HISTORY-314

CUET Entrance Exam

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HISTORY

Syllabus for Class 12

Note:
There will be one Question Paper which will have 50 questions out of which 40 questions need to be attempted.

HISTORY

Unit I: The Story of the First Cities Harappan Archaeology

Broad overview: Early urban centres.

Story of discovery: Harappan civilization.
Excerpt: Archaeological report on a major site. *Discussion*: how it has been utilized by archaeologists/ historians.

Unit II: Political and Economic History: How Inscriptions tell a story

Broad overview: Political and economic history from the Mauryan to the Gupta period.

Story of discovery: Inscriptions and the decipherment of the script. Shifts in the understanding of political and economic history.

Excerpt: Asokan inscription and Gupta period land grant.

Discussion: Interpretation of inscriptions by historians.

Unit III: Social Histories using the Mahabharata

Broad overview: Issues in social history, including caste,class, kinship and gender.

Story of discovery: Transmission and publications of theMahabharata.

Excerpt: From the Mahabharata, illustrating how it hasbeen used by historians.

Unit IV: A History of Buddhism: Sanchi Stupa

Broad overview:

(a) A brief review of religious histories of Vedicreligion, Jainism, Vaisnavism, Saivism.

(b) Focus on Buddhism.

Story of discovery: Sanchi stupa.
Excerpt: Reproduction of sculptures from Sanchi. *Discussion*: Ways in which sculpture has been interpretedby historians, other sources for reconstructing thehistory of Buddhism.

Unit V: Agrarian Relations The Ain-i- Akbari

Broad overview:
(a) Structure of agrarian relations in the 16th and 17thcenturies.
(b) Patterns of change over the period.

Story of Discovery: Account of the compilation andtranslation of Ain-i-Akbari.

Excerpt: From the Ain-i-Akbari
Discussion: Ways in which historians have used the textto reconstruct history.

Unit VI: The Mughal Court: Reconstructing Histories through Chronicles

Broad Overview:

(a) Outline of political history c. 15th-17th centuries.

(b) Discussion of the Mughal court and politics.

Story of Discovery: Account of the production of court chronicles, and their subsequent translation and transmission.

Excerpts: from the *Akbarnama* and *Padshahnama*.

Discussion: Ways in which historians have used the textsto reconstruct political histories.

Unit VII: New Architecture: Hampi

Broad Overview:

(a) Outline of new buildings during Vijayanagarperiod — temples, forts, irrigation facilities.

(b) Relationship between architecture and the politicalsystem.

Story of Discovery: Account of how Hampi was found.

Excerpt: Visuals of buildings at Hampi.

Discussion: Ways in which historians have analysed andinterpreted these structures.

Unit VIII: Religious Histories: The Bhakti-Sufi Tradition

Broad Overview:

(a) Outline of religious developments during thisperiod.

(b) Ideas and practices of the Bhakti-Sufi saints.

Story of Transmission: How Bhakti-Sufi compositionshave been preserved.

Excerpt: Extracts from selected Bhakti Sufi works.

Discussion: Ways in which these have been interpretedby historians.

Unit IX: Medieval Society through Travellers' Accounts

Broad Overview: Outline of social and cultural life as they appear in travellers' accounts.

Story of their writings: A discussion of where they travelled, why they travelled, what they wrote, and forwhom they wrote.

Excerpts: from Alberuni, Ibn Batuta, Bernier.

Discussion: What these travel accounts can tell us andhow they have been interpreted by historians.

Unit X: Colonialism and Rural Society: Evidence from Official Reports

Broad overview:

(a) Life of zamindars, peasants and artisans in the late 18^{th} century.

(b) East India Company, revenue settlements andsurveys.

(c) Changes over the nineteenth century.

Story of official records: An account of why official investigations into rural societies were undertaken andthe types of records and reports produced.

Excerpts: From Firminger's *Fifth Report,* Accounts ofFrancis Buchanan-Hamilton, and Deccan Riots Report.

Discussion: What the official records tell and do not tell, and how they have been used by historians.

Unit XI: Representations of 1857

Broad Overview:

(a) The events of 1857-58.

(b) How these events were recorded and narrated.

Focus: Lucknow.

Excerpts: Pictures of 1857. Extracts from contemporaryaccounts.

Discussion: How the pictures of 1857 shaped Britishopinion of what had happened.

Unit XII: Colonialism and Indian Towns: Town Plans and Municipal Reports

Broad Overview: The growth of Mumbai, Chennai, hill stations and cantonments in the 18th and 19th century.

Excerpts: Photographs and paintings. Plans of cities. Extract form town plan reports. Focus on Kolkata town planning.

Discussion: How the above sources can be used to reconstruct the history of towns. What these sourcesdo not reveal.

Unit XIII: Mahatma Gandhi through Contemporary Eyes

Broad Overview:

(a) The nationalist movement 1918-48,

(b) The nature of Gandhian politics and leadership.

Focus: Mahatma Gandhi in 1931.

Excerpts: Reports from English and Indian languagenewspapers and other contemporary writings.

Discussion: How newspapers can be a source of history.

Unit XIV: Partition through Oral Sources

Broad Overview:

(a) The history of the 1940s;

(b) Nationalism, Communalism and Partition.

Focus: Punjab and Bengal.

Excerpts: Oral testimonies of those who experiencedpartition.

Discussion: Ways in which these have been analysed toreconstruct the history of the event.

Unit XV: The Making of the Constitution

Broad Overview:

(a) Independence and the new nation state.

(b) The making of the Constitution.

Focus: The Constitutional Assembly debates.

Excerpts: From the debates.

Discussion: What such debates reveal and how they canbe analyzed.