short of time? Learn these ten first

Most probable for 2027

C1	Describe the features of urban planning at Mohenjodaro.	[8]	C2	Compare Harappan town planning with that of a modern …	[3]
C3	Analyse how the layout of Harappan cities helped to keep …	[3]	C5	Explain the role of archaeologists in the discovery of the …	[8]
C9	Prove with evidence that the Harappans had contact with …	[3]	C12	"Exchanges in Harappan society were regulated by a precise …	[3]
C13	Examine the problems historians face in deciphering the …	[3]	C15	Examine the causes of the decline of the Harappan …	[8]
D1	Source: A City Under the Streets	[4]	D2	Source: Copper From Across the Sea	[4]

Link words that make an answer flow

as a result · this led to · because · therefore · in turn · this made it possible to · on the other hand · however

A

ANSWERS · PART A

Textbook Check – Answers

Model answers to every Textbook Check question. Underlined words are the keywords the examiner looks for.

Overview, food and farming

A1. What does an archaeologist mean by a 'culture'? Explain why this civilisation is called 'Harappan' and name four objects that make up the Harappan culture. [3]

1. **Culture:** a group of objects of a distinctive style found together in one geographical area and period.
2. **Name:** called Harappan after Harappa, the first site where this culture was discovered.
3. **Objects:** seals, beads, weights, stone blades and baked bricks of a standard size.

43 words · limit 80 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3

A2. List the food items available to the Harappans. Name the groups of people who would have provided each kind of food. [3]

1. **Grains from farmers:** wheat, barley, lentil, chickpea, sesame; millets in Gujarat; rice rarely.
2. **Meat and milk from herders:** cattle, sheep, goat, buffalo and pig were domesticated.
3. **Wild food from hunters and fisherfolk:** boar, deer, gharial, fish and fowl – perhaps bought from hunting communities.

43 words · limit 80 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | MUST DO

A3. How do archaeologists know that the Harappans used the plough and irrigation? Give three pieces of evidence. [3]

1. **Plough models:** terracotta models at Banawali and in Cholistan; bulls on seals suggest oxen pulled ploughs.
2. **Ploughed field:** Kalibangan, Early Harappan level: furrows at right angles show two crops grown together.
3. **Irrigation:** canal traces at Shortughai, wells, and reservoirs at Dholavira that stored water.

44 words · limit 80 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3

Mohenjodaro – a planned city

A4. "The drainage system shows that Harappan cities were carefully planned." Do you agree? Give three reasons. [3]

Yes, I agree.

1. **Drains first:** streets with drains were laid out first and houses were built along them.
2. **Every house linked:** bathroom drains ran through the wall into covered brick street drains.
3. **Easy cleaning:** removable covers and sumps at intervals; even small Lothal had burnt-brick drains.

46 words · limit 80 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | MUST DO

A5. Describe three features of the houses in the Lower Town of Mohenjodaro. [3]

1. **Courtyard:** rooms on all sides of a courtyard used for cooking and weaving.
2. **Privacy:** no windows on the ground-floor walls; the entrance gave no direct view inside.
3. **Facilities:** a brick-paved bathroom with a drain, staircases to the roof, and wells – about 700 in the city.

45 words · limit 80 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3

A6. Describe the Citadel of Mohenjodaro. Why do scholars believe that the Great Bath was used for a special ritual? [8]

The Citadel was the special, raised part of Mohenjodaro, and its Great Bath is its most famous building.

1. **Raised and walled:** the Citadel was smaller than the Lower Town but higher, because its buildings stood on mud-brick platforms; a wall separated it from the Lower Town.
2. **Public buildings:** it held structures meant for special public purposes, not ordinary homes.
3. **Warehouse:** a massive building whose lower brick part survives; the upper wooden part has decayed.
4. **The tank:** the Great Bath was a large rectangular tank in a courtyard, with a corridor on all four sides.
5. **Steps and watertight floor:** two flights of steps on the north and south led into it; bricks set on edge with gypsum mortar made it watertight.
6. **Water supply:** rooms on three sides, one with a large well; water drained out into a huge drain.
7. **Eight bathrooms:** across a lane to the north, a smaller building had eight bathrooms, four on each side of a corridor, all joined to one drain.
8. **Why a ritual bath:** the structure is unique, and it stands in the Citadel among other special buildings, so scholars think it was used for ritual bathing.

Thus the Citadel shows planning for public and probably religious needs.

Full answer – as you would write it in the exam (319 words)

Mohenjodaro, the best-known Harappan city, was divided into two parts. The smaller but higher western part is called the Citadel, and the much larger eastern part is the Lower Town. The Citadel owes its height to the fact that its buildings were raised on mud-brick platforms, and a wall physically separated it from the Lower Town.

The Citadel was not a residential area. It held buildings that were probably used for special public purposes. One of these is the so-called warehouse, a massive structure whose lower brick portions survive, while its upper storeys, built of wood, decayed long ago. The most famous structure, however, is the Great Bath.

The Great Bath was a large rectangular tank placed in a courtyard and surrounded on all four sides by a corridor. Two flights of steps, on the north and the south, led down into the tank. Its floor and sides were made watertight by setting bricks on edge and joining them with gypsum mortar. Rooms stood on three sides of the courtyard, and one of them had a large well that supplied water. Used water flowed out into a huge drain. Across a lane to the north lay a smaller building with eight bathrooms, four on each side of a corridor, whose drains all joined a single drain.

Scholars believe that the Great Bath was meant for a special ritual for several reasons. First, the structure is unique; nothing like it has been found at any other Harappan site, so it was clearly not an ordinary public bath. Second, it stands in the Citadel alongside other buildings set apart for special uses, not among houses in the Lower Town. Third, the careful arrangements for clean water and drainage, and the separate bathrooms close by, suggest purification before an important ceremony.

Thus the Citadel shows that Harappan planners provided not only for daily needs but also for public and probably religious life.

202 words · limit 350 | Full answer: 319 words · board asks 300–350 | Marking: 8 points × 1 = 8 | Opening + closing line: 1 line each, no extra mark | MUST DO

Social differences, crafts and raw materials

A7. How do archaeologists trace social and economic differences in Harappan society? Explain three methods. [3]

1. **Burials:** some pits were lined with bricks; some held pottery, ornaments or copper mirrors.
2. **Utilitarian vs luxury:** querns and pots are found everywhere; costly faience pots mainly in big cities like Mohenjodaro and Harappa.
3. **Hoards:** gold was rare – all gold jewellery comes from hoards, so only a few owned it.

