

Chapter- 2 From Hunting—Gathering To Growing Crops

1. What is a tribe?
Group of farmers and herders lived together in small settlements or villages. Group of such families formed a tribe. Most of the families in the tribe were related to one another. Members of the tribe followed occupations such as hunting, gathering, farming herding and fishing.
2. What was the purpose of the construction of pit house?
These were provided with the steps. This may have been constructed to get protection from the cold temperatures.
3. Explain the role of animals in the life of early men.
Animals provided variety of food to the hunters' gatherers. They provide milk, fish and meat to them. Moreover, they breed naturally and add to their numbers without many efforts in comparison to plants; therefore, they are considered as a 'store of food' for them.
4. Why do people who grow crops have to stay in the same place for a long time?
When they plant a seed it takes some time to grow; depending on the type of seeds used, the time taken would vary from days, weeks, months and years. It means they had to stay in the same place to take care of the plants, by watering, weeding, driving away animals and birds –till the grain ripened. Once ripened they had to think of ways of storing it. Hence they had to stay at the same place for a long time.
5. Why do archaeologists think that many people who lived in Mehrgarh were hunters to start with and that herding became more important later?
Archaeologists found bones many animals such as deer. Hence they could conclude that they were hunters. Herding becomes important because they found bones of sheep and goat.
6. 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?
 - I. They would have eaten up all the plants and animal resources.
 - II. Animals move from place to place, hence they had to follow their movements.
 - III. Plants and trees bear fruits in different seasons. So people may have moved from season to season in search of different kinds of plants.
 - IV. They need water to survive, many rivers and lakes were seasonal had to go in search of water during dry seasons.
7. List three ways in which hunter-gatherers used fire (see page15). Would you use fire for any of these purposes today?
It was used for 3 persons:
 - I. Clearing forest areas.
 - II. Cooking

- III. For protection from wild animals.
8. List three ways in which the lives of farmers and herders would have been different from that of hunter gatherers.
- I. Farmers and herders would stay in one location; whereas hunters and gatherers have to move from place to place following the movement of animals.
 - II. Farmers and herders would stay in huts and houses whereas hunters and gatherers would stay in caves.
 - III. Farmers and herders food source would be crops and domesticated animals like sheep, goat; whereas hunters would rely on wild animals as a source of food.
9. Write short note on Neolithic age.
- Neolithic age began around 12000 years ago. The human civilization experienced tremendous changes during this period. The stone implements used by the people were small but sharper and were polished properly. Herding and cultivation began in this age and man has started living a settled life.
10. What do you mean by domestication of plants and animals?
- The process in which people grow plants and look after animals is called Domestication. It was a gradual process that took place in many parts of the world about 12,000 years ago. Some of the earliest plants to be grown were wheat and barley. The earliest domesticated animals being dog, sheep and goat. The animals provided not only milk or meat but could also be used to draw the plough and other purposes i.e. dogs for security of houses and to help in hunting etc.
11. Describe in short the three stages of Stone Age?
- I. Paleolithic Age- In this period man used crude stone tools and weapons and led a nomadic life. It was also known as Old Stone Age.
 - II. Mesolithic Age- In this age man used microlithic stone tools which were used by iding or joining them on handle or stick of wood/bamboo. In this age man started domesticating animals. It was also known as Middle stone Age.
 - III. Neolithic age- Man used polished stone tools, domesticated animals, used tools for agriculture and led a settled life. It was also known as new Stone Age.
12. Distinguish between Palaeolithic and Neolithic period?

PALEAOTHIC PERIOD	NEOLITHIC PERIOD
The main tool of this period were handaxe etc. They were crude. Also known as old stone age.	The main tools were arrow etc. The tools of this period were smooth and polished. Also known as new stone age.
There were no knowledge of wheel in this period.	Wheels were invented in this period.
Men were unaware of agriculture.	Men learnt agriculture and began to grow food.

They were nomadic and hunter-gatherers.	They were settled people and knew domestication of animals.
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13. On the physical map of India marks the Palaeolithic sites, Neolithic sites, Mesolithic sites, early villages and modern cities.