

9th Social Science Lesson 3 Questions in English

3. Early Tamil Society and Culture

1. _____ script was adopted to write the Tamil language

- a) Prakrit
- b) Devanagiri
- c) Tamil – Prakrit
- d) **Tamil - Brahmi**

Explanation

Tamil civilization, as we have seen, begins at-least three centuries before the Common Era (AD (CE)). The Tamil-Brahmi script was adopted to write the Tamil language. Classical Tamil poems were composed.

2. Which of the following are included in Classical Sangam Tamil Literature?

- 1) Tholkappiyam
 - 2) Pathinen Melkanakku
 - 3) Pathinen Kilkanakku
- a) 1, 2
 - b) 2, 3
 - c) **1, 2, 3**
 - d) 1, 3

Explanation

The Classical Sangam corpus (collection) consists of the Tholkappiyam, the Pathinen Melkanakku (18 Major works) and the Pathinen Kilkanakku (18 minor works) and the five epics.

3. Which of the following statement is correct?

- 1) Tholkappiyam, attributed to Tholkappiyar, is the earliest written work on Tamil grammar.
 - 2) The 1st section of Tholkappiyam describes poetic conventions that provide information on Tamil social life.
- a) **1 alone**
 - b) 2 alone
 - c) 1, 2
 - d) None

Explanation

Tholkappiyam, attributed to Tholkappiyar, is the earliest written work on Tamil grammar. Apart from elaborating the rules of grammar, the third section of Tholkappiyam also describes poetic conventions that provide information on Tamil social life.

4. Which of the following is not one of the eight anthologies?

- a) Natrinai
- b) Kalithogai
- c) **Tholkappiyam**
- d) Puranaanuru

Explanation

The Ettuthogai or the eight anthologies are (1) Natrinai (2) Kurunthogai (3) Paripaadal (4) Pathittrupathu (5) Aingurunuru (6) Kalithogai (7) Akanaanuru (8) Puranaanuru

5. Which of the following is a Pathupattu?

- a) Thirumurugatrupadai
- b) Perumpanatruppadai
- c) Mullaipaattu
- d) **All the above**

Explanation

Pathupattu or ten Idylls collection includes ten long songs (1) Thirumurugatrupadai (2) Porunaratrupadai (3) Perumpanatruppadai (4) Sirupanatrupadai (5) Mullaipaattu (6) Nedunalvaadai (7) Maduraikanchi (8) Kurinjipaattu (9) Pattinappaalai (10) Malaipadukadam

6. Which of the following statement is correct about Pathinen Kilkanakku?

- 1) The Pathinen Kilkanakku comprises eighteen texts elaborating on ethics and morals.
 - 2) The pre-eminent work among these is the Thirukkural composed by Thiruvalluvar
- a) 1 alone
 - b) 2 alone
 - c) **1, 2**
 - d) None

Explanation

The Pathinen Kilkanakku comprises eighteen texts elaborating on ethics and morals. The pre-eminent work among these is the Thirukkural composed by Thiruvalluvar. In 1330 couplets Thirukkural considers questions of morality, statecraft and love.

7. Which of the following is five epics?

- a) Silappathikaaram
- b) Kundalakesi
- c) Seevaka Chinthamani
- d) All the above

Explanation

The epics or Kappiyams are long narrative poem of very high quality. They are, (1) Silappathikaaram (2) Manimekalai (3) Seevaka Chinthamani (4) Valaiyapathi (5) Kundalakesi.

8. Which of the following statement is correct?

- 1) Tamil-Brahmi inscriptions have been found in more than 30 sites in Tamil Nadu mostly on cave surfaces and rock shelters
 - 2) The natural caves were converted into residence by cutting a drip-line to keep rain water away from the cave. Inscriptions often occur below such drip-lines.
- a) 1 alone
 - b) 2 alone
 - c) 1, 2
 - d) None

Explanation

Tamil-Brahmi inscriptions have been found in more than 30 sites in Tamil Nadu mostly on cave surfaces and rock shelters. These caves were the abodes of monks, mostly Jaina monks. The natural caves were converted into residence by cutting a drip-line to keep rain water away from the cave. Inscriptions often occur below such drip-lines. The sites have smooth stone beds carved on rock surface for monks who led a simple life and lived in these shelters.