50 words · limit 80 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | MUST DO

A8. Name the materials used for Harappan beads. Describe how a carnelian bead was made. [3]

1. **Materials:** carnelian, jasper, crystal, quartz, steatite, copper, bronze, gold, shell, faience and terracotta.
2. **Colour and shape:** the yellowish stone was fired to turn red; nodules were chipped into rough shapes.
3. **Finishing:** they were finely flaked, then ground, polished and drilled with specialised drills.

43 words · limit 80 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3

A9. Make a list of the raw materials needed for Harappan crafts. Explain the different ways in which the Harappans obtained them. [8]

Harappan crafts used many materials that were not found near the cities.

1. **Materials:** clay was local, but stone (carnelian, lapis lazuli, steatite), metal (copper, gold), shell and wood had to come from far away.
2. **Bullock carts:** terracotta toy models of carts suggest overland transport, along with river routes.
3. **Settlements near sources:** Nageshwar and Balakot were set up near the sea for shell.
4. **Shortughai:** a settlement in far Afghanistan, near the best source of lapis lazuli.
5. **Lothal:** lay near carnelian from Bharuch, steatite from Rajasthan and Gujarat, and metal from Rajasthan.

6. **Expeditions:** sent to Khetri (Rajasthan) for copper and to south India for gold; Harappan steatite micro-beads found there show contact.
7. **Local partners:** the Ganeshwar-Jodhpura culture near Khetri, rich in copper objects, may have supplied copper.
8. **Overseas:** copper from Oman (Magan), shown by nickel traces; Mesopotamian texts list carnelian, lapis lazuli, copper, gold and wood from Meluhha.

Thus the Harappans built a wide network of settlements, expeditions and trade to feed their crafts.

Full answer – as you would write it in the exam (301 words)

Harappan craftspeople worked with a wide range of materials. Clay for pottery and terracotta was available locally, but most other materials had to be brought from distant places. These included stones such as carnelian, jasper, lapis lazuli and steatite, metals such as copper, bronze and gold, shell from the sea, and good timber. Procuring them was a major task, and the Harappans used several strategies.

Transport was the first requirement. Terracotta toy models of bullock carts show that carts carried goods over land, while river routes were probably used as well.

Second, the Harappans set up settlements close to the sources of raw materials. Nageshwar and Balakot lay near the sea, where shell was plentiful. Shortughai was founded in far-off Afghanistan, near the best source of the precious blue stone lapis lazuli. Lothal was close to carnelian from Bharuch in Gujarat and to steatite and metal from Rajasthan and Gujarat.

Third, they sent expeditions to distant areas. Expeditions went to the Khetri region of Rajasthan for copper and to south India for gold. Finds of Harappan objects, such as steatite micro-beads, in these areas suggest such contact. Near Khetri, the Ganeshwar-Jodhpura culture, with its distinctive pottery and wealth of copper objects, may have supplied copper to the Harappans.

Fourth, they traded with lands overseas. Copper probably came from Oman, called Magan in Mesopotamian texts; chemical analysis shows that both Omani copper and Harappan artefacts contain traces of nickel. A large Harappan jar coated with black clay has also been found in Oman. Mesopotamian texts mention a region called Meluhha, probably the Harappan region, which supplied carnelian, lapis lazuli, copper, gold and varieties of wood.

Thus the Harappans obtained their raw materials through a careful mix of nearby settlements, organised expeditions, local partners and long-distance trade, which kept their many crafts supplied.

162 words · limit 350 | Full answer: 301 words · board asks 300–350 | Marking: 8 points × 1 = 8 | Opening + closing line: 1 line each, no extra mark | MUST DO

Seals, script, rulers and the end

A10. What were Harappan seals and sealings used for? Explain with the example of a bag of goods. [3]

1. **Long-distance communication:** they made sending goods safe over long distances.
2. **Sealing:** the bag's mouth was tied, wet clay was put on the knot, and a seal was pressed on it.
3. **Proof:** an unbroken sealing showed the goods were not tampered with, and it named the sender.

46 words · limit 80 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3

A11. Give three features of the Harappan script. [3]

1. **Undeciphered:** it has not been read so far.
2. **Not alphabetic:** it has 375–400 signs; inscriptions are short, the longest about 26 signs.
3. **Right to left:** signs are spaced on the right and cramped on the left; found on seals, tools, jars, tablets and a signboard.

46 words · limit 80 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3

A12. Discuss the functions that rulers may have performed in Harappan society. What are the different views of archaeologists about who ruled? [8]

Harappan cities show that someone took and carried out complex decisions.

1. **Planning cities:** laying out streets and drains first and then building houses needed central decisions.
2. **Standard bricks:** bricks of the same 4 : 2 : 1 ratio from Jammu to Gujarat show common rules.
3. **Uniform artefacts:** pottery, seals and weights were alike across a huge area.
4. **Mobilising labour:** platforms needed about four million person-days; walls and platforms needed organised labour.
5. **Choosing sites:** settlements like Shortughai, Nageshwar and Lothal were placed near raw materials.
6. **Palace and priest-king:** a large building was called a palace but had no rich finds; a statue was called priest-king only by comparison with Mesopotamia.
7. **Different views:** some say there were no rulers and all were equal; others say each city, like Mohenjodaro or Harappa, had its own ruler.
8. **A single state:** uniform artefacts, planned towns and sites near raw materials suggest one state – the most plausible view, though it needs the script for proof.

Thus rulers clearly existed in some form, but who they were remains uncertain.

Full answer – as you would write it in the exam (309 words)

The remains of Harappan cities show that complex decisions were taken and carried out across a very large area. This suggests that some form of authority existed, even though we do not know who exercised it.

The first function of rulers was planning. At Mohenjodaro, streets and drains were laid out first and houses built along them later. The huge mud-brick platforms, which alone needed about four million person-days of labour, show that someone could plan on a large scale and mobilise labour for walls, platforms and public buildings.

Second, rulers may have set common standards. Bricks of the same ratio, 4 : 2 : 1, were used everywhere from Jammu to Gujarat, and pottery, seals and weights were remarkably uniform. Such uniformity is unlikely without an authority laying down rules.

Third, rulers probably decided where to locate settlements. Shortughai, Nageshwar and Lothal were founded close to sources of lapis lazuli, shell and carnelian, showing a deliberate policy of securing raw materials.

