

TAMIL NADU HISTORY — ORIGINS, PREHISTORY & ARCHAEOLOGY

Practice Workbook

Table 1 : Identify the right statements regarding the literary attestation of “Tamil Nadu.”

- a) Purananuru, a Sangam work, refers to the land as “Tamilagam.”
- b) Silappadikaram was authored by Ilango Adigal.
- c) Sekkizhar's Periya Puranam uses the phrase “Natramizh Nadu.”
- d) Bharathiyar's “Sentamizh Nadu” is the earliest literary attestation of the name.

Table 2 : Fill in the author / era of each work attesting the land's name.

Work	Author / Era
Purananuru	
Silappadikaram	
Manimekalai	
Periya Puranam	
Kamba Ramayanam	
“Sentamizh Nadu” (modern)	

Table 3 : Identify the right statements regarding the Sivagalai early-iron discovery.

- a) Iron artefacts at Sivagalai were dated to 3345 BCE via AMS radiocarbon dating.
- b) The dating was done by Beta Analytic (USA).
- c) Sivagalai lies in the Thamirabarani / Porunai basin near Adichanallur.
- d) This date is younger than the earlier Indian Iron Age benchmark of 1900–2000 BCE.

Table 4 : Identify the right statements on why the iron claim is revolutionary (global context).

- a) The traditional global Iron Age benchmark is the Hittite Empire, Anatolia (~1300 BCE).
- b) Tamil Nadu's iron was smelted, not meteoritic — confirmed by XRF (no nickel).
- c) Furnaces at Kodumanal reached 1,300°C by 3345 BCE.
- d) Tutankhamun's dagger (1323 BCE) was made of smelted, low-nickel iron.

Table 5 : Fill in the calibrated date for each AMS sample.

Sample / context	Date (BCE)
Charcoal, Trench B3, Urn 10 (Sivagalai)	
Charcoal, Trench A2, Urn 1 (Sivagalai)	
Habitation Layer 4 (Adichanallur)	

Table 6 : Identify the right statements regarding the “Copper Age Conundrum.”

- ✓ Tamil Nadu leapt from the Neolithic straight to the Iron Age.
- ✓ TN lacked copper deposits but had abundant iron ore.
- ✓ Crucible / wootz steel was produced at Kodumanal by 500 BCE and exported globally.
- ✓ The standard three-age sequence (Stone→Copper→Bronze→Iron) was given by Mortimer Wheeler.

Table 7 : Fill in the position / contribution of each authority on the iron claim.

Authority	Position / contribution
Prof. David Killick	
Ümit Güder	
CM M.K. Stalin	
Physical Research Laboratory (India)	

Table 8 : Identify the right statements regarding the Lemurian theory.

- a) The Lemurian theory proposes a submerged landmass south of Kanyakumari.
- b) The term “Lemuria” was coined by Sclater, named after lemurs.
- c) The earliest reference is Nakkirar's commentary on Iraiyanar Ahapporul (not earlier than 9th c. A.D.).
- d) Scott Elliot's “Lost Lemuria” describes a single deluge that created Lemuria.

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Table 9 : Identify the right statements regarding Lemuria evidence and its critique.

- ✓ Haeckel argued the Indian Ocean was once a continent.
- ✓ Maori (NZ) and Tamil language links are cited as an ethno-cultural affinity.
- ✓ India assumed its present shape ~50 million years ago, before Homo sapiens.
- ✓ The residual island Kumarinadu was said to be ruled by Cholas from Kapadapuram.

Table 10 : Fill in the seat (capital) of each of the three legendary Sangams.

Sangam	Seat
First	
Second	
Third	

Table 11 : Identify the right statements regarding the three-Sangams legend.

- a) The legend claims a total span of 9,990 years, with gods as members.
- b) Tolkappiyam is associated with the Second Sangam.
- c) The legend first appears only in the 9th c. A.D. Ahapporul commentary.
- d) The exaggerated durations make the legend a fully reliable historical record.

Table 12 : Identify the right statements regarding the migration hypotheses.

- a) Lycians of Asia Minor called themselves "Trimmilai" (~ Tamil).
- b) P.T. Srinivasa Iyengar held the autochthon (native) view.
- c) Prof. Burrow found 20 Dravidian words in the Rig Veda.
- d) The "iron clincher" suggests Dravidians migrated FROM South India TO West Asia.

