

ANSWER KEY

KOTHARI INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, NOIDA

ANNUAL EXAMINATION, SESSION: - 2025-26

GRADE: XI SUBJECT: PAINTING (049)

SET- A

DAY & DATE: FRIDAY 18th, February 2026

TIME ALLOWED: 2 HOURS

MAXIMUM MARKS: 30

NAME: _____

ROLL NO: _____

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

- i). This paper consists of 3 sections and all the 3 sections are compulsory.*
- ii). Section- A- Attempt all 8 Questions (Each Question will carry 1 mark)*
- iii). Section- B- Attempt any 5 Questions (Each Question will carry 2 marks)*
- iv). Section- C- Attempt any 2 Question (will carry 6 marks)*

S.No.	SECTION-A	Marks
Q1.	Select the right answer from the given options:	1X8=8
	<p>SECTION – A (MCQs)</p> <p>Q1 (A) Which painting from the prehistoric era has a hint of X-ray imagery? Answer: Wild Bison</p> <p>Q1 (B) Where are the Bhimbetka caves located? Answer: India</p> <p>Q1 (C) Name the dynasty under which the Bodhisattva Padmapani fresco was made? Answer: Vakatakas</p> <p>Q1 (D) What is Urna? Answer: Third eye on the forehead</p> <p>Q1 (E) How can the subject matter of paintings of Ajanta be categorized? Answer: Ornamental, Emotional or expressive, Descriptive</p> <p>Q1 (F) The Descent of Ganga relief is located at: Answer: Mahabalipuram</p> <p>Q1 (G) The Nataraj bronze belongs to which dynasty? Answer: Chola</p> <p>Q1 (H) The Qutub Minar is built in which style of architecture? Answer: Indo-Islami</p>	

	<p>SECTION-B (Short answer type questions) Answer any five question is expected in around 80-100 words</p>	<p>2X5=10</p>
<p>Q2.</p>	<p>A. Write a small description with the medium, period, location and courtesy of the rock painting, 'WIZARD'S DANCE'.</p> <p>Answer: The Wizard's Dance is a prehistoric rock painting found in the Bhimbetka rock shelters of Madhya Pradesh. It belongs to the Mesolithic period. The painting is created using natural pigments such as red ochre and white. It depicts a human figure wearing a horned headdress, shown dancing, possibly performing a ritual. The artwork reflects early human beliefs, community life, and spiritual practices. Detail the specific features and artistic elements of the ancient statuette known as the 'Dancing Girl'.</p> <p>B. Detail the specific features and artistic elements of the ancient statuette known as the 'DANCING GIRL'.</p> <p>Answer: The Dancing Girl is a bronze statuette from the Indus Valley Civilization, discovered at Mohenjo-Daro. Made using the lost-wax technique, it shows a young girl in a confident dancing pose. The figure has elongated limbs, minimal clothing, and bangles covering one arm. The sculpture reflects advanced metallurgical skills and a keen observation of human posture and movement. What are the differences between Gandhar and Mathura art styles?</p> <p>C. What are the differences between 'GANDHAR' and 'MATHURA' art style</p> <p>Answer: Gandhar art shows strong Greco-Roman influence, with realistic features, curly hair, and draped garments, mainly using grey schist stone. Mathura art is more indigenous, using red sandstone, and presents spiritual and idealized forms with symbolic expressions. Gandhar Buddhas appear human-like, while Mathura Buddhas emphasize divinity and inner calm. Write the main characteristics of the Ajanta Caves.</p> <p>D. Write the main characteristics of the AJANTA CAVES</p> <p>Answer: The Ajanta Caves are rock-cut Buddhist caves located in Maharashtra, dating from the 2nd century BCE to 6th century CE. They are famous for their murals and frescoes depicting Jataka tales and Buddha's life. The paintings show expressive figures, natural colors, rhythmic lines, and emotional depth. Ajanta represents the finest achievement of ancient Indian mural art. What is the Lost-wax technique (Cire Perdue) used by Chola artists?</p>	