Archaeologists disagree, however, about who these rulers were. A large building at Mohenjodaro was labelled a palace, but no spectacular finds were made there. A stone statue was called a priest-king only because archaeologists knew of priest-kings in Mesopotamia; Harappan rituals are too poorly understood to confirm this.

Some archaeologists hold that Harappan society had no rulers and that everybody enjoyed equal status. Others feel there was not one ruler but several, so that Mohenjodaro had its own ruler, Harappa another, and so on. A third group argues for a single state, pointing to the similarity in artefacts, planned settlements, the standard brick ratio and the siting of settlements near raw materials. This last view seems the most plausible, though it cannot be confirmed until the script is deciphered.

Thus someone clearly ruled and organised Harappan life, but the nature of that authority remains an open question.

172 words · limit 350 | Full answer: 309 words · board asks 300–350 | Marking: 8 points × 1 = 8

Opening + closing line: 1 line each, no extra mark MUST DO

A13. Give three features of the Late Harappan or 'successor' cultures. [3]

1. **Rural life:** people lived in villages; large public buildings were no longer built.
2. **Lost artefacts:** weights, seals, special beads and writing disappeared; local weights came in.
3. **Decline of trade and crafts:** long-distance trade and craft specialisation fell; houses were built less carefully.

42 words · limit 80 Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3

Discovery and interpretation

A14. Discuss how archaeologists reconstruct the Harappan past. Give examples. [8]

As the Harappan script cannot be read, archaeologists rebuild the past from material remains.

1. **Excavation:** they dig mounds and record finds layer by layer, following stratigraphy, as Wheeler insisted.
2. **Classifying by material:** stone, clay, metal, bone, ivory and shell.
3. **Classifying by function:** tools, ornaments, household objects or ritual objects; querns show food processing.
4. **Context:** where an object lies – a house, drain, grave or kiln – tells its use; Chanhudaro's waste showed a craft centre.
5. **Scientific study:** archaeo-botanists study charred grains, archaeo-zoologists study bones; nickel traces linked Harappan copper to Oman.
6. **Indirect evidence:** clothing is studied from sculpture because cloth rarely survives.
7. **Frames of reference:** they compare finds with other cultures and later times, e.g. Mesopotamian texts on Meluhha.
8. **Interpreting with care:** religion is the hardest: 'mother goddess', 'priest-king' and 'proto-Shiva' are guesses based on later traditions.

Thus their picture keeps changing as new methods and finds appear.

Full answer – as you would write it in the exam (308 words)

Since the Harappan script has not been deciphered, archaeologists cannot read what the Harappans said about themselves. They reconstruct the past from material remains such as pottery, tools, ornaments, seals, bones, grains and buildings.

The first step is excavation. Archaeologists dig into mounds and record every find layer by layer. Following the stratigraphy of a mound, as R. E. M. Wheeler insisted, tells them which objects are older and which are later.

Next, they classify finds. One principle is the material used: stone, clay, metal, bone, ivory or shell. Another is function: is the object a tool, an ornament, a household object or something used in rituals? Querns, for example, show that grain was ground at home.

Context is equally important. The place where an object is found – a house, a drain, a grave or a kiln – helps to explain its use. At Chanhudaro, heaps of craft waste such as stone nodules, unfinished beads and broken tools showed that it was a craft-production centre.

Archaeologists also use scientific methods. Archaeo-botanists study charred grains and seeds to learn about crops, while archaeo-zoologists study animal bones to understand diet and herding. Chemical analysis revealed traces of nickel in Harappan copper, linking it to Oman.

Where direct evidence is missing, they rely on indirect evidence. Cloth rarely survives, so clothing is studied from sculptures and figurines. They also use frames of reference, comparing Harappan finds with other cultures; Mesopotamian texts that mention Meluhha help to explain Harappan trade.

Finally, interpretation requires great care, and religion is the hardest area. Terracotta figurines were called mother goddesses, a statue was named the priest-king and a seated figure was called proto-Shiva. These readings depend on later traditions and remain speculative.

Thus archaeologists build up the Harappan past slowly from many small clues, and their picture keeps changing as new sites, methods and finds appear.

146 words · limit 350 | Full answer: 308 words · board asks 300–350 | Marking: 8 points × 1 = 8

Opening + closing line: 1 line each, no extra mark | MUST DO

A15. Why could Alexander Cunningham not recognise the importance of Harappa? [3]

1. **Narrow interest:** as first Director-General of the ASI he studied the Early Historic period, from the 6th century BCE.
2. **Wrong guide:** he used Chinese Buddhist pilgrims' accounts and inscriptions; Harappa did not fit this framework.
3. **Misplaced seal:** he tried to fit a Harappan seal into a familiar time-frame; the site was also ruined by brick robbers.

56 words · limit 80 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3

B

ANSWER KEY · PART B

Objective – Answer Key

All 26 MCQ and assertion–reason answers, each with a one-line reason so you learn the fact, not only the letter.

Write the option letter **and** the answer, as the marking scheme does – e.g. "(b) ..." followed by the answer text.

Q	Answer	Why (one line)
B1	**(c) c. 2600–1900 BCE**	Mature phase c. 2600–1900 BCE; Late Harappan after 1900 BCE.
B2	**(b) II, III and IV**	Rice finds are rare; the other three are correct.
B3	**(c) two different crops were grown together**	Two crops in one field; the field belongs to Early Harappan levels.
B4	**(b) Shortughai**	Shortughai in Afghanistan; not in Punjab or Sind.
B5	**(d) 4 : 2 : 1**	Length 4 × height, breadth 2 × height – at all sites.
B6	**(a) gypsum**	Gypsum mortar; bricks set on edge.
B7	**(b) a settlement almost entirely devoted to crafts**	Under 7 hectares; beads, shell, metal, seals, weights.
B8	**(c) Nageshwar and Balakot**	Both near the coast; bangles, ladles and inlay.
B9	**(a) a-iv, b-ii, c-iii, d-i**	Carnelian–Bharuch; copper–Khetri; lapis–Shortughai; gold–south India.
B10	**(c) the Harappan region**	Dilmun = Bahrain, Magan = Oman, Meluhha = Harappan region.
B11	**(d) I, II and IV**	Lower weights were binary; higher ones decimal.
B12	**(d) from right to left**	Wider spacing on the right, cramped on the left.
B13	**(d) archaeologists knew of priest-kings in Mesopotamia**	The label comes from Mesopotamian parallels, not from Harappan evidence.
B14	**(d) Cholistan**	People moved into new settlements in Gujarat, Haryana and western UP.
B15	**(b) a-ii, b-iv, c-iii, d-i**	Sahni–Harappa; Banerji–Mohenjodaro; Marshall–1924; Wheeler–stratigraphy.
B16	**(c) III, I, II, IV**	1924 → 1946 → 1955 → 1990.
B17	**(a) a Harappan seal**	Steatite seal with the 'unicorn' motif and script signs.
B18	**(c) proto-Shiva**	Proto-Shiva (Pashupati) – an interpretation, not proven.
B19	**(a) ground sand or silica mixed with colour and gum, then fired**	Faience pots were luxuries, found mainly in large cities.
B20	**(c) Dholavira**	Dholavira, in the Rann of Kachchh.
B21	**(b) Archaeo-botanist**	Archaeo-botanists study plant remains; archaeo-zoologists study bones.
B22	**(a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.**	R is the evidence for A.
B23	**(b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.**	Both true, but the reason it is not alphabetic is its 375–400 signs.
B24	**(c) A is true, but R is false.**	A is true; rice finds are rare, so R is false.
B25	**(a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.**	Objects from different layers were grouped together.
B26	**(d) A is false, but R is true.**	Gold was rare and precious, so A is false; R is true.