Table 13 : Identify the right statements regarding the textbook synthesis on Tamil origins.

- ✓ Dravidians likely occupied North & NW India before the Aryans.
- ✓ Dravidians are regarded as the authors of the Indus Valley Civilisation.
- ✓ A section migrated south and fused with Austroloid / Negroid populations.

- ✓ Lahovary linked Basque with Dravidian and grouped Sumerian, Elamite and Cappadocian as one family.
- ✓ Dravidian Tamils are regarded as a pure, unmixed race with no fusion.

Table 14 : Fill in the approximate range of each prehistoric period in Tamil Nadu.

Period	Approximate range
Palaeolithic (Lower)	
Mesolithic	
Neolithic	
Iron Age / Megalithic	
Proto-Historic / Sangam	

Table 15 : Identify the right statements regarding the Palaeolithic (Old Stone Age).

- a) Palaeolithic people used hand-axes, choppers and knives; they were nomadic food-gatherers.
- b) There was no pottery and no burial in the Palaeolithic.
- c) Africa-South India hand-axe similarity hints at possible migration.
- d) Palaeolithic tools are abundant south of Madurai due to plentiful quartzite.

Table 16 : Identify the right statements regarding the Mesolithic (microliths).

- a) Mesolithic microliths were made of jasper, agate and quartz.
- b) The oldest microliths are from the red sand-dunes ("Teris") near Tirunelveli & Tuticorin.
- c) Bruce Foote first noticed the Teri dunes; Zeuner worked out the sequence.
- d) Wheeler dated the Teris to ~40,000 BCE by tree-ring analysis.

Table 17 : Identify the right statements regarding the Neolithic (New Stone Age).

- a) The Neolithic marks the shift from food-gatherer to food-producer.
- b) Polished tools were made of black trap, abundant in the Deccan.
- c) Paiyampalli (Vellore) is TN's type site / largest Neolithic site.
- d) Neolithic tools were dated by potassium-argon dating to ~3500 BCE.

Table 18 : Fill in the description of each type of megalith.

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Type	Description
Dolmen	
Cist	
Toppikallu (umbrella stone)	
Menhir	

Table 19 : Identify the right statements regarding the Iron Age and megalithic culture.

- a) The Iron Age is defined by iron implements, Black-and-Red Ware pottery and megalithic burials.
- b) Brahmagiri (Mysore) revealed three phases, including a Megalithic Iron Age.
- c) South Indian megaliths are Iron Age, whereas NE Indian megaliths are Neolithic.
- d) "Megalith" means "small stone."

Table 20 : Identify the right statements regarding Adichanallur, the crown site.

- a) Adichanallur was excavated by Alexander Rea (1899–1905) near the Porunai (Thamirabarani).
- b) It is the largest urn-burial site in India (4,000+ urns).
- c) A copper-alloy female figurine resembles the Harappan "mother goddess."
- d) Adichanallur has been inscribed as a full UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Table 21 : Fill in the significance of each major archaeological site.

Site	Significance
Attirampakkam	
Pallavaram	
Paiyampalli	
Keeladi	
Adichanallur	
Kodumanal	
Korkai	
Arikamedu	

Table 22 : Fill in the excavator most associated with each site.

Site	Excavator
Attirampakkam	
Keeladi	
Adichanallur	
Kodumanal	

Porunthal	
Mankulam	
Arikamedu	

Table 23 : Identify the right statements regarding specific archaeological sites.

- a) Porunthal yielded AMS-dated paddy ~490 BCE, the earliest in TN.
- b) Mankulam has the earliest formal Tamil-Brahmi cave inscriptions.
- c) Sittanavasal shows 8,000+ years of occupation, with Jain frescoes over a prehistoric layer.
- d) Keeladi is located on the Tamiraparani river in Thoothukudi.

Table 24 : Fill in the Roman-trade role / evidence at each site.

Site	Roman coins / role
Arikamedu	
Kaveripattinam (Puhar)	
Uraiyur	
Korkai	
Kanchipuram	

Table 25 : Identify the right statements regarding Sangam-era trade ports.

- a) Muziris was the busiest west-coast port, reachable in 40 days via the Hippalus wind.
- b) Tyndis (Tondi) was the first port of Damirica and belonged to the Cera.
- c) Hippalus, an Egyptian pilot (~45 CE), discovered the monsoon wind route.
- d) Ptolemy's "Poduke" refers to the port of Korkai.

