

QUICK DRILL · CBSE CLASS 12

Through the Eyes of Travellers: Perceptions of Society (c. 10th to 17th century)

History · Chapter 5 · 15 MCQs · 20 minutes · PYQ-tagged with time budgets

DATE	TOTAL MARKS 15	DURATION 20 min	MARKING +1 / 0	TARGET ≥ 12/15
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OBJECTIVES

Reinforce the four core topics of Through the Eyes of Travellers: Perceptions of Society (c. 10th to 17th century) via 15 PYQ-derived MCQs. Identify weak sub-topics via concept-node IDs (see answer key). Build per-question time budget habit.

INSTRUCTIONS

Attempt all 15. Time budget shown per Q (use it as pacing guide). Mark answers (A/B/C/D) in the margin. Answer key + explanations on the last page. **Don't peek — score yourself honestly.**

SECTION · QUICK DRILL

Q 1-15 · 20 MIN

Q1. Al-Biruni came to India with which ruler?

- (A) Muhammad of Ghor
(C) Babur

PYQ 2018 · Delhi · 1m · 30s

- (B) Mahmud of Ghazni
(D) Timur

Q2. Kitab-ul-Hind was written in which language?

- (A) Persian
(C) Arabic

PYQ 2019 · Outside Delhi · 1m · 30s

- (B) Sanskrit
(D) Khwarizmian

Q3. Kitab-ul-Hind is organised into how many chapters?

- (A) 40
(C) 80

PYQ 2020 · Delhi · 1m · 30s

- (B) 60
(D) 100

Q4. Which was NOT a barrier Al-Biruni identified?

- (A) Language
(C) Isolation

PYQ 2021 · Outside Delhi · 1m · 30s

- (B) Religion
(D) Geography

Q5. Ibn Battuta reached Delhi in which year and served which Sultan?

- (A) 1206, Iltutmish
(C) 1333, Muhammad bin Tughlaq

PYQ 2018 · Outside Delhi · 1m · 30s

- (B) 1296, Alauddin Khalji
(D) 1398, Firoz Tughlaq

Q6. The Rihla was dictated to which scribe?

- (A) Al-Idrisi
(C) Ibn Khaldun

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- (B) Ibn Juzayy
(D) Ziauddin Barani

Q7. ULUQ in Ibn Battuta's account refers to:

- (A) Foot-runner post with bells
(C) A tax on travellers

PYQ 2019 · Delhi · 1m · 30s

- (B) Horse-post stations every 4 miles
(D) A type of coin

Q8. The DAWA postal system used:

- (A) Horses every 4 miles
(C) Boats along Yamuna

PYQ 2023 · Delhi · 1m · 30s

- (B) Runners with bells every 1/3 mile
(D) Camels across Thar

Q9. Bernier's profession in France was:

- (A) Soldier
(C) Physician

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- (B) Jesuit priest
(D) Diamond merchant

Q10. Travels in the Mogul Empire was dedicated to:

- (A) The Pope
(C) Aurangzeb

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- (B) King Louis XIV
(D) Cardinal Richelieu

Q11. Bernier's central critique of Mughal India was:

- (A) No army
(C) No cities

PYQ 2022 · Delhi · 1 m · 30s

- (B) No private ownership of land
(D) No trade

Q12. Historians criticise Bernier's 'no private property' claim because:

- (A) Mughal Empire had no land

- (C) Bernier never visited India

PYQ 2024 · Delhi · 1 m · 30s

- (B) Zamindari, milk grants and customary rights existed

- (D) Land was owned only by Hindus

Q13. Bernier's image of 'oriental despotism' influenced which thinkers?

- (A) Voltaire and Rousseau
(C) Hobbes and Locke

PYQ 2023 · Outside Delhi · 1 m · 30s

- (B) Montesquieu and Marx
(D) Smith and Hume

Q14. Which traveller recorded a sati near Lahore?

- (A) Al-Biruni
(C) Bernier

PYQ 2021 · Delhi · 1 m · 30s

- (B) Ibn Battuta
(D) Marco Polo

Q15. Travellers' accounts are most useful when read:

- (A) Alone, as outsiders are objective

- (C) Only for political history

PYQ 2020 · Delhi · 1 m · 30s

- (B) Alongside indigenous chronicles, inscriptions and revenue records

- (D) Only for religious history

ANSWER KEY & EXPLANATIONS

Q 1-15 · MARK YOUR SCORE

Q1. Answer: B

Mahmud of Ghazni conquered Khwarizm and took Al-Biruni as hostage-scholar; Al-Biruni then accompanied his Punjab campaigns.

Q2. Answer: C

Al-Biruni wrote in ARABIC — the scientific lingua franca of 11th-c. Muslim world.

Q3. Answer: C

EIGHTY chapters, each on one theme.

Q4. Answer: D

Three barriers: LANGUAGE, RELIGION, ISOLATION. Geography is not one.

Q5. Answer: C

1333 — appointed QAZI of Delhi by Muhammad bin Tughlaq.

Q6. Answer: B

IBN JUZAYY, a Marinid court scribe in Morocco, c. 1354.

Q7. Answer: B

ULUQ was the HORSE POST — stations every 4 miles, fast couriers from Khurasan to Delhi.

Q8. Answer: B

DAWA was the FOOT POST — runners with copper bells every one-third mile, relay style.

Q9. Answer: C

PHYSICIAN trained at Montpellier; came to India 1656 with Dara Shukoh.

Q10. Answer: B

Dedicated to LOUIS XIV — a political-economic argument for the French court.

Q11. Answer: B

'No meum and tuum' — no private ownership of soil; jagirs were assignments, not property.

Q12. Answer: B

Layered tenure — khalisa, jagir, hereditary ZAMINDARI, MILK/INAM (private), peasant customary occupancy.

Q13. Answer: B

Montesquieu (1748) developed 'oriental despotism'; Marx (1853) the 'Asiatic mode of production'.

Q14. Answer: C

BERNIER — noted some appeared voluntary, others under social pressure.

Q15. Answer: B

Each had a frame and audience. Used critically alongside indigenous sources, they are indispensable; alone, they distort.