9. In which of the following sites Tamil-Brahmi inscriptions was/were found?

- 1) Pugalur
 - 2) Mangulam
 - 3) Kongarpuliyankulam
- a) 1, 3
 - b) 1, 2
 - c) 2, 3
 - d) 1, 2, 3

Explanation

Mangulam, Muttupatti, Pugalur, Arachalur and Kongarpuliyankulam and Jambai are some of the major sites of such caves with Tamil-Brahmi inscriptions. Around Madurai many such caves with Tamil - Brahmi inscriptions can still be seen. Many of them are located along ancient trade routes.

10. The acts of destruction of heritage property or property belonging to others are called___

- a) Vulnerism
- b) Vanishing
- c) Sketching
- d) **Vandalism**

Explanation

You will notice that among the old inscriptions, people (both local and tourists) have marked their names thereby destroying some of the ancient inscriptions. Such acts of destruction of heritage property or property belonging to others are called vandalism.

11. Which of the following statement is correct?

- 1) Hero stones are memorials erected for those who lost their lives in the battles and in cattle raids.
 - 2) During the Sangam Age, the Palai landscape followed the pastoral way of life.
- a) **1 alone**
 - b) 2 alone
 - c) 1, 2
 - d) None

Explanation

Hero stones are memorials erected for those who lost their lives in the battles and in cattle raids. As cattle were considered an important source of wealth, raiding cattle owned by adjoining tribes and clans was common practice in a pastoral society. During the Sangam Age, the Mullai landscape followed the pastoral way of life.

12. _____ describes the procedures for erecting hero stones

- a) Thirukural
- b) **Akanaanuru**
- c) Natrinai
- d) Tholkappiyam

Explanation

Tribal chiefs plundered the cattle wealth of enemies whose warriors fought to protect their cattle. Many warriors died in such battles and were remembered as martyrs. Memorial stones were erected in their honour. Sangam literature vividly portrays these battles and clashes, and describes such hero stones as objects of worship. Tholkappiyam describes the procedures for erecting hero stones.

13. Hero stones of the Sangam Age with Tamil-Brahmi inscriptions found in_____

- 1) Pulimankombai

- 2) Thathapatti
- 3) Pallavaram
 - a) 1, 2
 - b) 2, 3
 - c) 1, 2, 3
 - d) 1, 3

Explanation

Hero stones of the Sangam Age with Tamil-Brahmi inscriptions can be found at Pulimankombai and Thathapatti in Theni district and Porpanaikottai in Pudukkottai district. Those of the Sangam Age discovered till now do not have images or sculptures.

14. Pulimankombai is a village in the ____ river valley in Theni district

- a) Thamirabarani
- b) Cauvery
- c) **Vaigai**
- d) Thenpennai

Explanation

Pulimankombai is a village in the Vaigai river valley in Theni district. In 2006, rare hero stone inscriptions in Tamil-Brahmi script were discovered in this village. One of the inscriptions from Pulimankombai reads "Kudalur Akol pedu tiyan antavan kal" It means "The stone of Tiyan Antavan who was killed in a cattle raid at the village of Kudalur".

15. Which of the following statement is correct?

- 1) Hero stones of the post-Sangam Age and the Pallava period occur in large numbers in pastoral regions especially around the Chengam region near Thiruvannamalai district
- 2) These hero stones have inscriptions and the images of warriors and names of heroes
 - a) 1 alone
 - b) 2 alone
 - c) **1, 2**
 - d) None

Explanation

Hero stones of the post-Sangam Age and the Pallava period occur in large numbers in pastoral regions especially around the Chengam region near Thiruvannamalai district. These hero stones have inscriptions and the images of warriors and names of heroes.

16. ____ was the language used by the common people in the Northern part of India during the Mauryan period

- a) Brahmi
- b) Prakrit**
- c) Sanskrit
- d) Persian

Explanation

People etched their names on pottery to indicate ownership. Many of the names are in Tamil while some are in Prakrit. Prakrit was the language used by the common people in the Northern part of India during the Mauryan period.

17. In Tamil Nadu Potsherds have been discovered in_____

- a) Arikkamedu
- b) Keezhadi
- c) Kodumanal
- d) All the above**

Explanation

Pottery vessels from the Early Historic Period have names of people engraved on them in Tamil-Brahmi script. Potsherds have been discovered in Arikkamedu, Azhagankulam, Kodumanal, Keezhadi, and many other sites in Tamil Nadu. Pottery inscribed with names in Tamil-Brahmi script have also been found in Berenike and Quseir al Qadhim in Egypt and in Khor Rori in Oman indicating that early Tamils had trade contacts with West Asia and along the Red Sea coast.