Table 26 : Fill in the table pairing TN's exports with its imports.

Exports from TN	Imports to TN
Pepper, pearls, ivory	
	Glass, copper, tin, lead
Tortoiseshell, beryl, iron	
	Topaz

Table 27 : Identify the right statements regarding Indo-Roman trade.

- a) Pliny (Natural History, 75 CE) lamented Rome's gold drain to India.

- b) "Yavanas" was the Tamil term for Greeks/Romans, who served as royal bodyguards.
- c) Rouletted Ware and Roman amphorae are diagnostic Indo-Roman trade markers.
- d) Wang Mang of China called Kanchi "Muziris" and sent a live elephant.

Table 28 : Fill in the defining feature of each rock-art site.

Rock-art site	Feature
Kizhvalai (Villupuram)	
Usilampatti (Madurai)	
Kumittipathi (Coimbatore)	
Tirumalai (Sivaganga)	
Karikaiyur (Nilgiris)	

Table 29 : Identify the right statements regarding rock-art technique and transition.

- ✓ Red ochre (haematite, an iron oxide) is the primary pigment.
- ✓ Painting dominates the Mesolithic; pecking/incising and cup marks dominate the megalithic Iron Age.
- ✓ The art → pottery graffiti → Tamil-Brahmi continuum links prehistory to literacy.
- ✓ Arittapatti became TN's first Biodiversity Heritage Village (2022).
- ✓ The Sittannavasal Jain frescoes are the finest pre-Chola painting, dated to the Sangam age.

Table 30 : Fill in the contribution of each key archaeologist.

Archaeologist	Contribution
Robert Bruce Foote	
Alexander Rea	
Mortimer Wheeler	
K. Rajan	
Amarnath Ramakrishna	
Iravatham Mahadevan	
S.R. Rao	

Table 31 : Identify the right statements regarding the key archaeologists.

- a) R.B. Foote is called the "Father of Indian Prehistory."
- b) Wheeler established BRW as the diagnostic Iron Age marker at Brahmagiri.

- c) J.M. Casal carried out the first Arikamedu excavation in 1941.
- d) The shift from ASI to TNSDA after 2019 reduced the State's role in TN archaeology.

Table 32 : Fill in each scholar's proposed date & basis for Tolkappiyam.

Scholar	Proposed date & basis
Vaiyapuri Pillai / K.A.N. Sastri	
P.S. Subramanya Sastry	
Mayilai Seeni Venkatasami	
Panamparanar's preface	

Table 33 : Identify the right statements regarding Tolkappiyam.

- a) Tolkappiyam uniquely covers letters, words and human life — not just language.
- b) It is placed in the Second Sangam and predates the Third Sangam corpus.
- c) Tolkappiyar belonged to the Kaappiyarkudi family (not a Brahmin).
- d) Tolkappiyam is universally dated to the 4th c. A.D. with no scholarly dispute.

Table 34 : Fill in the table contrasting Akam and Puram poetry.

Akam	Puram
Internal — love, universal emotion	
	Historical; anachronism = flaw
Indirect historical value	

Table 35 : Fill in a key inland literary source for each era.

Era	Key work(s)
Sanskrit	
Telugu (Vijayanagara)	
Kalabhra (Dark Age)	
Pallava	
Later Chola	

Table 36 : Fill in the contribution of each foreign literary source.

Source	Contribution
Herodotus (5th c. BCE)	
Megasthenes' Indika (~300 BCE)	
Periplus (~1st CE)	
Ptolemy's Geography (2nd c. CE)	
Asokan Edicts (3rd c. BCE)	
Hathigumpha (Kharavela)	
Mahavamsa / Dipavamsa	

Table 37 : Identify the right statements regarding foreign sources and inscriptions.

- a) Megasthenes' Indika gives the first direct notice of Tamilagam.
- b) The Asokan Edicts list Chera, Chola, Pandya and Satyaputra as independent and allied to Asoka.
- c) Kharavela's Hathigumpha inscription claims the defeat of a Tamil confederacy.
- d) Ptolemy was the earliest classical writer to mention India.

Table 38 : Identify the right statements regarding other supporting source-threads.

