



CBSE Class X CARNATIC MUSIC (Vocal) (Theory) Set 4 (49)

Time Allowed :2 Hours	Maximum Marks :30	Total Questions :15
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General Instructions

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:

1. This question paper contains **15 questions**. *All questions are compulsory.*
2. **Section–A:** Attempt all questions(Each question will carry **1 mark**).
3. **Section–B:** Attempt all questions(Each question will carry **2 mark**)
4. **Section–C:** Attempt all questions(Each question will carry **6 mark**)

Section A

1. Swaras deleted from a Raga scale is

- (a) Vakra
- (b) Sampurna
- (c) Upanga
- (d) Varjya

Correct Answer: (d) Varjya

Solution: When swaras (notes) are omitted from a Raga scale, the Raga is called a **Varjya Raga**. This occurs when certain swaras are intentionally deleted to bring a unique character to the Raga.

Quick Tip

A Varjya Raga omits certain swaras, while a Sampurna Raga includes all 7 swaras.

2. Raga Bhairavi is a/an ----- Raga.

- (a) Mela Karta
- (b) Bhashanga
- (c) Audava
- (d) Shadava

Correct Answer: (b) Bhashanga

Solution: Raga Bhairavi is classified as a **Bhashanga Raga** because it uses foreign notes (*anya swaras*) that are not part of its parent scale.

Quick Tip

Bhashanga Ragas incorporate *anya swaras*, whereas Audava and Shadava are defined by the number of swaras used.

3. Chatusra Jaathi Matya Tala has

- (a) 6 Aksharas
- (b) 14 Aksharas
- (c) 10 Aksharas
- (d) 7 Aksharas

Correct Answer: (b) 14 Aksharas

Solution: The **Chatusra Jaathi Matya Tala** is structured with 14 Aksharas. It consists of a laghu (4 Aksharas), a dhrutam (2 Aksharas), and another laghu, summing up to 14.

Quick Tip

Remember: Chatusra = 4, and Matya Tala includes two laghus and one dhrutam.

4. What are 72 Mela Karta Ragas called?

- (a) Janaka
- (b) Audava



- (c) Varjya
(d) Vakra

Correct Answer: (a) Janaka

Solution: The 72 Mela Karta Ragas are called **Janaka Ragas**, which serve as parent scales. Each Janaka Raga contains all 7 swaras in both ascending and descending order.

Quick Tip

Janaka Ragas are parent Ragas, while Janya Ragas are derived from them.

5. When Swaram and Sahityam become one and the same it is called

- (a) Jaathi
(b) Gathi
(c) Yathi
(d) Swaraksharam

Correct Answer: (d) Swaraksharam

Solution: In **Swaraksharam**, the swara (note) and sahityam (lyrics) align perfectly, where the note corresponds exactly to the lyric pronunciation.

Quick Tip

Swaraksharam = Swara + Aksharam. Focus on the alignment of music and lyrics.

6. Choose the correct statement:

- i. Varnam is a musical form rendered at the commencement of a concert.
ii. Papanasam Sivan is known as 'Tamil Tyagaraja'.
iii. Kavi Kunjara Bharathi is the grandfather of St. Tyagaraja.
iv. Geetham is a Sabha Gana.

From the following, choose the correct option:

- (a) i and ii



- (b) i and iii
(c) ii and iii
(d) iii and iv

Correct Answer: (a) i and ii

Solution: - **i.** Correct: Varnam is indeed performed at the commencement of a concert.

- **ii.** Correct: Papanasam Sivan is often referred to as the 'Tamil Tyagaraja' due to his compositions in Tamil.

- **iii.** Incorrect: Kavi Kunjara Bharathi is not related to Saint Tyagaraja.

- **iv.** Incorrect: Geetham is a basic music form, not Sabha Gana.

Quick Tip

Remember: Varnam is the opening piece in Carnatic concerts, and Papanasam Sivan earned the title for his Tamil compositions.

7. Match List – I with List – II:

List – I	List – II
A. Triputa Tala	i. Sabha Ganam
B. Alankaram	ii. Maha Ganapatim
C. Varnam	iii. 7 Akshara Kala
D. Kriti	iv. Sapta Tala

Choose the correct option:

- (a) i iv iii ii
(b) iii iv i ii
(c) iv ii iii i
(d) i iii ii iv

Correct Answer: (b) iii, iv, i, ii

Solution: - **A. Triputa Tala** matches with **iii. 7 Akshara Kala**.