18. _____ near Puducherry, is a Sangam Age port, excavated by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).

- a) Kodumanal
- b) Keezhadi
- c) Puhar
- d) Arikkamedu**

Explanation

Arikkamedu near Puducherry, is a Sangam Age port, excavated by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI). British archaeologist, Robert Eric Mortimer Wheeler, French Archaeologist, J.M. Casal, and Indian archaeologists, A. Ghosh and Krishna Deva, excavated this site. They found evidence of a planned town, warehouse, streets, tanks and ring wells.

19. Match the following

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1) The Indian Treasure Trove Act | I. 1958 |
| 2) The Antiquities and Art Treasures Act | II. 1878 |

3) The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act III. 1972

- a) II, III, I
- b) II, I, III
- c) III, II, I
- d) I, III, II

Explanation

The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) is a Central government agency that manages archaeological sites and monuments in India. The Government of Tamil Nadu has its own department for archaeology called the Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology. The Indian Treasure Trove Act (1878), the Antiquities and Art Treasures Act (1972), the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act (1958) are legislation related to the preservation of archaeological remains in India.

20. Which of the following is correctly matched?

- 1) Cameo – an ornament made in precious stone where images are carved on the surface.
 - 2) Intaglio – an ornament in which images are carved as recess, below the surface.
- a) 1 alone
 - b) 2 alone
 - c) 1, 2
 - d) None

Explanation

Archaeologists have found evidence of brick structures and industrial activities, as well as artefacts such as beads, bangles, cameos, intaglios, and other materials in these sites. Tamil-Brahmi inscriptions on pottery and coins have also been unearthed. Cameo – an ornament made in precious stone where images are carved on the surface. Intaglio – an ornament in which images are carved as recess, below the surface.

21. Roman coins are found in_____

- 1) Azhagankulam
 - 2) Karur
 - 3) Madurai
- a) 1, 3
 - b) 2, 3
 - c) 1, 2, 3
 - d) 1, 3

Explanation

Coins as a medium of exchange were introduced for the first time in the Sangam Age. The coins of the Cheras, the Cholas and the Pandyas, punch-marked coins, and Roman coins form another important source of evidence from the Sangam Age. Punchmarked coins have been found at Kodumanal and Bodinayakkanur. Roman coins are concentrated in the Coimbatore region, and are found at Azhagankulam, Karur, and Madurai. They were used as bullion for their metal value and as ornaments.

22. Which of the following statement is correct?

- 1) Bullion means precious metal available in the form of ingots
- 2) Punch-marked coins are mostly made of silver and have numerous symbols punched on them
 - a) 1 alone
 - b) 2 alone
 - c) 1, 2
 - d) None

Explanation

Bullion means precious metal available in the form of ingots. Punch-marked coins are the earliest coins used in India. They are mostly made of silver and have numerous symbols punched on them. Hence, they are known as punch-marked coins.

23. Arthasastra was written by_____

- a) Chanakya
- b) Chandragupta Maurya
- c) **Kautilya**
- d) Ramanda

Explanation

Arthasastra, the classic work on economy and statecraft authored by Kautilya during the Mauryan period, refers to Pandya kavataka. It may mean the pearl and shells from the Pandyan country.

24. Mahavamsa, the Sri Lankan Buddhist chronicle, composed in_____

- a) Prakrit
- b) Sanskrit
- c) Brahmi
- d) **Pali**

Explanation

Mahavamsa, the Sri Lankan Buddhist chronicle, composed in the Pali language, mentions merchants and horse traders from Tamil Nadu and South India. Chronicle is a narrative text presenting the important historical events in chronological order.

25. Which of the following statement is correct?

- 1) Periplus of Erythrean Sea is an ancient Greek text whose author is not known.
- 2) The term Periplus means navigational guide used by sailors
 - a) 1 alone
 - b) 2 alone
 - c) 1, 2
 - d) None

Explanation

Periplus of Erythrean Sea is an ancient Greek text whose author is not known. The term Periplus means navigational guide used by sailors. Erythrean Sea refers to the waters around the Red Sea. It makes references to the Sangam Age ports of Muciri, Thondi, Korkai and Kumari, as well as the Cheras and the Pandyas.