- ✓ "Vambamoriyar" in Tamil texts refers to the Mauryan invasion (Bindusara's reign), which was repelled.
- ✓ Katyayana (4th c. BCE) mentions Tamil Nadu, but Panini does not.
- ✓ The Agathiya myth (bringing Vedic religion south) is treated by some scholars as a fabrication.
- ✓ The Hebrew word "Tuki" (peacock) suggests early Tamil-Hebrew contact.
- ✓ Megasthenes wrote the Periplus of the Erythraean Sea.

ANSWER KEY

TAMIL NADU HISTORY — ORIGINS, PREHISTORY & ARCHAEOLOGY

Table 1 — Answer		
Option	Mark	Remark
a	✓	Correct
b	✓	Correct
c	✓	Correct
d	✗	Bharathiyar is the MODERN attestation; the earliest is the Sangam-era Purananuru.

Table 2 — Answer	
Work	Author / Era
Purananuru	Sangam
Silappadikaram	Ilango Adigal
Manimekalai	Sattanar
Periya Puranam	Sekkizhar
Kamba Ramayanam	Kambar
“Sentamizh Nadu” (modern)	Bharathiyar

Table 3 — Answer		
Option	Mark	Remark
a	✓	Correct
b	✓	Correct
c	✓	Correct
d	✗	It PREDATES that benchmark by over 1,300 years.

Table 4 — Answer		
Option	Mark	Remark
a	✓	Correct
b	✓	Correct
c	✓	Correct
d	✗	It was meteoritic iron, high in nickel.

Table 5 — Answer	
Sample / context	Date (BCE)
Charcoal, Trench B3, Urn 10 (Sivagalai)	3519–3371
Charcoal, Trench A2, Urn 1 (Sivagalai)	3243–3102
Habitation Layer 4 (Adichanallur)	2580–2465

Table 6 — Answer		
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#	Statement	Mark
1	Tamil Nadu leapt from the Neolithic straight to the Iron Age.	✓
2	TN lacked copper deposits but had abundant iron ore.	✓
3	Crucible / wootz steel was produced at Kodumanal by 500 BCE and exported globally.	✓
4	The standard three-age sequence (Stone→Copper→Bronze→Iron) was given by Mortimer Wheeler.	X

Table 7 — Answer

Authority	Position / contribution
Prof. David Killick	Validates iron use by 1300 BCE; accepts charcoal dates (sealed urns)
Ümit Güder	TN iron forms are advanced, unlike Anatolia's gradual development
CM M.K. Stalin	"India's history must begin here"
Physical Research Laboratory (India)	Validated findings (with international labs)

Table 8 — Answer

Option	Mark	Remark
a	✓	Correct
b	✓	Correct
c	✓	Correct
d	X	It describes five deluges, the last of which swallowed Lemuria.

Table 9 — Answer

#	Statement	Mark
1	Haeckel argued the Indian Ocean was once a continent.	✓
2	Maori (NZ) and Tamil language links are cited as an ethno-cultural affinity.	✓
3	India assumed its present shape ~50 million years ago, before Homo sapiens.	✓
4	The residual island Kumarinadu was said to be ruled by Cholas from Kapadapuram.	X

Table 10 — Answer

Sangam	Seat
First	Ten (South) Madurai
Second	Kapadapuram
Third	Modern Madurai

Table 11 — Answer

Option	Mark	Remark
a	✓	Correct
b	✓	Correct
c	✓	Correct

d	X	The exaggerations make it historically UNRELIABLE.
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Table 12 — Answer

Option	Mark	Remark
a	✓	Correct
b	✓	Correct
c	✓	Correct
d	X	It suggests migration FROM West Asia to South India — West Asian finds lack iron, but Adichanallur has it.

Table 13 — Answer

#	Statement	Mark
1	Dravidians likely occupied North & NW India before the Aryans.	✓
2	Dravidians are regarded as the authors of the Indus Valley Civilisation.	✓
3	A section migrated south and fused with Austroloid / Negroid populations.	✓
4	Lahovary linked Basque with Dravidian and grouped Sumerian, Elamite and Cappadocian as one family.	✓
5	Dravidian Tamils are regarded as a pure, unmixed race with no fusion.	X

Table 14 — Answer

Period	Approximate range
Palaeolithic (Lower)	~1.5 Mya - 100,000 BCE
Mesolithic	~10,000 - 5,000 BCE
Neolithic	~3,000 - 1,000 BCE
Iron Age / Megalithic	~1,200 - 300 BCE
Proto-Historic / Sangam	~300 BCE - 300 CE

Table 15 — Answer

Option	Mark	Remark
a	✓	Correct
b	✓	Correct
c	✓	Correct
d	X	They are ABSENT south of Madurai, owing to lack of quartzite and thick forests.

