

Doon Public School, Bhuj
HOME ASSIGNMENT

Class: VI

Sub: SST

Dear students,

NOTE: This is your home assignment which you have to complete in your Social Studies Notebook. Write all the 4 chapters very neatly in your Notebook and learn the Textbook and Notebook questions. Learn the current Indian States, Union Territories and their Capitals. I wish you to have a great and fruitful time with your family during the vacation. **Take Care! Stay at Home! Stay Safe!**

HISTORY: CHAPTER 1

When, Where and How

Textual Questions

I. Fill in the blanks.

1. The study of events that happened before humans learnt to write is called **prehistory**.
2. In the period before the birth of Christ, historians count the years **BCE**, and in the period after the birth of Christ, they count the years **CE**.
3. The main source of information for prehistory is **archaeology**.
4. Banabhatta wrote the **Harshacharita** in the 8th century CE.
5. Hieun Tsang visited India during the rule of **Harsha**, in the **7th** century CE.
6. The process of reading and understanding inscriptions is known as **epigraphy**.

II. True or false

1. History teaches us to carefully examine facts. **(T)**
2. The term circa is used when the date of an event is not known for sure. **(T)**
3. The year 1823 is in the 20th century. **(F)**
4. In India, early manuscripts were written on paper. **(F)**
5. The Vedas and the Tripitakas form part of secular literature. **(F)**
6. Kautilya was the Greek ambassador to the court of Chandragupta Maurya. **(F)**
7. Seals often show animals and figures of gods. **(T)**

Multiple choice questions

1. b
2. c
3. b
4. a
5. d
6. b
7. d
8. a
9. b

NOTES in the Notebook

Glosary

1. **History:** a written account of events of the past.
2. **Prehistory:** the study of events before humans learnt to write.
3. **Archaeology:** the study of the physical remains of human life in the past.
4. **Manuscript:** a document written by hand.
5. **Inscription:** writing or engraving on rocks, pillars, stone, etc.
6. **Excavate:** to dig.
7. **Artefacts:** human-made objects like tools, ornaments, pieces of pottery, etc., found at an archaeological site.
8. **Epigraphy:** the study of inscriptions.

9. Numismatic: the study of coins.

III. Answer in brief.

1. What is prehistory? How is it different from history?

Prehistory is

- the study of events that happened before humans learnt to write.
- different from history, as prehistory is not recorded in the form of writing whereas history is a written account of events of the past.

2. What is archaeology?

- Archaeology is a study of the remains of human life in the past.

3. On what materials were ancient manuscripts written?

- In the beginning manuscripts were written on stone or clay tablets.
- In India, early manuscripts were written on dried bark of trees thinly beaten copper plates dried palm leaves
- Later around the 8th century CE, people started writing on parchment in the Middle East and Europe.

4. Mention two secular sources of literature used to study Indian history.

- Biographies and
- Travellers accounts

5. How do coins help us study history?

Coins are important sources of information as

- very often the name of the ruler and the year in which the coin was issued was engraved on it.
- some of the coins depict battle scenes.
- some have the faces of kings and queens.
- some coins also depict scenes from the life of the rulers.

IV. Answer in detail.

1. Why do we need to study history?

History teaches us

- to evaluate.
- to learn from mistakes made in the past and thus learn to make better decisions in the present and the future.
- to understand who our ancestors were and thus help us to have an identity of our own.
- to know our past so as to understand our present better.
- to appreciate the contributions of the many people who have entered our country and ruled over us in the making of modern India
- to understand our struggle for independence in the right perspective and value the freedom we enjoy today
- to be tolerant and open-minded about people and cultures.

2. How do we tell dates in history?

- Historians count the years forwards or backwards from the year in which Christ is believed to have been born.
- The period before, was known as BCE (before Christ) and the period after that was known as CE (Anno Domini, i.e., 'in the year of our Lord').
- Presently, historians use the terms BCE and CE which stand for 'Before the Common Era' and 'Common Era' respectively.
- The term 'circa' is used when the date of an event is not known for sure.
- We also use the term 'decade' to denote a period of ten years, while a 'century' is a span of 100 years; a 'millennium' refers to a period of 1000 years.