26. Natural History was written by_____

- a) Ptolemy
- b) **Pliny the Elder**
- c) Pliny Junior
- d) James

Explanation

Pliny the Elder, was a Roman who wrote Natural History. Written in Latin, it is a text on the natural wealth of the Roman Empire. Pliny speaks about the pepper trade with India.

27. How many days it takes to reach India, from Ocelis near North East Africa as mentioned in Natural History?

- a) 90
- b) **40**
- c) 20
- d) 10

Explanation

Pliny's Natural History states that it took 40 days to reach India, from Ocelis near North East Africa, if the south west monsoon wind was favourable. He also mentions that the Pandyas of Madurai controlled the port of Bacare on the Kerala coast. The current name of Bacare is not known.

Pliny laments the loss of Roman wealth due to Rome's pepper trade with India indication of the huge volume useful of the pepper that was traded.

28. Which of the following places of Tamil Nadu are mentioned in Ptolemy's Geography?

- 1) Kaveripoompattinam
- 2) Korkai
- 3) Muciri
- a) 1, 3
- b) 2, 3
- c) 1, 2, 3
- d) 1, 2

Explanation

Ptolemy's Geography is a gazetteer and atlas of Roman times providing geographical details of the Roman Empire in the second century AD (CE). Kaveripoompattinam (Khaberi Emporium), Korkai (Kolkoī), Kanniyakumari (Komaria), and Muciri (Muziris) are some of the places mentioned in his Geography.

29. In Peutingerian table Taprobane refers to_____

- a) Muziris
- b) Thondi
- c) **Sri Lanka**
- d) Kaveripoompattinam

Explanation

Peutingerian table is an illustrated map of the Roman roads. It shows the areas of ancient Tamilagam and the port of Muziris. Note: Taprobane refers to Sri Lanka as Island. Muziris refers to the port of Muchiri.

30. What is the name of a ship that shipped from India to the Roman Empire as mentioned in

Vienna Papyrus?

- a) **Hermapollon**
- b) Zamose
- c) Heimdol
- d) Aryastas

Explanation

Vienna papyrus, a Greek document datable to the second century AD (CE), mentions Muciri's trade of olden days. It is in the Papyrus Museum attached to the Austrian National Library, Vienna

(Austria). It contains a written agreement between traders and mentions the name of a ship, Hermapollon, and lists articles of export such as pepper and ivory that were shipped from India to the Roman Empire. Papyrus, a paper produced out of the papyrus plant used extensively for writing purposes in ancient Egypt.

31. Which of the following statement is correct?

- 1) The Sangam Age or the Early Historic period is an important phase in the history of South India
- 2) This period is marked out from prehistory, because of the availability of textual sources, namely Sangam literature and Tamil Brahmi inscriptions.
 - a) 1 alone
 - b) 2 alone
 - c) 1, 2
 - d) None

Explanation

The Sangam Age or the Early Historic period is an important phase in the history of South India. This period is marked out from prehistory, because of the availability of textual sources, namely Sangam literature and Tamil Brahmi inscriptions. Sangam text is a vast corpus of literature that serves as an important source for the study of the people and society of the relevant period.

32. The Sangam texts are generally dated to between_____

- a) 3rd century BC to 1st century AD
- b) **3rd century BC to 3rd century AD**
- c) 2nd century BC to 2nd century AD
- d) 3rd century BC to 1st century BC

Explanation

There is considerable debate among scholars about the age and chronology of Sangam society. The Sangam texts are generally dated to between third century BC (BC (BCE)) and the third century AD (CE).

33. The references in Greco-Roman texts, Tamil-Brahmi inscriptions and the references to the Cheras, Cholas and the Pandyas in the_____ inscription

- a) **Ashokan**
- b) Kalashoka
- c) Karikalan
- d) Chandra Gupta

Explanation

The references in Greco-Roman texts, Tamil-Brahmi inscriptions and the references to the Cheras, Cholas and the Pandyas in the Ashokan inscription corroborate this date. It is generally agreed that the Sangam poems were composed in the early part of the historical period, but were compiled into anthologies in the later period.

34. _____ script used in Ashokan edicts or inscriptions.

- a) Prakrit
- b) Pali
- c) Sanskrit
- d) **Brahmi**

Explanation

Ashokan Brahmi - the Brahmi script used in Ashokan edicts or inscriptions. The references in Greco-Roman texts, Tamil-Brahmi inscriptions and the references to the Cheras, Cholas and the Pandyas in the Ashokan inscription corroborate this date.

