

NCERT QUESTIONS WITH SOLUTIONS

Answer the following questions:

1. Explain a few central ideas of Buddhism. Briefly comment upon them.

Ans. Siddhartha realised that avidya (ignorance) and attachment are the source of human suffering and conceived a method to remove these two causes. Siddhartha, then, became known as the 'Buddha', which means the 'enlightened' or 'awakened' one. The Buddha started teaching what he had realised, including the idea of ahimsa, which is generally translated as 'nonviolence', but originally means 'non-hurting' or 'non-injuring', i.e. compassion towards all living beings. He also insisted on a sincere inner discipline.

2. Discuss in class the quotation of the Buddha which begins with "Not by water is one made pure, though many people may bathe here [in sacred rivers]" to make sure that its meaning has been understood by all.

Ans. This quotation from the Buddha emphasizes that true purity and spiritual cleanliness do not come from external rituals, such as bathing in sacred rivers, but from internal virtues and actions. It teaches that inner qualities like truthfulness, compassion, and ethical behaviour are what truly purify a person. The quote encourages individuals to seek purity through self-discipline, kindness, and understanding, reflecting the core values of Buddhism.

3. Explain a few central ideas of Jainism. Briefly comment upon them.

Ans. Jainism emphasizes three main principles: ahimsa (non-violence),

anekantavada (many-sidedness), and aparigraha (non-attachment). Ahimsa advocates for complete non-violence towards all living beings, reflecting deep respect for life. Anekantavada teaches that truth and reality are complex and can be perceived from different perspectives, encouraging tolerance and understanding. Aparigraha promotes detachment from material possessions and desires, fostering a simple and content life. These principles guide Jains towards ethical living, spiritual development, and harmonious coexistence with all forms of life.

True or False

4. The Vedic hymns were written on palm-leaf manuscripts.

Ans. False

5. The Vedas are India's oldest texts.

Ans. True

6. The Vedic statement ekam sat vipra bahudha vadanti reflects a belief in the unity of cosmic powers.

Ans. True

7. Buddhism is older than the Vedas.

Ans. False

8. Jainism emerged as a branch of Buddhism.

Ans. False

9. Both Buddhism and Jainism advocated for peaceful coexistence and the avoidance of harm to all living beings.

Ans. True

10. Tribal belief systems are limited to belief in spirits and minor deities.

Ans. False

EXERCISE-01

Multiple choice questions

- What do you mean by 'school of thought'?
(1) Group of thinkers **SIR022**
(2) Spiritual seekers
(3) Both of these
(4) None of these
- Sindhu-Sarasvati civilisation is also known as- **SIR023**
(1) Indus Valley Civilisation
(2) Harappan Civilisation
(3) Both of these
(4) None of these
- The word "Veda" comes from the _____ vid which means 'knowledge'. **SIR024**
(1) Hindi (2) Magadhi
(3) Prakrit (4) None of these
- How many Vedas do we have? **SIR025**
(1) Three (2) Four
(3) Five (4) None of these
- Which is the oldest Veda? **SIR026**
(1) Rig Veda (2) Yajur Veda
(3) Sama Veda (4) Atharva Veda
- The word 'Jain' or Jaina comes from Jina, meaning _____. **SIR027**
(1) Dishonest (2) Powerful
(3) Conqueror (4) None of these
- Where is Bodh Gaya? **SIR028**
(1) In Bihar
(2) In Madhya Pradesh
(3) In Rajasthan
(4) None of these
- The Vedic hymns were composed by rishis and rishikas in an early form of the _____ language. **SIR029**
(1) Hindi (2) Persian
(3) Magadhi (4) None of these
- Which school does not seem to have gained much popularity and disappeared with time?
(1) Vedanta (2) Yoga **SIR030**
(3) Lokayata (4) Jainism

- Where is Vaishali? **SIR031**
(1) Madhya Pradesh (2) Rajasthan
(3) Arunachal Pradesh (4) Bihar

True or False

- Siddhartha decided to give up his palace life, he left palace with his wife and son. **SIR032**
- Siddhartha became known as 'Buddha'. **SIR033**
- Prince Vardhamana was born into a middle-class family. **SIR034**
- Vaishali is in Bihar. **SIR035**
- Infinite knowledge or supreme wisdom is one and the same thing. **SIR036**

Fill in the blanks

- The Vedas consist of thousands of _____. **SIR037**
- The Vedic hymns were composed by rishis and rishikas in an early form of the _____ language. **SIR038**
- Rishi _____ sent his son, Shvetaketu, to a gurukula to learn the Vedas. **SIR039**
- Gargi was a _____. **SIR040**
- One day, at the age of 29, _____ asked to be driven through the city in a chariot. **SIR041**

Match the columns

SIR042

- | Column I | | Column II | |
|----------|-------------------|-----------|-----------------------|
| (A) | Anekan-tavada | (i) | Conqueror |
| (B) | Aparigraha | (ii) | Non-possession |
| (C) | Jina | (iii) | Multiple perspectives |
| (D) | Prince Vardhamana | (iv) | Awakened one |
| (E) | Enlightened | (v) | Royal family |

ANSWER KEY

Multiple choice questions

Question	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Answer	3	3	4	2	1	3	1	4	3	3

True or False

1. False
2. True
3. False
4. True
5. True

Fill in the blanks

1. hymns
2. Sanskrit
3. Uddalaka Aruni
4. Rishika
5. Siddhartha Gautama

Match the columns

1. (A) → (iii) ; (B) → (ii) ; (C) → (i) ; (D) → (v) ; (E) → (iv)

EXERCISE-02

Short Answer Type Questions

1. Why did Siddhartha Gautama decide to give up his comfortable life? **SIR043**
2. What is 'Anekantavada' and 'Aparigraha'? **SIR044**
3. What are the sources of human suffering according to Siddhartha Gautama? **SIR045**
4. What is ahimsa according to Buddhism and Jainism? **SIR046**
5. What do you know about Jain or Jaina? **SIR047**

Long Answer Type Questions

6. What is the contribution of folk and tribal traditions to Indian culture? **SIR048**
7. Make a list of popular gods and goddesses in your region and the festivals they are associated with. **SIR049**
8. What are the Vedas? **SIR050**
9. Explain a few central ideas of Jainism. Briefly comment upon them. **SIR051**
10. Throw some light on the life of Prince Vardhamana. **SIR052**