3. How does archaeology help us find out more about the past?

- **Archaeology** is a study of the distant past and it helps us to know about

- the kind of food the people ate.
- their occupations
- the people with whom they traded.
- how they dressed.
- the gods they worshipped.
- how they treated their dead.

- **Archaeologists**

- excavate or dig up places where ancient people lived.
- collect and examine human-made objects like tools, ornaments, weapons, toys and pottery.
- study these objects known as artefacts that provide vital clues on the lifestyle of the people of the past.
- study the sites and understand the life of the people with the help of human and animal bones that are found along with seeds and remains of plants.

4. Write in detail about the different sources of literature available to students of Indian history.

- **Religious literature.**

- It provides us enough information to understand the nature of society, religion and politics of those times.
- The Vedas are very significant as they provide us information about the Aryans around 1500 BCE. Apart from religion, they tell us about society and politics.
- Epics like Ramayana and the Tripitakas provide a wealth of knowledge.

- **Secular literature.**

- It is the study of politics, governance, grammar, medicine and law.

- Harshacharita, the biography of Harsha written by Banabhatta gives us an insight into the social, economic and political conditions of India in the 8th century CE.
 - The Arthashastra by Kautilya is a manual on government, economic policy and military strategy.
- **Accounts of travellers to India.**
- These accounts provide a wealth of information for historians.
 - Hieun Tsang visited India during the reign of Harsha. He left behind an accurate description of Central and Southern Asia during that time.
 - Megasthenes, a Greek ambassador to India during the time of Chandragupta Maurya has given a detailed description of the Mauryan rule.

Value-based questions

Que: *Arun sees a man scribbling on the walls of a historic monument. He tries to stop him. What value does this reflect?*

- ❖ Respecting the heritage of the country
- ❖ Being a responsible citizen
- ❖ Caring for the environment one lives in

HISTORY: CHAPTER 2

Early Humans-Hunters and Gatherers

Textual Questions

I. Fill in the blanks.

1. The Old Stone Age is known as the **Palaeolithic Age**.
2. The period of transition between the Old and the New Stone Ages is known as the **Mesolithic Age**.
3. The wheel is believed to have been invented in the **Palaeolithic Age**.
4. During the **Neolithic** period, people started building houses with sticks, twigs and mud.
5. One of the oldest archaeological sites found in India is **Hunsgi or Baichbal** Valley in Karnataka.

II. True or false

1. Human evolution occurred within a very short span of time. **(F)**
2. Old Stone Age people lived in caves and natural rock shelters. **(T)**
3. In the Old Stone Age, humans were hunters and gatherers. **(T)**
4. People of the Stone Age had no interest in arts. **(F)**
5. Neolithic humans started farming and hunting. **(T)**
6. In the Chalcolithic period, humans used only metals. **(F)**

Multiple choice questions

- | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|
| 1. b | 2. a | 3. a | 4. c |
| 5. a | 6. d | 7. d | 8. a |

NOTES in the Notebook

Glosary

1. **Nomad:** a wanderer
2. **Microlith:** a very small stone tool
3. **Taming:** making fit for living with humans
4. **Herding:** looking after animals

III. Answer in brief.

1. Why is the Stone Age called so?

- In this period of history humans used tools made of stone.

2. What are the three divisions of the Stone Age?

- The Old Stone Age or the Palaeolithic Age
- The Middle Stone Age or the Mesolithic Age
- The New Stone Age or the Neolithic Age

3. What are the sources of our knowledge of the Stone Age?

Since the Stone Age was a period before humans learnt to write, our knowledge of this period comes from artefacts like:

- bones,
- tools,
- weapons,
- cave paintings
- pottery.