C

ANSWERS · PART C

Board Pattern – Answers

Model answers in the marking-scheme pattern. Orange tags show where a similar question came in a board or sample paper.

Town planning, drainage and the Great Bath

★★★ 5 of 6 papers · 3, 4 and 8 marks

C1. **Describe the features of urban planning at Mohenjodaro. Why is the development of planned cities called the most unique feature of the Harappan civilisation?** **[8]**

Mohenjodaro is the best example of Harappan urban planning.

1. **Two parts:** the city had a smaller but higher Citadel on the west and a much larger Lower Town on the east; both were walled, and the wall set the Citadel apart.
2. **Platforms:** buildings stood on mud-brick platforms; the foundations alone needed about four million person-days, so the city was planned first and then built.
3. **Standard bricks:** sun-dried and baked bricks followed one ratio, 4 : 2 : 1, used at every Harappan settlement from Jammu to Gujarat.
4. **Grid of streets:** roads and streets ran roughly in a grid and crossed at right angles; streets with drains were laid out before the houses.
5. **Drainage:** every house drain joined a covered brick street drain; removable covers, sumps and cesspits made cleaning easy – Mackay called it the most complete ancient system.
6. **Houses:** homes were built round courtyards, with no ground-level windows for privacy, brick-paved bathrooms, staircases and about 700 wells in the city.
7. **Public buildings:** the Citadel held a massive warehouse and the Great Bath, a watertight tank with steps, a well and a large drain.
8. **Why unique:** such planning, uniform bricks and civic drainage on this scale are found in no other early culture of the subcontinent; they point to a strong authority and organised labour.

Thus planned, clean and well-built cities make the Harappan civilisation unique.

Full answer – as you would write it in the exam (325 words)

Mohenjodaro, excavated in the 1920s, is the best example of Harappan town planning. Its layout shows that the city was planned before it was built.

The settlement was divided into two sections. The smaller but higher part on the west is called the Citadel, and the much larger part on the east is the Lower Town. The Citadel was higher because its buildings stood on mud-brick platforms, and it was walled off from the Lower Town. The Lower Town was also walled, and its buildings too stood on platforms. The platforms alone would have taken about four million person-days of labour, so the plan came first and construction followed.

Bricks were standardised. Whether sun-dried or baked, they had the same ratio of 4 : 2 : 1, followed at all Harappan settlements from Jammu to Gujarat.

Roads and streets were laid out roughly in a grid, crossing at right angles. The drainage system was outstanding. Streets with drains were laid out first and houses built along them. Every house drain joined the street drain; the main channels were of bricks set in mortar and covered with loose bricks that could be removed for cleaning. Ernest Mackay called it the most complete ancient system yet discovered.

Houses in the Lower Town were built around courtyards. There were no windows in walls facing the street, which gave privacy. Each house had a brick-paved bathroom, some had staircases to an upper floor, and the city had about 700 wells.

The Citadel contained special public structures such as a massive warehouse and the Great Bath, a watertight tank with steps, a well and a large drain.

Planned cities are called the most unique feature of the Harappan civilisation because no other early culture of the subcontinent shows such planning, uniform bricks and civic drainage on this scale. They point to a strong authority able to plan and organise labour.

Thus Mohenjodaro reveals a clean, orderly and well-governed urban life.

225 words · limit 350 | Full answer: 325 words · board asks 300–350 | Marking: 8 points × 1 = 8
Opening + closing line: 1 line each, no extra mark | Board 2026 Q30(a); Board 2024 Q28(a) | MUST DO

C2. Compare Harappan town planning with that of a modern planned city. Which Harappan features show how advanced it was? [3]

1. **Grid layout:** like a modern sector plan, streets crossed at right angles and were laid out before the houses were built.
2. **Underground-style drainage:** covered brick drains with removable covers and sumps did the job of a modern sewer line; every house was connected.
3. **Zoning and standards:** a raised Citadel for public buildings and a Lower Town for homes, with bricks of one 4 : 2 : 1 size – like modern zoning and building codes.

74 words · limit 80 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | Sample Paper 2026–27 Q22(A) | MUST DO

C3. Analyse how the layout of Harappan cities helped to keep them clean and healthy. [3]

1. **Drains in every street:** covered brick drains carried waste water from every house; covers could be lifted for cleaning.
2. **Sumps and cesspits:** house drains first emptied into cesspits where solid waste settled, so street drains did not choke.
3. **Clean water and bathing:** private bathrooms with drains and about 700 wells gave clean water; open courtyards let in light and air.

60 words · limit 80 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | Sample Paper 2024–25 Q22(A) | MUST DO

C4. "Building Mohenjodaro needed a large, organised workforce." Give three pieces of evidence. [3]

1. **Platforms:** the foundations alone needed about four million person-days of earth-moving.
2. **Massive walls:** both the Citadel and the Lower Town were enclosed by walls, and the warehouse was a huge structure.
3. **Brick-making:** millions of bricks of one standard ratio had to be made and laid – this needed planning and supervision.

