

TOP MOST IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

- 1** Define a Knowledge System. What is Indian Knowledge System (IKS)?
 - 2** Explain the Characteristic Features of Indian Knowledge System.
 - 3** Why is it necessary to study Indian Knowledge Systems?
 - 4** Explain the English Education Act, 1835 and its impact on Indian education.
 - 5** Explain the Scope of Indian Knowledge System (Micro to Macro).
 - 6** Describe the Ancient Indian Education System.
(Gurukul, Pathashala, Universities – 15 marks)
 - 7** Compare the Gurukul system with modern education.
 - 8** Explain the Water Management System at Kanheri Caves.
 - 9** How did Ambarnath Temple function as a cultural and educational centre?
 - 10** Explain Ayurveda as a holistic science.
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- 1 1** Explain the Panchamahabhuta and Tridosha theory.
 - 1 2** Write a note on Charaka, Sushruta and Vagbhata.
 - 1 3** Explain methods of diagnosis and treatment in Ayurveda.
 - 1 4** What is Rasashastra (Indian Alchemy)? Explain its objectives.

Q1. Define a Knowledge System. What is Indian Knowledge System (IKS)?

Introduction

A **Knowledge System** refers to a structured and organized body of knowledge developed by a civilization over a long period of time. It includes methods of creating, preserving, transmitting, and applying knowledge in society.

Knowledge System

A knowledge system involves:

- Systematic organization of knowledge
- Transmission through education, institutions, and traditions
- Integration of theory and practical application

Indian Knowledge System (IKS)

The **Indian Knowledge System (IKS)** refers to the body of knowledge that originated and evolved in ancient India (Bharatvarsha). It includes disciplines such as **philosophy, science, mathematics, medicine, education, architecture, arts, and spirituality**.

IKS is characterized by:

- A **holistic worldview**
- Integration of **ethical values**
- Harmony between **individual, society, and nature**

Conclusion

Thus, Indian Knowledge System is an integrated, ethical, and sustainable knowledge tradition that remains relevant even in the contemporary world.

Q2. Explain the Characteristic Features of Indian Knowledge System

Introduction

Indian Knowledge System has certain unique characteristics that distinguish it from other knowledge traditions.

Characteristic Features

1. **Holistic Nature**
IKS views life as an integrated whole, connecting body, mind, soul, and environment.
2. **Ethical Foundation**
Knowledge is closely linked with values such as truth, compassion, duty, and responsibility.
3. **Interdisciplinary Approach**
There is no rigid separation between science, philosophy, art, and spirituality.
4. **Experiential Learning**
Learning is based on observation, experience, and practice rather than rote memorization.
5. **Sustainability-Oriented**
IKS promotes harmony with nature and responsible use of natural resources.

Conclusion

These features make IKS a balanced, inclusive, and value-based system of knowledge.

Q3. Why is it Necessary to Study Indian Knowledge Systems?

Introduction

Colonial education systems marginalized indigenous Indian knowledge, making it necessary to revisit and study IKS today.

Reasons

1. **Reconnecting with Cultural Heritage**
IKS helps students understand India's intellectual and cultural traditions.
2. **Sustainable Development**
Traditional knowledge offers eco-friendly and sustainable solutions.

3. **Ethical and Value-Based Education**

IKS promotes moral responsibility and social ethics.

4. **Decolonization of Knowledge**

It challenges Western-dominated knowledge narratives.

5. **Contemporary Relevance**

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 emphasizes integrating IKS into modern education.

Conclusion

Studying IKS helps build an inclusive, ethical, and culturally rooted education system.

Q4. Explain the English Education Act, 1835 and Its Impact

Introduction

The English Education Act of 1835 was introduced during British rule in India to reform the education system.

Objectives

- Promotion of English language education
- Emphasis on Western knowledge
- Reduced support for traditional Indian education systems

Impact

Positive Impact:

- Introduction of modern education
- Development of administrative and scientific skills

Negative Impact:

- Decline of Gurukul and Pathashala systems
- Neglect of Sanskrit and Indian languages
- Cultural alienation from indigenous traditions

Conclusion

While the Act modernized education, it significantly weakened Indian Knowledge Systems.