35. The concept of Thinaï is presented in _____

- a) Thirukural
- b) Puranannur
- c) Akannanur
- d) **Tholkappiyam**

Explanation

The concept of Thinaï is presented in the Tamil Grammar work of Tholkappiyam and this concept is essential to understand the classical Tamil poems. Thinaï is a poetic theme, which means a class or category and refers to a habitat or eco-zone with specific physiographical characteristics. Sangam poems are set in these specific eco-zones and reveal that human life has deep relationships with nature.

36. Which of the following are incorrectly matched?

- 1) Akam - interior
- 2) Puram - exterior
- a) 1 alone
- b) 2 alone
- c) 1, 2
- d) **None**

Explanation

The themes of the poems are broadly defined as akam (interior) and puram (exterior). Akathinai refers to various situations of love and family life, while Purathinai is concerned with all others aspects of life and deals particularly with war and heroism.

37. Which of the following statement is correct?

- 1) Tamilagam was divided into five landscapes
- 2) Each region had distinct characteristics – a presiding deity, occupation, people and cultural life according to its specific environmental conditions.
 - a) 1 alone
 - b) 2 alone
 - c) 1, 2
 - d) None

Explanation

Tamilagam was divided into five landscapes. Each region had distinct characteristics – a presiding deity, occupation, people and cultural life according to its specific environmental conditions. This classification has been interpreted by scholars to reflect real life situations in these landscapes.

38. Match the following correctly

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1) Kurunji | i. coastal region |
| 2) Mullai | ii. hilly and mountainous region |
| 3) Neythal | iii. forested and pastoral region |
| 4) Marutham | iv. fertile riverine valley |
- a) ii, iii, i, iv
 - b) iii, iv, ii, i
 - c) ii, i, iii, iv
 - d) iv, iii, ii, i

Explanation

Kurunji refers to the hilly and mountainous region. Mullai is forested and pastoral region. Marutham is the fertile riverine valley. Neythal is coastal region. Paalai is sandy desert region.

39. In _____ Age people were organised into chiefdoms

- a) stone
- b) copper
- c) bronze
- d) Iron

Explanation

The Sangam Age has its roots in the Iron Age. In the Iron Age people were organised into chiefdoms. From such communities of Iron Age emerged the Vendhars of the early historic period and the Velirs of the Sangam Age were chieftains.

40. Who among the following were called as Muvendhar?

- 1) Chera
 - 2) Chola
 - 3) Pallava
 - 4) Pandya
- a) 1, 2, 4
 - b) 1, 2, 3, 4
 - c) 2, 3, 4
 - d) 1, 3, 4

Explanation

Among the political powers of the Sangam Age, the Cheras, the Cholas and the Pandyas occupied pre-eminent positions. They were known as Muvendhar (the three kings). The muvendhar controlled the major towns and ports of the Sangam period.

41. Which of the following statement is correct?

- 1) The Cheras, referred to as Keralaputras in the Ashokan inscriptions, controlled the region of present-day Kerala and also the western parts of Tamil Nadu
 - 2) Vanci was the capital of the Cheras while Muciri and Thondi were their port towns.
- a) 1 alone
 - b) 2 alone
 - c) 1, 2
 - d) None

Explanation

The Cheras, referred to as Keralaputras in the Ashokan inscriptions, controlled the region of present-day Kerala and also the western parts of Tamil Nadu. Vanci was the capital of the Cheras while Muciri and Thondi were their port towns.

42. _____ speaks about the Chera kings and their territory

- a) Manimekalai
- b) Thirukural
- c) Pathirruppathu
- d) All the above

Explanation

Vanci is identified with Karur in Tamil Nadu while some others identify it with Thiruvanchaikalam in Kerala. Pathirruppathu speaks about the Chera kings and their territory.

43. The Cheras wore garlands made from the flowers of_____

- a) Neem
- b) **Palm**
- c) Mango
- d) All the above

Explanation

The Cheras wore garlands made from the flowers of the palm tree. The inscriptions of Pugalur near Karur mention the Chera kings of three generations. Coins of Chera kings have been found in Karur.