50 words · limit 80 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3

Discovery and archaeological methods

★★☆ 3 of 6 papers · 1 and 8 marks

C5. Explain the role of archaeologists in the discovery of the Harappan civilisation, from Cunningham to Wheeler. [8]

The Harappan civilisation was discovered step by step by several archaeologists.

1. **Cunningham's search:** Alexander Cunningham, the first Director-General of the ASI, studied the Early Historic period using Chinese Buddhist pilgrims' accounts and inscriptions.
2. **Cunningham's confusion:** when given a Harappan seal he tried to fit it into this familiar time-frame and missed its true age; Harappa did not fit his framework.
3. **Damaged site:** by then Harappa had been badly plundered by brick robbers, so much evidence was lost.

4. **Sahni at Harappa:** early in the 20th century Daya Ram Sahni found seals at Harappa in layers much older than Early Historic levels (1921).
5. **Banerji at Mohenjodaro:** Rakhal Das Banerji found similar seals at Mohenjodaro (1922), showing both sites belonged to one culture.
6. **Marshall's announcement:** in 1924 John Marshall, Director-General of the ASI, announced a new civilisation in the Indus valley; S. N. Roy said he left India three thousand years older.
7. **Marshall's weakness:** he dug in uniform horizontal units and ignored stratigraphy, so objects from different layers were mixed and their context was lost.
8. **Wheeler's correction:** R. E. M. Wheeler, Director-General from 1944, insisted on following the stratigraphy of the mound; after 1947 Indian archaeologists dug Kalibangan, Lothal, Rakhigarhi and Dholavira.

Thus each generation of archaeologists added to – and corrected – the picture.

Full answer – as you would write it in the exam (308 words)

The discovery of the Harappan civilisation was not the work of one person. It took place over several decades as archaeologists slowly understood what they had found.

Alexander Cunningham, the first Director-General of the Archaeological Survey of India, was interested in the Early Historic period. He used the accounts of Chinese Buddhist pilgrims and inscriptions to locate early settlements. When he was given a Harappan seal, he tried to fit it into this familiar time-frame and failed to realise how old it was. Harappa simply did not fit his framework. By then the site had also been badly damaged by brick robbers, so much evidence was lost.

In the early twentieth century, Daya Ram Sahni found seals at Harappa in layers that were clearly much older than Early Historic levels. Soon after, Rakhal Das Banerji found similar seals at Mohenjodaro. This suggested that the two sites belonged to the same culture. On the basis of these finds, John Marshall, Director-General of the ASI, announced the discovery of a new civilisation in the Indus valley in 1924. As S. N. Roy put it, Marshall left India three thousand years older than he had found it.

Marshall, however, had a major weakness. He excavated along regular horizontal units across the whole mound and ignored its stratigraphy. As a result, objects from different layers were grouped together, and valuable information about their context was lost forever.

R. E. M. Wheeler, who became Director-General in 1944, corrected this. He insisted that excavation must follow the stratigraphy of the mound rather than mechanical horizontal lines. After 1947, Indian archaeologists located and excavated many more sites, including Kalibangan, Lothal, Rakhigarhi and Dholavira, and new scientific methods added further detail.

Thus every generation of archaeologists built on – and corrected – the work of the one before, and the picture of the Harappan civilisation continues to grow.

210 words · limit 350 | Full answer: 308 words · board asks 300–350 | Marking: 8 points × 1 = 8 | Opening + closing line: 1 line each, no extra mark | Board 2024 Q28(b) | MUST DO

C6. What was wrong with John Marshall's method of excavation? How did R. E. M. Wheeler correct it? [3]

1. **Horizontal units:** Marshall dug in uniform horizontal units measured across the whole mound.
2. **Context lost:** objects from different layers in the same unit were grouped together, so their date and context were lost.
3. **Stratigraphy:** Wheeler, Director-General from 1944, dug layer by layer following the stratigraphy of the mound, so each find could be dated by its layer.

57 words · limit 80 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3

C7. How do archaeo-botanists and archaeo-zoologists help us reconstruct the Harappan diet? [3]

1. **Charred grains:** archaeo-botanists study burnt grains and seeds: wheat, barley, lentil, chickpea, sesame, millets in Gujarat, a little rice.
2. **Animal bones:** archaeo-zoologists identify bones of cattle, sheep, goat, buffalo and pig, and of wild boar, deer and gharial.
3. **Fish and fowl:** bones of fish and birds complete the picture of a varied diet from farming, herding, hunting and fishing.

59 words · limit 80 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | Sample Paper 2025–26 Q2

C8. "Reconstructing Harappan religion is the hardest task for archaeologists." Examine the statement. [8]

Religion leaves fewer clear traces than food or crafts.

1. **No written help:** the script is unread, so beliefs must be guessed from objects alone.
2. **Unusual = religious:** early archaeologists treated objects that looked unusual or unfamiliar as religious.
3. **Mother goddess:** terracotta figurines of heavily jewelled women with head-dresses were called mother goddesses.
4. **Priest-king:** a rare stone statue of a seated man was called the priest-king, a label borrowed from Mesopotamia.
5. **Ritual structures:** the Great Bath and the fire altars at Kalibangan and Lothal were given ritual meaning.
6. **Seals:** seals with ritual scenes, plant motifs (nature worship?) and the mythical one-horned 'unicorn' are read as religious.
7. **Proto-Shiva:** a seated 'yogic' figure surrounded by animals was called proto-Shiva, though Rudra in the Rigveda is neither a yogi nor Pashupati; conical stones were called lingas.
8. **Risky method:** these readings assume later Hindu traditions mirror earlier ones – reasonable for querns and pots, but speculative for religion.

Hence Harappan religion remains the most debated part of the civilisation.

Full answer – as you would write it in the exam (303 words)

Of all aspects of Harappan life, religion is the most difficult to reconstruct. Food, crafts and trade leave clear material traces, but beliefs and rituals rarely do, and the evidence that survives is open to many interpretations.

The basic problem is that the Harappan script has not been deciphered. Archaeologists cannot read prayers, myths or the names of gods; they can only guess at beliefs from objects. Early archaeologists also tended to treat any object that seemed unusual or unfamiliar as religious, which made these guesses less certain.

Several kinds of evidence have been read as religious. Terracotta figurines of women, heavily jewelled and some with elaborate head-dresses, were regarded as mother goddesses. A rare stone statue of a seated man was labelled the priest-king, a term borrowed from Mesopotamian history. Structures such as the Great Bath and the fire altars at Kalibangan and Lothal have been given ritual significance.