Q5. Explain the Scope of Indian Knowledge System (Micro to Macro)

Micro Level

- Individual health and well-being (Ayurveda, Yoga)
- Ethical living and self-discipline

Meso Level

- Family, society, and community life
- Education, governance, and social harmony

Macro Level

- Environmental sustainability
- Global harmony and universal brotherhood (*Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*)

Conclusion

The scope of IKS extends from individual life to global well-being.

Q6. Describe the Ancient Indian Education System

Gurukul System

- Residential education under the guidance of a Guru
- Emphasis on discipline, values, and character development

Pathashala System

- Village-level institutions
- Teaching basic literacy, arithmetic, and moral education

Ancient Universities

- Nalanda, Takshashila, Vikramshila
- Attracted international students
- Multidisciplinary learning

Conclusion

Ancient Indian education focused on holistic personality development.

Q7. Compare the Gurukul System with Modern Education

Gurukul System

- Value-based and holistic
- Close teacher–student relationship
- Emphasis on moral and practical training

Modern Education

- Career and examination oriented
- Institutional and technology-driven
- Competitive environment

Conclusion

Both systems have strengths; integrating values of Gurukul with modern education is beneficial.

Q8. Explain the Water Management System at Kanheri Caves

Introduction

The Kanheri Caves demonstrate applied Indian Knowledge System through advanced water management.

Features

- Rainwater harvesting using natural topography
- Rock-cut cisterns, tanks, and channels
- Filtration systems and overflow mechanisms
- Sustainable and eco-friendly design

Conclusion

The Kanheri water system reflects environmental ethics and engineering knowledge of IKS.

Q9. How Did the Ambarnath Temple Function as a Cultural and Educational Centre?

Introduction

Ambarnath Temple functioned as more than a religious site.

Role

- Attached Pathashalas for education
- Preservation of manuscripts
- Community-based management
- Integration of architecture, art, ethics, and culture

Conclusion

The temple served as a living center of cultural and educational life rooted in IKS.

Q10. Explain Ayurveda as a Holistic Science

Introduction

Ayurveda is a comprehensive science of life.

Key Aspects

- Balance of body, mind, senses, and soul
- Preventive and promotive healthcare
- Lifestyle regulation through Dinacharya and Ritucharya

Conclusion

Ayurveda offers a holistic and sustainable approach to health.

Q11. Explain the Panchamahabhuta and Tridosha Theory

Panchamahabhuta

- Earth (Prithvi)
- Water (Apas)

- Fire (Tejas)
- Air (Vayu)
- Space (Akasha)

Tridosha

- **Vata** – movement and nervous functions
- **Pitta** – digestion and metabolism
- **Kapha** – structure and stability

Conclusion

Health depends on the balance of Panchamahabhutas and Tridoshas.

Q12. Write a Note on Charaka, Sushruta, and Vagbhata

- **Charaka**: Authority on internal medicine; Charaka Samhita
- **Sushruta**: Pioneer of surgery; Sushruta Samhita
- **Vagbhata**: Systematic compilation of Ayurvedic knowledge

Conclusion

They are the foundational pillars of Ayurvedic science.

Q13. Explain the Methods of Diagnosis and Treatment in Ayurveda

Diagnosis

- Examination of pulse, tongue, eyes, skin, and lifestyle
- Assessment of prakriti and dosha imbalance

Treatment

- Herbal medicines
- Panchakarma therapies
- Diet, behavior, and lifestyle correction

Conclusion

Ayurveda focuses on treating the root cause of disease.

Q14. What is Rasashastra (Indian Alchemy)? Explain Its Objectives

Introduction

Rasashastra is the branch of Indian alchemy integrated with Ayurveda, Yoga, and Tantra.

Objectives

- Preparation of mineral and metallic medicines
- Rejuvenation (Rasayana therapy)
- Treatment of chronic diseases
- Physical and spiritual transformation

Conclusion

Rasashastra bridges material science and spiritual discipline within IKS.