- **B. Alankaram** matches with **iv. Sapta Tala**.



- **C. Varnam** matches with **i. Sabha Ganam**.
- **D. Kriti** matches with **ii. Maha Ganapatim**.

Quick Tip

When matching, identify terms like Tala (rhythm structure), Varnam (concert forms), and Kriti (compositions).

8. Statement – I: Mela Karta ragas are divided into 02 divisions.

Statement – II: Swarajathi is a Abyasa Gana.

Choose the correct answer:

- (a) Statement I is true but II false.
- (b) Statement I & II are true.
- (c) Statement I is false and II is true.
- (d) Statement I & II are false.

Correct Answer: (b) Statement I & II are true.

Solution: - **Statement I:** Correct. Mela Karta ragas are divided into 2 groups: *Suddha Madhyama* and *Prati Madhyama*.

- **Statement II:** Correct. Swarajathi is considered an **Abyasa Gana** (practice piece) in Carnatic music.

Quick Tip

Mela Karta ragas are parent ragas classified into 2 main groups. Abyasa Ganas are for learning and practice.

Section B

9. Write the Raga classification of Bhashanga Raga with 2 suitable examples.

Solution:

Bhashanga Ragas include *anya swaras* (foreign notes not present in their parent Melakarta Raga).



Examples include:

1. Raga Bhairavi – uses Kakali Nishadam (N3) as an anya swara.
2. Raga Kambhoji – uses Kakali Nishadam in its prayogas.

Quick Tip

Bhashanga Ragas break traditional rules by introducing anya swaras, enhancing musical depth.

OR

Write the Uttaranga Chakras names of 72 Mela Scheme.

Solution: The 72 Melakarta Ragas are divided into 12 Chakras, with each Chakra containing 6 ragas. The Uttaranga Chakras (second set of 6 Chakras) are:

1. Rishi Chakra
2. Vasu Chakra
3. Brahma Chakra
4. Disi Chakra
5. Rudra Chakra
6. Aditya Chakra

Quick Tip

There are 12 chakras and remember each Chakra has 6 ragas.

10. Briefly explain the term “Mukthayi Swaram”.

Solution: Mukthayi Swaram refers to the concluding swara sequence in a Varnam. It is usually performed at the end of the Pallavi or Anupallavi section, signaling the transition to the next part of the composition.

Quick Tip

Mukthayi Swaram serves as a bridge between sections in a Varnam.



OR

Write the characteristics of a Shadava Raga with two examples.

Solution:

Shadava Ragas use only 6 swaras (notes) in their structure.

Examples include:

1. Raga Sriranjani (S R G M D N) – Omits Pa (P).
2. Raga Mohanam (S R G P D) – Omits Ma (M) and Ni (N).

Quick Tip
Note that : There are 6 swaras in each raga.

11. Write the Angas of a Kriti.

Solution:

A Kriti consists of three main Angas (sections):

1. **Pallavi:** The opening part that sets the theme.
2. **Anupallavi:** The middle section that elaborates on the Pallavi.
3. **Charanam:** The concluding section that combines the themes of Pallavi and Anupallavi.

Quick Tip
Kritis are highly structured compositions in Carnatic music with Pallavi, Anupallavi, and Charanam.

OR

Define Jaathi and Angas of Dhruva Tala.

Solution:

1. **Jaathi:** Refers to the number of beats in a *laghu* (can be 3, 4, 5, 7, or 9).



2. **Angas of Dhruva Tala:** It consists of: - 1 Laghu (variable beats)
- 2 Dhrutams (fixed 2 beats each)
- Another Laghu.

Quick Tip

Remember, Jaathi refers to beats and Parts of Tala (beats) are divided in various segments.

12. Define a Upanga Raga with examples.

Solution: Upanga Ragas strictly adhere to the swaras of their parent Melakarta Raga and do not include any swaras.

Examples:

1. Raga Shankarabharanam
2. Raga Kalyani

Quick Tip

Upanga Ragas are pure and follow their parent scales without deviations.

OR

Write the Swarasthanas of Raga Ananda Bhairavi.