Table 16 — Answer

Option	Mark	Remark
a	✓	Correct
b	✓	Correct
c	✓	Correct
d	X	They were dated ~4,000 BCE by sea-level correlation; Wheeler noted SW Asian & East African influence.

Table 17 — Answer

Option	Mark	Remark
a	✓	Correct
b	✓	Correct
c	✓	Correct
d	✗	They were dated by C-14 (radiocarbon) to ~3500 BCE.

Table 18 — Answer

Type	Description
Dolmen	Three vertical stones + flat capstone
Cist	Stone-slab box, covered
Toppikallu (umbrella stone)	Circular stone on four dressed slabs
Menhir	Single standing stone (also: stone-circles, cist-circles)

Table 19 — Answer

Option	Mark	Remark
a	✓	Correct
b	✓	Correct
c	✓	Correct
d	✗	“Megalith” means “big stone.”

Table 20 — Answer

Option	Mark	Remark
a	✓	Correct
b	✓	Correct
c	✓	Correct
d	✗	It is on the UNESCO Tentative List, not yet inscribed.

Table 21 — Answer

Site	Significance
Attirampakkam	Oldest prehistoric site in India (~1.5 Mya); Acheulean tools; 2018 Nature paper
Pallavaram	First prehistoric tool discovery in India (Acheulean handaxe)
Paiyampalli	Largest Neolithic site in TN; type site
Keeladi	Urban Iron Age–Sangam settlement; Tamil-Brahmi pottery; AMS ~580 BCE
Adichanallur	Largest urn-burial site in India; UNESCO Tentative List
Kodumanal	Bead workshop; iron-smelting furnaces; Roman amphorae
Korkai	Earliest Pandya capital; pearl-diving economy

Arikamedu	Indo-Roman trading station = Ptolemy's "Poduke"
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Table 22 — Answer

Site	Excavator
Attirampakkam	R.B. Foote (1863); Sharma Centre (2011-18)
Keeladi	Amarnath Ramakrishna (2015-18); TNSDA
Adichanallur	Alexander Rea; T. Satyamurthy (2004)
Kodumanal	K. Rajan
Porunthal	K. Rajan (2009)
Mankulam	Iravatham Mahadevan
Arikamedu	Casal (1941); Wheeler (1945); Begley

Table 23 — Answer

Option	Mark	Remark
a	✓	Correct
b	✓	Correct
c	✓	Correct
d	✗	Keeladi is on the Vaigai river in Sivagangai district.

Table 24 — Answer

Site	Roman coins / role
Arikamedu	Augustus & Tiberius coins; primary Roman factory; Ptolemy's "Poduke"
Kaveripattinam (Puhar)	Chola port in Silappadikaram & Manimekalai
Uraiyur	Chola capital; cotton textile trade
Korkai	Pandya pearl-diving (Gulf of Mannar)
Kanchipuram	Coin hoards; silk/textile; Sangam town → Pallava capital

Table 25 — Answer

Option	Mark	Remark
a	✓	Correct
b	✓	Correct
c	✓	Correct
d	✗	"Poduke" refers to Arikamedu (Pondicherry).

Table 26 — Answer

Exports from TN	Imports to TN
Pepper, pearls, ivory	Wine, olive oil
Cotton / fine muslin (Uraiyur)	Glass, copper, tin, lead
Tortoiseshell, beryl, iron	Gold coins
Malabathrum	Topaz

Table 27 — Answer

Option	Mark	Remark
a	✓	Correct
b	✓	Correct
c	✓	Correct
d	✗	Chinese sources called Kanchi “Houng-tche”; Wang Mang requested an embassy with a live rhinoceros.