Seals provide more clues. Some show ritual scenes, while others carry plant motifs that may indicate nature worship. Some animals, such as the one-horned animal often called the unicorn, appear to be mythical. One seal shows a figure seated cross-legged in a yogic posture, surrounded by animals; it has been described as proto-Shiva, an early form of a major Hindu deity. Conical stone objects have similarly been classified as lingas.

These identifications rest on the assumption that later traditions can explain earlier practices. This works reasonably for querns or pottery, but is risky for religion. For instance, Rudra in the Rigveda is shown neither as Pashupati, lord of animals, nor as a yogi, so the proto-Shiva label is open to question.

Thus the statement is largely true. Without the script, Harappan religion can only be reconstructed through cautious and speculative readings of objects, and it remains the most debated part of the civilisation.

163 words · limit 350 | Full answer: 303 words · board asks 300–350 | Marking: 8 points × 1 = 8

Opening + closing line: 1 line each, no extra mark

Crafts, raw materials and distant contacts

★★☆ 3 of 6 papers · 1 and 3 marks

C9. Prove with evidence that the Harappans had contact with distant lands. [3]

1. **Oman:** nickel traces in both Omani copper and Harappan artefacts, and a Harappan jar coated with black clay found at Omani sites.
2. **Mesopotamia:** Mesopotamian texts mention Meluhha, probably the Harappan region, sending carnelian, lapis lazuli, copper, gold and wood.
3. **Sea routes:** the texts call Meluhha a land of seafarers, and Harappan seals show ships and boats; Shortughai lay in far Afghanistan.

61 words · limit 80 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | Sample Paper 2025–26 Q22(B) | MUST DO

C10. How did archaeologists identify Chanhudaro as a craft centre? What clues do they look for? [3]

1. **Raw material:** stone nodules, whole shells and copper ore show that objects were made there.
2. **Tools and unfinished objects:** specialised drills and half-made beads, as at Chanhudaro, Lothal and Dholavira.
3. **Rejects and waste:** waste is the best clue; Chanhudaro, under 7 hectares, was almost wholly given to beads, shell, metal, seals and weights.

53 words · limit 80 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3

C11. Describe Harappan craft production – the materials, techniques and centres. What does it tell us about the economy? [8]

Craft production was one of the strengths of the Harappan economy.

1. **Many materials:** beads were made of carnelian, jasper, crystal, quartz, steatite, copper, bronze, gold, shell, faience and terracotta.
2. **Variety of shapes:** disc, cylinder, sphere, barrel and segmented beads; some incised, painted or etched; some joined two stones or had gold caps.
3. **Steatite paste:** soft steatite was powdered and moulded as a paste, giving shapes not possible in hard stone.
4. **Carnelian technique:** the stone was fired to turn red, chipped, flaked, ground, polished and drilled with specialised drills.
5. **Chanhudaro:** a small settlement almost wholly devoted to bead-making, shell-cutting, metal-working, seal-making and weight-making.
6. **Coastal centres:** Nageshwar and Balakot made shell bangles, ladles and inlay that travelled to other settlements.
7. **City workshops:** Mohenjodaro and Harappa also had craft areas; finished beads from Chanhudaro and Lothal reached these big cities.
8. **What it shows:** specialised craftspeople, long-distance supply of raw materials and exchange of finished goods – a well-organised economy.

Thus Harappan crafts show specialisation, skill and wide exchange.

Full answer – as you would write it in the exam (302 words)

Craft production was one of the most remarkable features of the Harappan civilisation, and it reveals a great deal about the economy.

The variety of materials used is striking. Beads, for instance, were made of carnelian, jasper, crystal, quartz and steatite, of metals such as copper, bronze and gold, and of shell, faience and terracotta. Some beads joined two or more stones cemented together, and some stone beads had gold caps.

Shapes and techniques were equally varied. Beads were made in disc, cylinder, spherical, barrel-shaped and segmented forms; some were incised or painted, and some had designs etched on them. Techniques differed with the material. Soft steatite was ground into a paste and moulded, which allowed shapes that could not be made from hard stone. The red colour of carnelian came from firing the yellowish raw stone; nodules were then chipped, flaked, ground, polished and drilled. Specialised drills have been found at Chanhudaro, Lothal and Dholavira.

Production was concentrated in particular centres. Chanhudaro was a small settlement devoted almost entirely to crafts, including bead-making, shell-cutting, metal-working, seal-making and weight-making. Nageshwar and Balakot, near the coast, specialised in shell objects such as bangles, ladles and inlay, which were sent to other settlements. Large cities like Mohenjodaro and Harappa also had craft areas, and finished goods from smaller centres reached them. Archaeologists identify such centres by finding raw material, waste, unfinished objects and tools.

This evidence tells us several things about the economy. First, there were specialised craftspeople who spent their time producing goods. Second, raw materials were brought from distant sources through settlements, expeditions and trade. Third, finished goods were exchanged between settlements and even exported, which shows an economy that was organised and connected over a wide area.

Thus Harappan crafts reflect skill, specialisation and a well-developed system of production and exchange.

164 words · limit 350 | Full answer: 302 words · board asks 300–350 | Marking: 8 points × 1 = 8 | Opening + closing line: 1 line each, no extra mark

Script, seals and weights

★★☆ 3 of 6 papers · 1 and 3 marks

C12. **"Exchanges in Harappan society were regulated by a precise system of weights." Analyse the statement with evidence.** [3]

1. **Uniform weights:** cubical weights of chert, without markings, are found across all Harappan sites.
2. **Exact denominations:** lower weights doubled (1, 2, 4, 8 … up to 12,800), higher ones followed the decimal system.
3. **Use:** small weights were probably for jewellery and beads, and metal scale-pans have been found – so goods were weighed exactly.

53 words · limit 80 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | Sample Paper 2026–27 Q22(B) | MUST DO

C13. **Examine the problems historians face in deciphering the Harappan script.** [3]

1. **Short texts:** most inscriptions have about five signs and the longest about 26 – too short to find patterns.
2. **Too many signs:** it is not alphabetic: 375–400 signs, perhaps standing for words or syllables.
3. **No bilingual text:** no inscription in the same script with a known language has been found, and its language is unknown.