44. According to Silappathikaram, who built a temple for Kannagi?

- a) Needunchezhiyan
- b) **Cheran Senguttuvan**
- c) Nedumaran
- d) Raja Raja Cholan

Explanation

The Silappathikaram speaks about Cheran Senguttuvan, who built a temple for Kannagi, the protagonist of the epic. The bow and arrow was the symbol of the Cheras. Legend has it that Ilango who composed the Silappathikaram, was the brother of Cheran Senguttuvan.

45. The Cholas capital was_____

- a) **Uraiyur**
- b) Kaveripoompattinam
- c) Pumpuhar
- d) Thondi

Explanation

The Cholas ruled over the Kaveri delta and northern parts of Tamil Nadu. Their capital was Uraiyur and their port town was Kaveripoompattinam or Pumpuhar, where the river Kaveri drains into the Bay of Bengal.

46. Pattinappaalai is composed by_____

- a) Tholkappiyar
- b) Thiruvalluvar
- c) **Kadiyalur Uruthirankannanar**
- d) Ilangovadigal

Explanation

Pattinappaalai is a long poem about Kaveripoompattinam composed by the poet Kadiyalur Uruthirankannanar. Silappathikaram describes the trading activities at Kaveripoompattinam. Karikalan is notable among the Chola kings and is credited with bringing forestlands under the plough and developing irrigation facilities by effectively utilising the water from the river Kaveri.

47. The Chola emblem was_____

- a) Lion
- b) Tiger**
- c) Snake
- d) Fish

Explanation

The Chola emblem was tiger and they issued square copper coins with images of a tiger on the obverse, elephant and the sacred symbols on the reverse.

48. _____ Tamil-Brahmi inscription mentions the king Nedunchezhiyan.

- a) Keezhadi
- b) Arikamedu
- c) Kodumanal
- d) Mangulam**

Explanation

The Pandyas who ruled the southern part of Tamil Nadu are referred in the Ashokan inscriptions. Madurai was the Pandya's capital. Tamil literary tradition credits Pandyan rulers with patronizing Tamil Sangams (academies) and supporting the compilations of poems. The Mangulam Tamil-Brahmi inscription mentions the king Nedunchezhiyan.

49. The Pandyan symbol was_____

- a) Tiger
- b) Lion
- c) Fish**
- d) Snake

Explanation

Nediyon, Mudathirumaran, Palayagasalai Mudukudumipperuvazhuti were some of the important rulers of the Pandya dynasty. The Pandyan symbol was the fish.

50. Who among the following are velirs?

- 1) Ori
- 2) Pari
- 3) Athiyaman
 - a) 1, 3
 - b) 2, 3
 - c) 1, 2, 3
 - d) 1, 2

Explanation

Apart from the Vendhars, there were Velirs and numerous chieftains who occupied territories on the margins of the muvendhar. The velirs were the seven chiefs Pari, Kari, Ori, Nalli, Pegan, Ai and Athiyaman. Sangam poems write extensively about the generosity of these velirs.

51. Priests during sangam age were called as_____

- a) Panar
- b) **Antanars**
- c) Maravar
- d) Maravar

Explanation

Social stratification had begun to take root in Tamil society by the Sangam times. There were several clan-based communities including groups such as Panar, Paratavar, Eyinar, Uzhavar, Kanavar, Vettuvar and Maravar. The Vendhars, chiefs, and their associates formed the higher social groups. There were priests who were known as Antanars.

52. Women are frequently referred to in Tamil texts as_____

- a) Mothers
- b) Heroines
- c) foster-mothers
- d) **all the above**

Explanation

Women are frequently referred to in Tamil texts as mothers, heroines, and foster-mothers. friendly Women from Panar families, dancers, poets, and royal women were all portrayed in Sangam literature. There are references to women from all five eco-zones. For example, Vennikkuyathiyar is identified as a poetess from the village of Venni

53. Match the following correctly

- | | |
|-----------|-------------------|
| 1) sennel | i. a type of rice |
| 2) vennel | ii. red rice |

- 3) aivananel iii. white rice
a) iii, ii, i
b) ii, iii, i
c) iii, i, ii
d) ii, i, iii

Explanation

In the riverine and tank-irrigated areas, paddy was cultivated. Millets were cultivated in dry lands. Varieties of rice such as sennel (red rice), vennel (white rice), and aivananel (a type of rice) are mentioned in the literature.