Solution: Raga Ananda Bhairavi has the following swaras:

- **Arohana:** S G2 R2 G2 M1 P D2 P S
- **Avarohana:** S N2 D2 P M1 G2 R2 S

Quick Tip

Both have different swaras that are varying from 9-10

13. Explain the term 'Akshara Kala' with examples.



Solution:

Akshara Kala is a fundamental concept in Indian classical music, particularly in the context of rhythm and *Tala*. The term *Akshara Kala* refers to the duration of a note or beat within a rhythmic cycle. It defines the time taken to complete a single syllable (*Akshara*) in a composition.

Examples:

- In a **Adi Tala** cycle (8 beats), if a composition uses one *Akshara Kala* per beat, each beat corresponds to a single syllable or note.
- If the *Akshara Kala* is doubled, it means two *Aksharas* (syllables) are sung or played within one beat.

In essence, the *Akshara Kala* determines how densely or sparsely the notes or syllables are distributed within the rhythmic cycle, providing structure and timing to the music.

Quick Tip

In Indian classical music, understanding rhythm (*Tala*) is crucial. The concept of *Akshara Kala* helps maintain precision in timing and note placement within a *Tala* cycle.

OR

Define Laghu and Drutam in a Tala with suitable examples.

Solution:

In Carnatic music, **Tala** is a rhythmic cycle that provides structure and timing to a composition. Each *Tala* is made up of different components or units, such as **Laghu** and **Drutam**. These units help define the overall duration and flow of a rhythmic cycle.

Laghu:

- **Definition:** *Laghu* is a rhythmic unit consisting of a beat (*clap*) followed by a specific number of finger counts.
- **Example:**



- In **Adi Tala** (8 beats), the first part is a *Laghu* with 4 beats: one clap followed by 3 finger counts.
- The number of finger counts depends on the *Jathi* (type of rhythm):
 - * **Tisra Jathi:** 3 counts
 - * **Chaturasra Jathi:** 4 counts
 - * **Khanda Jathi:** 5 counts
 - * **Misra Jathi:** 7 counts
 - * **Sankeerna Jathi:** 9 counts

Drutam:

- **Definition:** *Drutam* is a rhythmic unit consisting of one beat (clap) followed by a wave of the hand.
- **Example:**
 - In **Adi Tala**, the second part consists of two *Drutams*, each having 2 beats: one clap followed by a wave.
 - Total beats in two *Drutams* = $2 + 2 = 4$.

Quick Tip

In Carnatic music, understanding the components of *Tala*, such as **Laghu** and **Drutam**, helps maintain rhythm and structure in compositions. *Laghu* depends on the *Jathi*, while *Drutam* always has 2 beats.

Section – C

14. Briefly explain the Raga Lakshana of Keeravani.

Solution:

Raga Keeravani is the 21st Melakarta Raga. It has the following structure:

- **Arohana:** S R2 G2 M1 P D1 N3 S
- **Avarohana:** S N3 D1 P M1 G2 R2 S

It is a harmonic minor scale with a melancholic mood.



Quick Tip

Keeravani resembles the harmonic minor scale in Western music.

OR

Define the musical term “Gathi” and its usage.

Solution: Gathi refers to the speed or gait in which the tala is performed. It determines the subdivision of a beat in a rhythmic cycle, such as:

- Tisra Gathi (3 units)
- Chatusra Gathi (4 units)
- Khanda Gathi (5 units).

Quick Tip

There are subdivision of beats in different units .

15. Write the life history of Sh. G.N. Balasubramaniam.

Solution: Sh. G.N. Balasubramaniam (GNB) was a celebrated Carnatic vocalist known for his unique style and innovative approach. Born in 1910, he popularized raga elaboration and improvisation techniques. GNB was also a composer, contributing several varnams and kritis to Carnatic music.

Quick Tip

GNB revolutionized Carnatic music with his fast-paced and innovative singing.

OR

Explain the musical form ‘Varnam’.



Solution: Varnam is a foundational musical form in Carnatic music. It introduces the key phrases and swaras of a Raga. It consists of Pallavi, Anupallavi, Mukthayi Swaram, and Charanam sections. Varnams are often practiced to build voice stability and command over rhythm.

Quick Tip

It comes under Carnatic music and has different sections i.e ragas, phrases, and swaras.