55 words · limit 80 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | Sample Paper 2024–25 Q22(B) | MUST DO

Political authority

★☆☆ 1 of 6 papers · 3 marks

C14. "The archaeological record does not give a clear answer about who held power in Harappan society." Explain with examples. [3]

1. **Empty palace:** a large building at Mohenjodaro called a palace has no spectacular finds.
2. **Borrowed label:** the 'priest-king' statue was named only by comparison with Mesopotamian priest-kings.
3. **Competing views:** scholars argue for no rulers, several city rulers, or a single state; only the uniformity of artefacts supports the last.

49 words · limit 80 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3 | Sample Paper 2025–26 Q22(A)

Decline of the civilisation

★☆☆ 1 of 6 papers · 8 marks

C15. Examine the causes of the decline of the Harappan civilisation and the evidence for it. [8]

The Harappan civilisation did not end in a day; its cities slowly declined.

1. **Abandonment:** by about 1800 BCE most Mature Harappan sites in regions such as Cholistan were abandoned.
2. **Movement of people:** at the same time new settlements grew in Gujarat, Haryana and western Uttar Pradesh.
3. **Changed way of life:** the Late Harappan cultures were rural; weights, seals, special beads and writing disappeared, and long-distance trade and crafts declined.
4. **Climate change:** a drier climate may have reduced harvests in semi-arid areas.
5. **Deforestation and overuse:** cutting forests for fuel to bake bricks and overuse of the landscape may have damaged the land.
6. **Floods and rivers:** excessive floods, and rivers that shifted or dried up, may have ruined some towns.
7. **Limits of these causes:** each cause may explain the decline of some settlements, but not the collapse of the whole civilisation.
8. **End of the state:** the most convincing view: a unifying element, perhaps the Harappan state, ended – seals, script, standard weights and distinctive pottery all disappear and local weights replace them.

Thus a mix of environmental causes and the end of a unifying authority explains the decline.

Full answer – as you would write it in the exam (300 words)

The Harappan civilisation did not end suddenly. Its decline was gradual, and archaeologists have pieced it together from changes in settlements and material culture.

The evidence of decline is clear. By about 1800 BCE, most Mature Harappan sites in regions such as Cholistan had been abandoned. At the same time, population expanded into new settlements in Gujarat, Haryana and western Uttar Pradesh. In the few sites occupied after 1900 BCE, material culture changed. Distinctive artefacts – weights, seals and special beads – disappeared, and writing, long-distance trade and craft specialisation also vanished. Houses were built differently and far fewer materials were used. These Late Harappan cultures were mainly rural.

Scholars have suggested several causes for this change. One is climate change: a shift to a drier climate may have reduced harvests in semi-arid regions. A second is deforestation and overuse of the landscape, since large quantities of wood were burnt to fire bricks and furnaces. A third is excessive floods, and a fourth is the shifting or drying up of rivers, which would have ruined towns that depended on them.

Each of these explanations has some merit, but none can fully explain the collapse of an entire civilisation. A drier climate or a shifting river might destroy some settlements, but not all of them across such a vast area at roughly the same time.

The most convincing explanation is that a unifying element – perhaps the Harappan state – came to an end. The disappearance of seals, the script, standard weights and distinctive pottery points in this direction, as does the replacement of standard weights by local ones. Once the authority that held the system together had gone, the

cities and their wide networks could not survive.

Thus the decline was the result of environmental pressures combined with the breakdown of a central authority.

185 words · limit 350 | Full answer: 300 words · board asks 300–350 | Marking: 8 points × 1 = 8

Opening + closing line: 1 line each, no extra mark | Board 2026 Q30(b) | MUST DO

C16. Why is the end of a unifying Harappan state considered the most convincing reason for the decline? [3]

1. **Other causes are local:** floods, drying rivers or deforestation could ruin some towns but not all at once.
2. **Uniform things vanish:** seals, script, special beads and pottery – the marks of one system – disappear everywhere.
3. **Local weights:** standard weights give way to local weights, showing that a common authority no longer existed.

51 words · limit 80 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3

Food, farming and luxuries

★★☆ 2 of 6 papers · 1 mark

C17. How do querns and other finds help archaeologists understand how the Harappans processed food? [3]

1. **Two kinds of querns:** one on which a smaller stone was pushed or rolled to grind grain; another used with a pestle for herbs and spices.
2. **Hearths and vessels:** hearths and cooking pots show how food was cooked.
3. **Context:** querns found in houses, not in graves, show they were everyday utilitarian objects used by all.

55 words · limit 80 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3

C18. Why were faience pots and gold treated as luxuries? What does their distribution tell us? [3]

1. **Costly to make:** faience pots needed a difficult technology; gold was a rare non-local metal.
2. **Found in big cities:** faience pots are found in Mohenjodaro and Harappa but almost not at Kalibangan.
3. **Social difference:** gold jewellery comes only from hoards – luxuries belonged to a few, showing differences in wealth.

49 words · limit 80 | Marking: 3 points × 1 = 3

ANSWERS · PART D

D Source-Based – Answers

One line each for the 1-mark parts; separate points for the 2-mark parts. The whole answer stays within the word limit.

D1. Source-Based · A City Under the Streets (printed in the booklet) [4]

(i) How were the street drains kept open for cleaning? [1]

They were covered with loose bricks or limestone slabs that could be lifted.

(ii) What was the use of the pits into which house drains first emptied? [1]

Solid waste settled in these sumps and only waste water flowed into the street drain.

(iii) What does this drainage system tell us about Harappan town planning? Give two points. [2]

(i) Drains were planned first and houses built along them, so the city was planned in advance.

(ii) A civic authority kept the drains clean for public health – though the sand heaps show waste was not always carried away.

67 words in all · limit 100 | Marking: 1 + 1 + 2 = 4 | Board 2025 Q31 was a source on Harappan drains

D2. Source-Based · Copper From Across the Sea (printed in the booklet) [4]

(i) Which present-day region is 'Magan' thought to be? [1]

Oman, in south-eastern Arabia.

(ii) Why would a jar be coated with thick black clay? [1]

To stop liquids seeping out – it probably carried a liquid product traded for copper.

(iii) Give two pieces of evidence from the source that the Harappans traded with distant lands. [2]

(i) Mesopotamian texts list carnelian, lapis lazuli, copper, gold and wood from Meluhha, probably the Harappan region.

(ii) A Harappan jar found in Oman and nickel traces in both Omani and Harappan copper show trade, probably by sea.

56 words in all · limit 100 | Marking: 1 + 1 + 2 = 4

D3. Source-Based · A Seal Too Old to Place (printed in the booklet) [4]

(i) Name the head of the archaeological survey referred to in the source. [1]

Alexander Cunningham, first Director-General of the ASI.