54. Rice grains were found in burial urns at excavations in_____

- a) Adichanallur
b) Kodumanal
c) Porunthal
d) Both a and c

Explanation

Rice grains were found in burial urns at excavations in Adichanallur and Porunthal. People in the forest adopted punam or shifting cultivation. Pastoralism – nomadic people earning livelihood by rearing cattle, sheep, and goat.

55. Evidence of iron smelting has been found in_____

- 1) Kodumanal
2) Guttur
3) Adichanallur
a) 2, 3
b) 1, 2
c) 1, 2, 3
d) 1, 3

Explanation

Iron manufacturing was an important artisanal activity. Iron smelting was undertaken in traditional furnaces and such furnaces, with terracotta pipes and raw ore have been found in many archaeological sites. For instance evidence of iron smelting has been found in Kodumanal and Guttur. Sangam literature speaks of blacksmiths, and their tools and activities. Iron implements were required for agriculture and warfare (swords, daggers, and spears).

56. Evidence of gold smelting has been found at_____

- a) Pallavaram

- b) Guttur
- c) Palayam
- d) **Pattanam**

Explanation

Gold ornaments were well known in this period. Gold coins from Roman was used to make jewellery. Evidence of gold smelting has been found at Pattanam in Kerala. Gold ornaments have been unearthed at the megalithic sites of Suttukeni, Adichanallur and Kodumanal, and towns of Arikkamedu, Keezhadi and Pattanam in Kerala.

57. Which of the following statement is correct?

- 1) The presence of glass beads at the sites reveals that people of the Sangam Age knew how to make glass beads
 - 2) Arikkamedu and Kudikkadu, near Cuddalore show evidence of glass beads industry.
- a) 1 alone
 - b) 2 alone
 - c) **1, 2**
 - d) None

Explanation

The presence of glass beads at the sites reveals that people of the Sangam Age knew how to make glass beads. Glass material (silica) was melted in a furnace and drawn into long tubes which were then cut into small beads. Glass beads came in various shapes and colour. Arikkamedu and Kudikkadu, near Cuddalore show evidence of glass beads industry. It is possible that people who could not afford precious stones used glass beads instead.

58. _____ is famous for pearl fishery.

- a) Kaveripompattinam
- b) Puhar
- c) **Pamban coast**
- d) Vanchii

Explanation

The Pamban coast is famous for pearl fishery. A pearl has been discovered in recently excavated Keezhadi site. Shell bangles were very common in the Sangam Age. The Parathavars collected conch shells from the Pamban Island, which were cut and crafted into bangles by artisans. Whole shells as well as fragments of bangles have been found at many sites. Sangam literature describes women wearing shell bangles.

59. Which of the following statement is correct?

- 1) The terms vanikan and nigama (guild) appear in Tamil-Brahmi inscriptions
- 2) Salt merchants were called Umanars and they travelled in bullock carts along with their family.
 - a) 1 alone
 - b) 2 alone
 - c) 1, 2
 - d) None

Explanation

The terms vanikan and nigama (guild) appear in Tamil-Brahmi inscriptions. There were different types of merchants: gold merchants, cloth merchants, and salt merchants. Salt merchants were called Umanars and they travelled in bullock carts along with their family.

60. Which of the following is/are water crafts and sea-going vessels mentioned in Tamil literature?

- a) Odam
- b) Pahri
- c) Navai
- d) All the above

Explanation

Bullock carts and animals were used to transport goods by land. Trade routes linked the various towns of Tamilagam. Various types of water crafts and sea-going vessels such as Kalam, Pahri, Odam, Toni, Teppam, and Navai are also mentioned in Tamil literature.

61. Which of the following statement is correct?

- 1) Barter was the primary mode of exchange
- 2) The extensive availability of coin hoards of the Sangam Age of the Cheras, Cholas, Pandyas, and Malayaman indicates that they were used widely
 - a) 1 alone
 - b) 2 alone
 - c) 1, 2
 - d) None

Explanation

Barter was the primary mode of exchange. For instance, rice was exchanged for fish. Salt was precious and a handful of it would fetch an equal amount of rice. The extensive availability of coin hoards of the Sangam Age of the Cheras, Cholas, Pandyas, and Malayaman indicates that they were used widely.

62. Which of the following were exported from Tamil country?

- 1) Pepper
 - 2) Ivory
 - 3) Precious stones
- a) 2, 3
 - b) 1, 3
 - c) 1, 2, 3
 - d) 1, 2

Explanation

Tamil country had connections with countries overseas both in the east and west. Roman ships used monsoon winds to cross the Western Sea or the Arabian Sea to connect Tamilagam with the Western world. Spices including pepper, ivory, and precious stones were exported. Metal including gold, silver and copper and precious stones were imported.