Table 28 — Answer

Rock-art site	Feature
Kizhvalai (Villupuram)	Red-ochre art; cross-symbol (claimed Indus-script precursor)
Usilampatti (Madurai)	Lone man taming a bull
Kumittipathi (Coimbatore)	~3,000-yr-old white-pigment elephant, chariot / peacock
Tirumalai (Sivaganga)	Two men in bird masks in a fighting stance
Karikaiyur (Nilgiris)	300+ paintings; possibly 5,000+ yrs

Table 29 — Answer

#	Statement	Mark
1	Red ochre (haematite, an iron oxide) is the primary pigment.	✓
2	Painting dominates the Mesolithic; pecking/incising and cup marks dominate the megalithic Iron Age.	✓
3	The art → pottery graffiti → Tamil-Brahmi continuum links prehistory to literacy.	✓
4	Arittappatti became TN's first Biodiversity Heritage Village (2022).	✓
5	The Sittannavasal Jain frescoes are the finest pre-Chola painting, dated to the Sangam age.	✗

Table 30 — Answer

Archaeologist	Contribution
Robert Bruce Foote	“Father of Indian Prehistory”; Pallavaram & Attirampakkam (1863)
Alexander Rea	Adichanallur (1876–1905) — largest urn-burial site
Mortimer Wheeler	Brahmagiri (BRW as Iron Age marker); Arikamedu (Indo-Roman trade)
K. Rajan	Kodumanal, Porunthal, Sivagalai — redefined TN Iron Age
Amarnath Ramakrishna	Keeladi excavation director (2015–18)
Iravatham Mahadevan	Tamil-Brahmi corpus; Indus script studies
S.R. Rao	Paiyampalli Neolithic; Dwarka underwater site

Table 31 — Answer

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Option	Mark	Remark
a	✓	Correct
b	✓	Correct
c	✓	Correct
d	✗	It marked the State's GROWING lead (Keeladi, rock-art surveys).

Table 32 — Answer

Scholar	Proposed date & basis
Vaiyapuri Pillai / K.A.N. Sastri	4th–5th c. A.D. — Greek-derived word “Hora”
P.S. Subramanya Sastry	2nd c. B.C. — aligns with Bharata's Natya Sastra
Mayilai Seeni Venkatasami	8th–9th c. B.C.
Panamparanar's preface	Predates Panini (Tolkappiyar knew Aiyindhiram)

Table 33 — Answer

Option	Mark	Remark
a	✓	Correct
b	✓	Correct
c	✓	Correct
d	✗	Its dating is heavily disputed (2nd c. BCE to 4th–5th c. AD; the conclusion is at least 7th–8th c. BCE).

Table 34 — Answer

Akam	Puram
Internal — love, universal emotion	External — war, kings, public life
Timeless, undateable; hero unnamed	Historical; anachronism = flaw
Indirect historical value	High historical value (Purananuru, Padirrupattu)

Table 35 — Answer

Era	Key work(s)
Sanskrit	Arthashastra; Ganga Devi's Madhura Vijayam
Telugu (Vijayanagara)	Amukthamalyada (Krishnadevaraya)
Kalabhra (Dark Age)	Periya Puranam; Yaapperungalam (limited works)
Pallava	Thevaram (Appar, Sundarar, Sambandar)
Later Chola	Kalingathu Parani (Jayangondar); Kamba Ramayanam

Table 36 — Answer

Source	Contribution
Herodotus (5th c. BCE)	Earliest classical mention of India
Megasthenes' Indika (~300 BCE)	First direct notice of Tamilagam; Pandya Nadu
Periplus (~1st CE)	Lists Tamil ports, exports/imports, Hippalus route
Ptolemy's Geography (2nd c. CE)	Names Poduke (Arikamedu), Camara

Asokan Edicts (3rd c. BCE)	Chera, Chola, Pandya, Satyaputra — TN independent
Hathigumpha (Kharavela)	Claims defeat of a Tamil confederacy
Mahavamsa / Dipavamsa	Prince Vijaya married a Pandyan princess

Table 37 — Answer

Option	Mark	Remark
a	✓	Correct
b	✓	Correct
c	✓	Correct
d	✗	Herodotus (5th c. BCE) gives the earliest classical mention; Ptolemy is 2nd c. CE.

Table 38 — Answer

#	Statement	Mark
1	“Vambamoriyar” in Tamil texts refers to the Mauryan invasion (Bindusara's reign), which was repelled.	✓
2	Katyayana (4th c. BCE) mentions Tamil Nadu, but Panini does not.	✓
3	The Agathiya myth (bringing Vedic religion south) is treated by some scholars as a fabrication.	✓
4	The Hebrew word “Tuki” (peacock) suggests early Tamil–Hebrew contact.	✓
5	Megasthenes wrote the Periplus of the Erythraean Sea.	✗