4. Why did the Old Stone Age people have to move from place to place?

- It was not possible to support a growing population by hunting only in one place.

- There was no choice but to move over great distances to hunt for food.

5. What was the natural change that occurred around 9000 BCE? How did it help the humans who lived then?

- The climate became warmer and drier by about 9000 BCE.
- This automatically brought about changes in flora and fauna, and led to a greater variety of plants and animals becoming available.
- As a result hunting and gathering became easier.
- The people learnt to hunt, fish, tame animals and grow crops.

IV. Answer in detail.

1. Which period in history is known as the Stone Age? What are the sources to study the human life of that period?

- The period of human history from around 500,000 BCE to 4000 BCE, when stone tools were used by humans is known as Stone Age.
- Archaeology is the only source available to help us understand this period.
- Since the Stone Age was a period before humans learnt to write, our knowledge of this period comes from artefacts like bones, tools, weapons, cave paintings and pottery.

2. What do you know about the tools and weapons of the Palaeolithic Age?

- The Palaeolithic people made simple and crude stone tools and weapons.
- Initially, they were just stone flakes that had been struck off from bigger stones.
- Spheroid or stone ball was the other type of weapon used; it probably was used to bring down animals from a distance.
- Over a period of time, more complex tools such as hand axes and large flakes were made, for cutting animals or scraping their skins.

3. Write about the sources of food that were available to the people of the Mesolithic Age?

- The Mesolithic people learnt to tame animals and grow crops.
- They probably discovered the value of the seeds of grasses like barley and wheat.
- In all probability different ways of obtaining food must have been tried.
- There was a wider variety of plants and animals available.
- They also continued to hunt and fish.

4. What are cave paintings? What is their significance?

- Early hunter-gatherers have depicted their lifestyle by painting on the walls of caves in various parts of the world known as cave paintings.
- They are vivid and beautiful.
- These paintings are significant as they tell us about:
 - the kind of animals known to them and which they hunted.
 - about the lifestyle of the people.

5. What are microliths? How do they differ from the tools of the Old Stone Age?

Microliths:

- are the small stone tools found at Mesolithic sites.
- had sharp edges and were typically less than 3 cm in size.
- were probably used as the barbs of arrows and spears.
- were lighter than the tools of the Old Stone Age which were crude and heavier than the microliths.
- were advantageous as they enabled quicker movements and hunting became comparatively easier.

6. What is the significance of the invention/ discovery of the following?

i) Fire.

- It could protect people from wild animals and keep them warm in the caves.
- They found cooked food softer, easier and tastier to eat.

ii) The wheel

- Most important invention.
- Uneven in shape and cut out of tree trunks.

iii) Agriculture

- Discovered the value of the seeds of some grasses like barley and wheat.
- Domesticated animals like the dog for guarding

iv) The use of metals.

- It was very useful for making stronger tools, vessels and weapons.

7. What were the favourable conditions for human settlement that existed in the Hunsgi-Baichbal valleys?

- The availability of a perennial source of water in the form of springs
- The availability of raw material in the form of limestone for tool-making
- A wide variety of plant and animal foods
- The protected nature of the valley.

Value-based questions

Que: *Lin lived in the year 10500 BCE. He was a good hunter. One day, Lin and the rest of his group killed a large bison. On their way home, they meet another group that was returning from its hunt empty-handed. Lin gave them a share of the meat even though it meant his people would get less food. What values can we learn from Lin's behaviour?*

- ❖ Being kind hearted
- ❖ Showing compassion to a fellow human being
- ❖ Helping one another

GEOGRAPHY : CHAPTER 1

The Earth in the Solar System

Textual Questions

I. Fill in the blanks.

1. Asteroids are also called **planetoids**.
2. Neil Armstrong landed on the Moon in the year 1969.
3. The planet which has the Red Spot is **Jupiter**.
4. The outer planets are also known as Jovian planets.

