Daily subject quiz – Art & Culture (22-11-2026)

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Questions

1. The Sattriya dance, given classical status by the Sangeet Natak Akademi in 2000, was introduced in the 15th–16th centuries by:

A. Srimanta Sankardev
B. Chaitanya Mahaprabhu
C. Jayadeva
D. Vallathol Narayana Menon

2. Match the classical dance (List I) with the State of its origin (List II):
(a) Kathakali – 1. Andhra Pradesh
(b) Kuchipudi – 2. Manipur
(c) Odissi – 3. Keralam
(d) Manipuri – 4. Odisha
Codes: (a) (b) (c) (d)

A. 3 1 4 2
B. 3 4 1 2
C. 1 3 4 2
D. 3 1 2 4

3. Consider the following statements about Indian temple architecture:
1. The Nagara style, common in north India, has a curvilinear shikhara over the sanctum.
2. In the Dravida style the tower over the sanctum is called the vimana, and large gateway towers (gopurams) became prominent in later temples.
3. The Vesara style, found in the Deccan, combines features of the Nagara and Dravida styles.
Which of the above are correct?

A. 1 and 2 only
B. 2 and 3 only
C. 1 and 3 only
D. 1, 2 and 3

4. Consider the following statements about the Sun Temple at Konark:
1. It was built in the 13th century by King Narasimhadeva I of the Eastern Ganga dynasty.
2. It is designed as a huge chariot of the Sun god with carved wheels.
3. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
Which of the above are correct?

A. 1 and 2 only
B. 2 and 3 only
C. 1 and 3 only
D. 1, 2 and 3

5. The 'Trinity' of Carnatic music – Tyagaraja, Muthuswami Dikshitar and Syama Sastri – were all born in which town of Tamil Nadu?

A. Thiruvaiyaru
B. Tiruvarur
C. Kumbakonam
D. Thanjavur

6. Match the painting tradition (List I) with its State (List II):
(a) Madhubani – 1. Odisha
(b) Warli – 2. Andhra Pradesh
(c) Pattachitra – 3. Bihar
(d) Kalamkari (Srikalahasti) – 4. Maharashtra
Codes: (a) (b) (c) (d)

A. 3 4 2 1
B. 4 3 1 2
C. 3 4 1 2
D. 3 1 4 2

7. Assertion (A): The Ellora caves are seen as a symbol of religious harmony in ancient India.
Reason (R): Ellora has Buddhist, Hindu and Jain rock-cut caves side by side.

A. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A
B. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A
C. A is true, but R is false
D. A is false, but R is true

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8. Consider the following statements about Thanjavur (Tanjore) painting:
1. It uses gold foil and inlaid stones or glass pieces to decorate the figures.
2. It flourished under the patronage of the Maratha rulers of Thanjavur.
3. It has a Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
Which of the above are correct?

A. 1 and 2 only
B. 2 and 3 only
C. 1 and 3 only
D. 1, 2 and 3

9. Consider the following elements from India on UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity:
1. Kutiyattam, the Sanskrit theatre of Keralam
2. Durga Puja in Kolkata
3. Garba of Gujarat
Which of the above are on the list?

A. 1 and 2 only
B. 2 and 3 only
C. 1 and 3 only
D. 1, 2 and 3

10. Assertion (A): Chola bronze icons such as the Nataraja were made by the lost-wax (cire perdue) process.
Reason (R): In this process a wax model is coated with clay, the wax is melted out, and molten metal is poured into the hollow mould.

A. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A
B. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A
C. A is true, but R is false
D. A is false, but R is true

Answers with explanations

1. **A) Srimanta Sankardev** – Srimanta Sankardev, the Vaishnava saint of Assam, created Sattriya as part of his neo-Vaishnavite movement; it was preserved in the sattras (monasteries). Vallathol founded the Kerala Kalamandalam (1930) for Kathakali; Jayadeva wrote the Gita Govinda.

2. **A) 3 1 4 2** – Kathakali – Keralam (dance-drama with elaborate make-up); Kuchipudi – Andhra Pradesh (named after a village in Krishna district); Odissi – Odisha (temple tradition, tribhanga posture); Manipuri – Manipur (Ras Lila themes).

3. **D) 1, 2 and 3** – All three are correct. Nagara – curvilinear shikhara (Khajuraho, Konark); Dravida – vimana and, from the later Chola–Pandya–Vijayanagara periods, towering gopurams (Madurai); Vesara – the hybrid Deccan style of the later Chalukyas and Hoysalas.

4. **D) 1, 2 and 3** – All three are correct. The temple in Odisha is conceived as the Sun's chariot with 24 carved wheels drawn by horses; it is a classic of the Kalinga (Nagara) style and was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1984. The Konark wheel appears on the ₹10 note.

5. **B) Tiruvarur** – All three were born in Tiruvarur in the 18th century. Tyagaraja later lived at Thiruvaiyaru, where the Tyagaraja Aradhana is held every year on the banks of the Kaveri – a common trap option.

6. **C) 3 4 1 2** – Madhubani (Mithila) – Bihar; Warli – tribal art of the Sahyadri region of Maharashtra, using white figures on a mud base; Pattachitra – cloth scroll painting of Odisha; Kalamkari – pen-drawn, naturally dyed cloth of Srikalahasti, Andhra Pradesh.

7. **A) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A** – Both are true and R explains A. Ellora (Maharashtra) has 34 caves – Buddhist, Hindu (including the monolithic Kailasa temple) and Jain – carved between about the 6th and 10th centuries; it became a World Heritage Site in 1983.

8. **D) 1, 2 and 3** – All three are correct. Thanjavur paintings – usually of Hindu deities on wooden panels, with gesso relief, gold foil and gem inlay – grew under the Thanjavur Marathas (17th–19th centuries). 'Thanjavur Paintings' is a registered GI of Tamil Nadu.

9. **D) 1, 2 and 3** – All three. Kutiyattam was among India's earliest entries (2008, with Vedic chanting and Ramlila); Durga Puja in Kolkata was inscribed in 2021 and Garba of Gujarat in 2023. The list is kept under UNESCO's 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.

10. **A) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A** – Both are true and R explains A: because the wax model is lost in the process, each icon is unique. The tradition continues at Swamimalai near Kumbakonam, whose 'Swamimalai bronze icons' have a GI tag.

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