

Q. List one major difference between manuscripts and inscriptions.

Answer: Manuscripts were written on palm leaves and on bark of birch tree, while inscriptions were made on stone slabs and pillars.

Q. Return to Rasheeda's question. Can you think of some answers to it?

Answer: Rasheeda's question is, "How could anyone know what had happened so many years ago?"

We know that historians use various sources to know about history. Some important sources are: manuscripts, coins, inscriptions, archaeological sites, etc.

Q. Match the followings.

Column A	Column B
(a) Narmada Valley	1. The first big kingdom
(b) Magadha	2. Hunting and gathering
(c) Garo hills	3. Cities about 2500 years ago
(d) Indus and its tributaries	4. Early agriculture
(e) Ganga Valley	5. The first cities

Answer: (a) 2, (b) 1, (c) 4, (d) 5, (e) 3

Q. Make a list of all the objects that archaeologists may find. Which of these could be made of stone?

Answer: Archaeologists may find potteries, skeletons, ornaments, tools, statues, toys, clothes, etc. Statues, potteries and toys could be made of stone.

Q. Why do you think ordinary men and women did not generally keep records of what they did?

Answer: *The life of ordinary men and women must have been full of difficulties. Even today, the life of ordinary men and women is too mundane to write anything about it. These are the two possible reasons, why ordinary men and women generally did not keep records of what they did.*

Q. Describe at least two ways in which you think the lives of kings would have been different from those of farmers.

Answer: *A farmer has to work in the field while a ruler does not need to do so. A king's main responsibility was to protect its subjects, while a farmer's main responsibility was to produce food grains. A farmer's life must have been full of hardships. A king's life may have been more comfortable.*

Extra Questions

Q. Which were the first crops grown by humans?

Answer: *Rice and barley*

Q. Bark of which tree was used for writing?

Answer: *Birch tree*

Q. Which calendar is now being used in most parts of the world?

Answer: *Gregorian calendar*

Q. What is history?

Answer: *The story about humankind's past is called history.*

Q. What is a manuscript?

Answer: *A handwritten book is called manuscript. Before the invention of print technology, books were written in the form of manuscript. Palm leaves and bark of birch trees were used for writing manuscript.*

Q. What is an inscription?

Answer: *A text inscribed on stone or any other hard surface is called inscription. Most of the inscriptions were written on stone slabs or pillars. Such inscriptions usually contained order or message from the king. Some inscriptions contained details of good deed by important people.*

Q. What does an archaeologist do?

Answer: *A person who is an expert of historical artifacts, buildings, monuments, etc. is called an archaeologist.*

Q. Explain the importance of history?

Answer: *Importance of history is as follows:*

- *History helps us in knowing about the past kings, kingdoms and the society.*
- *History tells us about the way people lived, the food they ate and the clothes they wore.*
- *History tells us about the great achievements of our ancestors.*

Q. NCERT Exercise Solution

Fill in the blanks:

a. Hunter-gatherers chose to live in caves and rock shelters because _____.

Answer: they provided shelter from rain, heat and wind

b. Grasslands developed around _____ years ago.

Answer: 12,000

c. Early people painted on the _____ of caves.

Answer: walls

d. In Hunsgi, tools were made of _____.

Answer: stones

Q. Look at the present-day political map of the Indian subcontinent. Find out the states where Bhimbetka, Hunsgi and Kurnool are located.

Answer: Bhimbetka is in Madhya Pradesh, Hunsgi is in Karnataka and Kurnool is in Andhra Pradesh.

Q. Why did the hunter-gatherers travel from place to place? In what ways are these similar to/different from the reasons for which we travel today?

Answer: Hunter-gatherers traveled from place to place in search of food.

Once food resources at a place were exhausted, they needed to go to a new place. Now-a-days; people travel for various purposes. Some people travel because they enjoy travelling. Some people travel to meet relatives and friends on special occasions. Some people travel as a part of their work. Some people travel to explore new places.

Q. What tools would you use today for cutting fruit? What would they be made of?

Answer: We use knife for cutting fruit. Knives are made of steel.