II. True or false

1. Millions of stars together form the solar system. **(False)**
2. Jupiter has several rings. **(False)**
3. The Earth is called the Blue Planet. **(True)**
4. Venus is called the 'evening star' when it is seen in the western sky after sunset. **(True)**
5. The distance travelled by sunlight in a year is called a solar year. **(False).**

Multiple Choice Questions

- | | | | |
|------|-------|-------|------|
| 1. a | 2. a | 3. b | 4. c |
| 5. c | 6. b | 7. d | 8. d |
| 9. c | 10. d | 11. b | |

NOTES in the Notebook

Glosary

5. **Star:** a luminous body in the sky made of hot gases.
6. **Galaxy:** a cluster of million stars.
7. **Constellation:** a group of stars that resemble a figure.
8. **Universe:** the space where galaxies exist.
9. **Asteroid:** a celestial body that orbits the Sun between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter.
10. **Meteor:** streaks of light produced by meteoroids that are vapourised as they enter the Earth's atmosphere.
11. **Meteoroid:** pieces of rock moving in interplanetary space.

III. Define the following terms.

1. Stars

- are the twinkling spots of lights that we see in the sky at night.
- are self-luminous celestial bodies made of very hot gaseous matter that emit heat and light.

2. Solar System

- The Sun and the various objects that move around it (like the planets, their satellites, asteroids, comets and meteors) together form the Solar System.

3. Planet

- is a non-luminous celestial body that orbits a star.
- reflects the light of the Sun that falls on it.

4. Asteroids:

- are celestial bodies that revolve around the Sun between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter.
- are also known as planetoids.

5. Meteors:

- are solid rock masses moving at tremendous speeds around the Sun.

IV. Answer the following.

1. How do stars differ from planets?

Stars

- are self-luminous.
- emit their own light and heat.
- are very hot.
- twinkle
- are very large.
- The Sun is an example of a star.

Planets

- are non-luminous and only reflect the light of their star. (Sun)
- temperature depends on distance from the star.
- do not twinkle the way stars do.
- are smaller than the stars.
- The earth is an example of a planet.

2. What makes the Earth a unique planet?

The Earth is a unique planet because

- it is the only planet where life has been found.
- it is at an optimum distance from the Sun.
- has an average surface temperature of 14°C.
- has suitable seasons and weather conditions for living.
- has adequate availability of fresh water.
- it has the presence of an atmosphere that protects all the living things from the harmful ultra-violet radiations from the Sun.

3. What are constellations? Name any two of them.

- When seen from the Earth, some of the stars in the sky appear to be arranged in distinctive patterns.
- Recognizable patterns the stars appear to make in the sky are called constellations.
 - Some look like people, some look like animals, while some look like certain objects.
- Two such constellations are Ursa Major and Orion.

4. List the planets in the order of their distance from the Sun.

- Mercury
- Venus
- Earth
- Mars
- Jupiter
- Saturn
- Uranus
- Neptune

5. What are the different phases of the Moon?

The major phases of the Moon are

- the new moon (amavasya).
- the first quarter.
- the full moon (purnima).
- the last quarter.

6. Why do we get to see only one side of the Moon from the Earth?

- The time taken for the revolution of the Moon around the Earth is 27 days and 8 hours.

- Since the time taken for the Moon to rotate is also the same, we always see the same side of the Moon.

Value-Based Question

Que: *The Earth is the only planet that is believed to support life. Life exists on earth because everything is in balance here. It is neither too hot (like the planet Mercury) nor too cold (like the planet Neptune). What values can you learn from this?*

- ❖ When everything is in moderation, we can live a happy, comfortable life.