63. Which of the following statement is correct?

- 1) A stone with the name "Perumpatankal" has been found at Khuan Luk Pat, Th ailand.
 - 2) Southeast Asia was known as Suvana Bhumi in Tamil literature
- a) 1 alone
 - b) 2 alone
 - c) 1, 2
 - d) None

Explanation

A stone with the name "Perumpatankal" has been found at Khuan Luk Pat, Th ailand. Southeast Asia was known as Suvana Bhumi in Tamil literature. Th is stone was used by a person called Perumpattan, probably a goldsmith. It was a touchstone used to test the purity of gold.

64. Which of the following statement is correct?

- 1) The Sangam Age saw the first urbanization in Tamilagam.
 - 2) Arikamedu, Kaveripoompattinam, Azhagankulam and Korkai on the east coast and Pattanam in Kerala were port centres.
- a) 1 alone
 - b) 2 alone
 - c) 1, 2
 - d) None

Explanation

The Sangam Age saw the first urbanization in Tamilagam. Cities developed and they had brick buildings, roof tiles, ring wells and planned towns, streets, and store houses. Arikamedu,

Kaveripoompattinam, Azhagankulam and Korkai on the east coast and Pattanam in Kerala were port centres.

65. Which of the following were inland trade centres?

- 1) Uraiyyur
 - 2) Kanchipuram
 - 3) Karur
 - 4) Kodumanal
- a) 1, 2, 3
 - b) 2, 3, 4
 - c) 1, 3, 4
 - d) 1, 2, 3, 4

Explanation

Kanchipuram, Uraiyyur, Karur, Madurai and Kodumanal were inland trade centres. Many goods and commodities were produced in these centres and were exported to various regions.

66. In which district Kodumanal is located?

- a) Erode
- b) Karur
- c) Madurai
- d) Vellore

Explanation

Kodumanal is located near Erode in Tamil Nadu and is identified with the Kodumanam of Pathitrapattu. Evidence of iron, stone bead and shell work, as well as megalithic burials have been discovered at this site. More than 300 pottery inscriptions in Tamil-Brahmi have also been found.

67. Which of the following statement is incorrect?

- 1) Keezhadi is located near Silaimaan east of Madurai, on the highway to Rameswaram.
 - 2) In Keezhadi a large coconut garden, called Pallichandai Tidal, the Archaeological Survey of India excavated an ancient town dating to the Sangam Age.
- a) 1 alone
 - b) 2 alone
 - c) 1, 2
 - d) None

Explanation

Keezhadi is located near Silaimaan east of Madurai, on the highway to Rameswaram. In a large coconut garden, called Pallichandai Tidal, the Archaeological Survey of India excavated an ancient

town dating to the Sangam Age. Archaeological excavations have produced evidence for brick buildings, drainage, Tamil-Brahmi inscription on pottery, beads of glass, carnelian and quartz, pearl, iron objects, games pieces, and antimony rods. Further excavation may shed light on the nature of the craft production and the cultural activities undertaken at this settlement.

68. Match the following

- | | |
|------------|---------------|
| 1) Kurunji | i. Murugan |
| 2) Mullai | ii. Varunan |
| 3) Neythal | iii. Thirumal |
- a) iii, ii, i
b) i, iii, ii
c) ii, iii, i
d) ii, i, iii

Explanation

Tholkappiyam lists the presiding deities of Kurunji, Mullai, Marutham, Neythal and Paalai landscapes, as Murugan, Thirumal, Indiran, Varunan and Kotravai, respectively.

69. Which of the following statement is correct?

- 1) Performances of ritual dances called Veriyatal are referred to in the literature
 - 2) People took care of their appearance and evidence of antimony rods (kohl sticks) made of copper has been found in archaeological sites
- a) 1 alone
b) 2 alone
c) 1, 2
d) None

Explanation

Various art forms too existed in the Sangam Age. Performances of ritual dances called Veriyatal are referred to in the literature. Composition of poems, playing of music instruments and dances were also known. The literature mentions the fine variety of cuisine of the Sangam Age. People took care of their appearance and evidence of antimony rods (kohl sticks) made of copper has been found in archaeological sites. They were used by women for decorating their eyebrows.