On The Trail Of the Earliest People (2)

Class 6th

Sub Civics

Q. List three ways in which hunter-gatherers used fire. Would you use fire for any of these purposes today?

Answer: Three ways in which hunter-gatherers used fire are as follows:

- a. For cooking*
- b. For warding off wild animals*
- c. For clearing forest*

Extra Questions

Q. People of the Stone Age lived in which natural structure?

Answer: Caves

Q. Bhimbetka is in which modern state of India.

Answer: Madhya Pradesh

Q. Remains of ashes have been found from the caves of which place?

Answer: Kurnool

Q. Cave paintings usually depict which type of scene?

Answer: Hunting scene

Q. Discarded stone pieces and chips can be found on which type of sites of the Stone Age?

Answer: Factory sites

Q. What is Stone Age?

Answer: The period during which only stone tools were used by people is called the Stone Age.

Q. What is the meaning of Palaeolithic Age?

Answer: Palaeolithic Age means the Old Stone Age.

On The Trail Of the Earliest People (2)

Class 6th

Sub Civics

Q. What were the sources of food for early people?

Answer: Meat, fish, fruits, roots, berries, etc. were the sources of food for early people.

Q. Cave paintings usually contained pictures of which animals?

Answer: Bison, deer and other wild animals.

Q. Why is Bhimbetka famous?

Answer: Bhimbetka is famous for cave paintings of the Stone Age. This site has been termed the World Heritage Site by the UNESCO.

The Early Farmers (3)

Class 7th

Sub History

Q.1 State whether true or false:

- a. Millets have been found at Hallur.*
- b. People in Burzahom lived in rectangular houses.*
- c. Chirand is a site in Kashmir.*
- d. Jadeite, found in Daojali Hading, may have been brought from China.*

Answer: (a) True (b) False (c) False (d) True

Q2. Why do people who grow crops have to stay in the same place for a long time?

Answer: We know that a plant takes several months to bear fruits and seeds. So, people had to stay at the same place for a long time to take care of the crop.

Q3. If Neinuo wanted to eat rice, which are the places she should have visited?

Answer: Koldihwa and Mahagara in modern day Uttar Pradesh

Q4. Why do archaeologists think that many people who lived in Mehrgarh were hunters to start with and that herding became more important later?

Answer: Archaeologists have found different types of remains from different levels of excavation at Mehrgarh. Remains from deeper levels show bones of wild animals. This shows that people were still hunters. Remains from upper levels show bones of domesticated animals. This shows that later on people became herders.

The Early Farmers (3)

Class 7th

Sub History

Q5. List three ways in which the lives of farmers and herders would have been different from that of hunter-gatherers.

Answer:

<i>Hunter-gatherers</i>	<i>Farmers-herders</i>
<i>Lived nomadic life.</i>	<i>Lived settled life.</i>
<i>Depended on wild animals for meat.</i>	<i>Depended on domesticated animals for meat.</i>
<i>Food supply was not secure.</i>	<i>Food supply was more secure.</i>

Q6. Make a list of all the animals mentioned in the table in NCERT Book. For each one, describe what they may have been used for.

Answer:

<i>Animal</i>	<i>Possible Use</i>
<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Milk, meat, wool</i>
<i>Goat</i>	<i>Milk, meat</i>
<i>Dog</i>	<i>Guarding the herd</i>
<i>Buffalo</i>	<i>Milk</i>
<i>Ox</i>	<i>Farm work</i>
<i>Pig</i>	<i>Meat</i>

The Early Farmers (3)

Class 7th

Sub History

Extra Questions

Q1. What is the meaning of the Neolithic Age?

Answer: New Stone Age

Q2. Name a Neolithic site which is in modern day Pakistan.

Answer: Mehrgarh

Q3. Which animal is believed to be the first domesticated animal?

Answer: Sheep and goat

Q4. Daojali Hading is in the valley of which river?

Answer: Brahmaputra

Q5. What is Neolithic Age?

Answer: The last part of the Stone Age is called the Neolithic Age. The tools of this period are much smaller and more refined.

Q6. When did the Neolithic Age begin?

Answer: The Neolithic Age began around 12,000 years ago.

Q7. Which major discovery of the Neolithic Age helped human beings to change to a settled life?

Answer: Agriculture

Q8. What is the significance of burial sites from Neolithic Age?

Answer: The burial sites from the Neolithic Age show two important facts. The presence of burial site means that people began performing the last

The Early Farmers (3)

Class 7th

Sub History

rites of the dead. Finding of animal bones; along with human skeleton; shows that people believed in afterlife.