(ii) Why could he not understand the seal? [1]

He worked only within the Early Historic time-frame, which Harappa did not fit.

(iii) How did the later finds change the story of India's past? Give two points. [2]

(i) Seals found by Daya Ram Sahni (Harappa) and R. D. Banerji (Mohenjodaro) lay below Early Historic layers, so they were far older.

(ii) In 1924 Marshall announced a new civilisation, pushing India's history back by about 3,000 years.

59 words in all · limit 100 | Marking: 1 + 1 + 2 = 4

ANSWERS · PART E

E Map Work – Key

Where each map item lies, so you can check your own outline map.

Map answers are marked only if the place is shown at the right spot **and** its name is written. Use the school's printed outline map. This key tells you where each item lies.

Item	Where it is – check your map against this
Harappa	**Punjab province of Pakistan, near the old course of the Ravi, south-west of Lahore (near Sahiwal).**
Mohenjodaro	**Sindh, Pakistan, on the right (west) bank of the Indus, about 300 km north of Karachi.**
Chanhudaro	**Sindh, south of Mohenjodaro, on the left (east) side of the Indus.**
Kot Diji	**Sindh, east of the Indus, across the river from Mohenjodaro (near Khairpur).**
Balakot	**Makran coast of Pakistan, near Sonmiani Bay, north-west of Karachi.**
Kalibangan	**north Rajasthan (Hanumangarh district), on the bank of the dry Ghaggar river.**
Banawali	**Haryana (Fatehabad district), north-west of Hisar.**
Rakhigarhi	**Haryana (Hisar district), north-west of Delhi and east of Banawali.**
Lothal	**Gujarat (Ahmedabad), at the head of the Gulf of Khambhat.**
Dholavira	**Gujarat, on Khadir island in the Great Rann of Kachchh, north of the Gulf of Kachchh.**
Nageshwar	**Gujarat, on the southern shore of the Gulf of Kachchh, near Dwarka (north-west Saurashtra).**

ANSWERS · PART 2 KEY WORDS & LINKS

2 Link Drills – Answers

Watch how each answer joins cause to result with a link word. Copy this habit into every History answer.

Drill 1 · Explain how X led to Y

link words in bold

L1. Explain how **a surplus of food** led to the **growth of cities**. [2]

> Ploughs and irrigation gave more grain than farmers needed. **As a result**, this surplus fed craftspeople and traders, **so** large planned cities like Mohenjodaro could grow.

27 words · limit 40

L2. Explain how **standard bricks and planned drains** led archaeologists to think of a **strong authority**. [2]

> The same 4 : 2 : 1 bricks and drains laid before houses needed common rules. **Therefore** archaeologists think an authority, perhaps one state, planned the work.

27 words · limit 40

L3. Explain how **craft specialisation** led to **expeditions** for raw materials. [2]

> Full-time bead and metal workers needed carnelian, copper and gold. **This led to** expeditions to Khetri and south India and settlements near sources.

23 words · limit 40

L4. Explain how **long-distance trade** led to the use of **seals and sealings**. [2]

> Goods travelled long distances and could be tampered with. **Because of this**, bags were closed with sealings that proved safety and named the sender.

25 words · limit 40

L5. Explain how **Cunningham's frame of reference** led him to **miss Harappa**. [2]

> Cunningham studied only the Early Historic period. **Therefore** he tried to fit the Harappan seal into that time-frame and missed its far greater age.

24 words · limit 40

L6. Explain how **Marshall's method** led to the **loss of context**. [2]

> Marshall dug in uniform horizontal units. **As a result**, finds from different layers were grouped together and their date and context were lost.

24 words · limit 40

L7. Explain how the **end of a unifying state** led to the **Late Harappan** way of life. [2]

> When the unifying authority ended, seals, script and standard weights vanished. **In turn**, trade and crafts declined and people lived in villages.

23 words · limit 40

L8. Explain how an **undeciphered script** leads to **debates about religion**. [2]

> Since no text can be read, beliefs are guessed from objects. **This led to** labels like mother goddess and proto-Shiva, which scholars still debate.

24 words · limit 40

Drill 2 · Three words in one answer

the three words underlined

L9. Write a 60-word answer using: **Citadel · platforms · Great Bath**. [3]

> The Citadel of Mohenjodaro was smaller but higher than the Lower Town because its buildings stood on mud-brick platforms. It held public buildings such as the warehouse and the Great Bath, a watertight tank probably used for a special ritual bath.

43 words · limit 60

L10. Write a 60-word answer using: **Chanhudaro · carnelian · drills.** [3]

> Chanhudaro was a small settlement devoted to crafts. Its bead-makers fired yellowish carnelian to turn it red, then chipped, flaked, ground and polished it, and bored holes with specialised drills – tools also found at Lothal and Dholavira.

37 words · limit 60

L11. Write a 60-word answer using: **Magan · nickel · Meluhha.** [3]

> Mesopotamian texts name Magan, probably Oman, as a source of copper. Traces of nickel in both Omani and Harappan copper suggest the Harappans got copper there. The same texts call the Harappan region Meluhha, a land of seafarers.

40 words · limit 60

L12. Write a 60-word answer using: **Sahni · Banerji · Marshall.** [3]

> In 1921 Daya Ram Sahni found seals deep in the mound at Harappa. Rakhal Das Banerji found similar seals at Mohenjodaro in 1922. In 1924 John Marshall announced a new civilisation in the Indus valley.

35 words · limit 60

Drill 3 · The missing link

1 mark each

L13. Missing step between "Plough and irrigation" and "Craftspeople and city dwellers are fed". [1]

> Farmers produce a surplus of grain beyond their own needs.

10 words

L14. Missing step between "Bag of goods tied with rope" and "Receiver knows goods were not tampered with". [1]

> Wet clay on the knot is stamped with a seal – a sealing.

12 words

L15. Missing step between "Cholistan sites abandoned (c. 1800 BCE)" and "Rural Late Harappan cultures". [1]

> People move to new settlements in Gujarat, Haryana and western UP.

11 words

Drill 4 · Odd one out

1 mark each

L16. Find the odd one out and give the link that joins the other three: **Kalibangan · Lothal · Dholavira · Shortughai** [1]

> Odd one out: **Shortughai** (Afghanistan). The other three are Harappan sites in **India** dug after 1947.

16 words