	<p>E. What is the Lost-wax technique (Cire perdue) used by Chola artists?</p> <p>Answer: The lost-wax technique is a traditional bronze casting method used by Chola artists. A wax model of the sculpture is covered with clay and heated, melting the wax and leaving a hollow mold. Molten metal is poured into it. After cooling, the mold is broken to reveal the sculpture. This technique allowed detailed, graceful, and expressive bronze figures like Nataraj. Describe the artistic features of the Trimurti sculpture at Elephanta.</p> <p>F. Describe the artistic features of the TRIMURTI sculpture at Elephanta.</p> <p>Answer: The Trimurti sculpture at Elephanta depicts the three aspects of Lord Shiva—Creator, Preserver, and Destroyer—in a single image. Carved in high relief, it shows calm expression, balanced proportions, and spiritual depth. The central face represents Maheshwara, while the side faces depict Vamadeva and Aghora. The sculpture reflects the maturity of Gupta-influenced Indian rock-cut art. What are the main features of Indo-Islamic architecture?</p> <p>G. What are the main features of Indo-Islamic architecture?</p> <p>Answer: Indo-Islamic architecture combines Indian craftsmanship with Islamic features. It includes arches, domes, minarets, calligraphy, geometric patterns, and symmetry. Structures often use red sandstone and marble. Ornamentation avoids human figures and focuses on floral and geometric designs. Famous examples include Qutub Minar, Gol Gumbaz etc.</p>	
Q3.	<p style="text-align: center;">SECTION-C (Long answer type questions) Answer any two question is expected in around 120-150 words</p>	6X2=12
	<p>A. Write a detailed note on the introduction of Pre-historical rock paintings with the time period, locations, material used and subject matter with examples. Also describe the location and famous sites of Indus Valley Civilization with traces of artistic things.</p> <p>Answer: Pre-historical rock paintings are the earliest form of human artistic expression, dating from the Paleolithic to Mesolithic periods. Found at sites like Bhimbetka, these paintings were created using natural pigments such as red ochre and charcoal on cave walls. The subjects include hunting scenes, animals, rituals, and daily life, reflecting early human beliefs and survival activities. The Indus Valley Civilization (c. 2500 BCE) flourished at sites like Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro. Artistic remains include seals, pottery, terracotta figurines, and bronze sculptures like the Dancing Girl. These artworks show advanced craftsmanship, planning, and aesthetic sense.</p>	

Write a comprehensive essay on the Ajanta Caves and differences between Seated Buddha from Katra Tila and Sarnath.

- B.** Write a comprehensive essay on the 'AJANTA CAVES' including its location, period, structure, paintings, themes, sculptures and significance. Also explain the differences between 'SEATED BUDDHA FROM KATRA TILA' and 'SEATED BUDDHA FROM SARNATH'.

Answer:

The Ajanta Caves are located in Maharashtra and date from the 2nd century BCE to the 6th century CE. These Buddhist rock-cut caves include chaityas and viharas adorned with murals and sculptures. The paintings depict Jataka tales, Buddha's life, and court scenes using natural colors and expressive lines. Ajanta is significant for its narrative art and spiritual depth.

The Seated Buddha from Katra Tila (Mathura) is robust, with open eyes and symbolic gestures, carved in red sandstone. The Sarnath Buddha shows refined features, a calm expression, and spiritual serenity, carved in Chunar sandstone, reflecting the Gupta style.

Discuss the religious significance of Nataraj and development of temple sculpture and Indo-Islamic architecture.

- C.** Discuss the religious and artistic significance of NATARAJ, the bronze sculpture. Also describe the artistic development of Indian temple sculpture between the 6th and 13th centuries, and explain the main features of Indo-Islamic architecture with examples like Qutub Minar and Gol Gumbaz.

Answer:

Nataraj represents Lord Shiva as the cosmic dancer, symbolizing creation, preservation, and destruction. The Chola bronze shows rhythmic balance, grace, and spiritual meaning through symbolic gestures and elements like the ring of fire.

Indian temple sculpture evolved between the 6th and 13th centuries with elaborate carvings, narrative panels, and regional styles such as Nagara and Dravidian. Indo-Islamic architecture introduced domes, arches, minarets, and geometric decoration. Monuments like Qutub Minar and Gol Gumbaz highlight structural innovation and cultural synthesis.