The Earliest Cities (4)

Class 7th

Sub History

Q1. Match Columns

<i>Column I</i>	<i>Column II</i>
<i>Copper</i>	<i>Gujarat</i>
<i>Gold</i>	<i>Afghanistan</i>
<i>Tin</i>	<i>Rajasthan</i>
<i>Precious stones</i>	<i>Karnataka</i>

Answer:

- *Copper: Rajasthan*
- *Gold: Karnataka*
- *Tin: Afghanistan*
- *Precious stones: Gujarat*

Q2. How do archaeologists know that cloth was used in the Harappan civilisation?

Answer: Archaeologists have found spindles from the excavation sites. Presence of spindles shows that people knew how to make cloths. This shows that people in the Harappan Civilization used cloth.

Q3. Why were metals, writing, the wheel, and the plough important for the Harappans?

Answer: Metals, writing, the wheel and the plough were important for the Harappans in many ways. Metals were used for making various tools, utensils, jewelry and seals. Writing was useful for maintaining the records; related to trade and for various other purposes. The wheel was used in carts to ferry people and goods. Wheel was also used as potter's wheel. Plough was used for tilling the land so that farming could be done.

The Earliest Cities (4)

Class 7th

Sub History

Q4. Make a list of all the terracotta toys shown in the lesson. Which do you think children would have enjoyed playing with the most?

Answer: Animal figures, model cart and plough are some of the terracotta toys mentioned in this lesson. I think, children would have liked playing with the model cart the most. Even today; most of the children enjoy playing with toy cars.

Q5. Make a list of what the Harappans ate, and put a tick mark against the things you eat today.

Answer: The people of Harappa ate various kinds of grains (rice, wheat, barley, pulses, mustard, etc.), fruits (ber), fish, meat and milk. Most of these things we eat even today. At present; we eat rice, wheat, pulses, fish, meat and milk. Barley is used barely by us.

Q6. Do you think that the life of farmers and herders who supplied food to the Harappan cities was different from that of the farmers and herders you read about in Chapter 3? Give reasons for your answer.

Answer: In chapter 3; discussion is mainly on rural people. But in this chapter, the discussion is mainly on urban people. In both the cases; farmers and herders did the same type of work. But their group was much bigger in case of the Harappan cities. Their work could have been more organized; compared to what it was in earlier societies. Farmers and herders (in previous chapter) mainly produced for their own use. But in case of the Harappan cities; the farmers and herders sold their surplus production.

The Earliest Cities (4)

Class 7th

Sub History

Short Answer Type Questions

Q1. What is another name for the Indus Valley Civilization?

Answer: Harappan Civilization

Q2. Which was the first earliest city to be excavated in the Indian subcontinent?

Answer: Harappa

Q3. Kalibangan is in which modern state of India?

Answer: Rajasthan

Q4. Till date, how many sites of the Harappan Civilization have been discovered?

Answer: 150

Q5. Name some metals which were used in the Indus Valley Civilization.

Answer: Copper, tin, gold

Q.6 Name some grains which were grown during the Indus Valley Civilization.

Answer: Rice, wheat, barley, pulses, linseed, mustard

Q7. What was the possible use of the Great Bath which has been found at the excavation site of Harappa?

Answer: The Great Bath was possibly used by the rich people for ritual bath.

Q8. How can you say that farming was being done in Harappa?

Answer: Historians have found a toy plough. This indicates that plough was being used for tilling the land. A large granary had been found and several

The Earliest Cities (4)

Class 7th

Sub History

huge utensils have been found. These must have been used for storing grains. These proofs indicate that farming was being done in Harappa.

Q9. How can you say that people of Harappa knew how to write?

Answer: *Historians have found many seals. These seals have written scripts on them. This shows that people of Harappa knew how to write.*

Q10. What were the possible reasons for the decline of the Harappan cities?

Answer: *Some of the possible reasons for the decline of the Harappan cities are as follows:*

- There is a possibility that the rivers dried up. It forced people to move to some other places.*
- There were too many brick kilns and furnaces. It may have damaged the environment. This would have led to deforestation. Lack of green cover may have forced people to move to some other places.*
- Overgrazing by cattle and sheep may also have resulted in loss of forests. This would have led to desertification, i.e. formation of desert.*
- There is also a possibility of large scale epidemic or natural calamity. It could have wiped off a major portion of the population.*