SOCIAL AND POLITICAL LIFE: CHAPTER 1

Human Diversity

Textual Questions

I. True or false

1. India has a military dictator as its ruler. **(F)**
2. Punjab is called the 'Granary of India'. **(T)**
3. Kerala has a wet climate. **(T)**
4. Many religions are practised in India. **(T)**
5. We no longer practise untouchability in our country. **(F)**

II. Fill in the blanks.

1. The state of being different, or unique, is called **diversity**.
2. Bogali Bihu is celebrated in the state of **Assam**.
3. **Cattle-fair** is a festival celebrated in Rajasthan.
4. A large family consisting of grandparents, parents, aunts, uncles, and cousins is called a **joint family**.

Multiple Choice Questions

- | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|
| 1. d | 2. a | 3. c | 4. d |
| 5. c | 6. d | 7. b | |

NOTES in the Notebook

Glosary

1. **Diversity:** variety
2. **Culture:** customs, beliefs and achievements of a particular time or people.

III. Answer the following.

1. Why does society need diversity?

- Diversity enriches our lives.
- It would be very boring if we had to live in a world of identical people.
- When we live in a world of diverse people we learn from them.
- We absorb different cultures and become tolerant and broad minded.

2. Though each region has its own culture, there is unity in India's diversity. Justify this statement.

- India is a land of varied cultures, religions and communities.
- A whole range of ethnically different people populate our land.
- Despite these differences in styles of dress, food habits, language and culture, there has always been an underlying thread of unity.

3. How has the caste system harmed society?

The caste system, which has existed in India for almost 2000 years

- has created several unequal divisions in society.
- people are identified according to the caste to which they belong.
- people belonging to some sections of society continue to be treated badly in many parts even today.

4. Use the examples of Kerala and Punjab to illustrate the nature of regional diversity in India.

- Agriculture is the main industry in Punjab as the land is very fertile. On the other hand, Kerala has a wet and maritime tropical climate and the service sector is the major industry.
- The majority of the people in Punjab (63.9 per cent) are Sikhs, 34.9 per cent are Hindus, and there is also a small Muslim population. Kerala on the other hand, has a diverse religious population of 51.42 per cent Hindus, 27 per cent Muslims and 19 per cent Christians.

5. What is the poverty line?

- The poverty line is the minimum level of income needed to achieve an adequate standard of living.
- As per the Government of India, the poverty line for urban areas is ₹859.6 per month and for rural areas ₹672.8 per month.

6. Write a note on the nature of economic inequality in India.

- India has some of the richest people in the world who own several cars, spend on lavish vacations, spend more money on a single meal than many other Indians spend in a whole year, and can afford to spend thousands of rupees on a single item of clothing.
- On the other hand, India also has some of the poorest people in the world. In 2011- 2012, over 27.5% of the population lived below the poverty line. More than one-fourth of Indians earn less than Rs 25 a day. These people are mainly daily wage earners, self-employed householders or landless labourers.

7. What steps can be taken to reduce economic inequalities?

Note:

- The government should take responsibility for providing increased employment opportunities to the people.
- Schemes already begun by the government should be further increased.
- More vocational courses can be started to give employment opportunities to people later.

IV. Briefly explain the importance of each of the following.

1. Education for the girl child.

Note:

- need for gender equality
- family's growth only if the girl child is educated

- education – will lead to economic independence, will help her to understand and fight for her rights better and so on

2. Conscious effort to abandon untouchability

Value-Based Question

Que: *Lakshmi works in a house as a helper. Every year her employer gives her a bonus, which Lakshmi deposits in her account in the Post Office. Lakshmi plans to use this money to send her daughter to college. What values does Lakshmi exhibit?*

- ❖ Being prudent and thrifty (Lakshmi)
- ❖ Being thoughtful and kind (the employer)
- ❖ Being responsible and far-sighted (Lakshmi)

STUDY THE MAP BELOW TO LEARN THE STATES, UNION TERRITORIES AND THEIR CAPITALS.

CLICK THE LINK BELOW FOR A LARGER VIEW.



<https://www.mapsofindia.com/maps/india/indiastateandunion-map-enlarged-view.html>

