

Assignment: Subject: - Social Science Class: - VI Teacher: - Mrs. Shilpa Grover

Name: _____ Class & Sec: _____ Roll No. _____ Date:

1. How do archaeologists know that cloth was used in the Harappan civilization?
Actual pieces of cloth have been found in Mohenjodaro, attached to the lid of a silver vase and some copper objects. Spindle whorls have also been discovered, which were used to spin thread. This indicates cloth was used in the Harappan civilisation.
2. Why were metals, writing, the wheel and the plough important for the Harappans?
 - i. Metals were used for Copper and bronze: Making tools, weapons, ornaments, vessels. Gold and silver: Ornaments, vessels.
 - ii. Writing has always been a very important means of communication. It was important for the Harappans also.
 - iii. The wheel was used in carts and pottery.
 - iv. The plough was used to dig the earth for turning the soil and for planting seeds.
3. What are raw materials? How did the Harappans make their provision?

Raw materials are substances that are either found naturally (such as wood, or ores of metals) or produced by farmers or herders.

- i. These are generally processed to produce finishing goods.
 - ii. For instance cotton, produced by farmers, is a raw material that is processed to make cloth
4. Where do we find early cities of the Indian subcontinent? What unique objects have been found by Archaeologists in these cities?
The early cities of the Indian subcontinent are found in present-day Pakistan, and in India. In India these are found in Gujarat, Rajasthan, Haryana, Western parts of U.P. and Punjab. Archaeologists have found a set of unique objects in almost all these cities:
 - Red pottery painted with designs in black,
 - Stone Weights,
 - Seals with writing,
 - Special beads,
 - Copper tools, and
 - Long stone blades.
5. Describe the drain-system of the Harappans.
 - i. In cities related with the Harappan civilisation, each drain had a gentle slope so that water could flow through it.

- ii. Very often, drains in houses were connected to those in streets and smaller drains led to bigger ones.
- iii. As the drains were covered, inspection holes were provided at intervals to clean them. All three (i.e., drains, houses and streets) were probably planned and built at the same time.

6. What was Special about the Harappan-Civilisation cities?

Many of the Harappan cities were divided into two or more parts.

- i. Usually, the part to the west was smaller but higher. Archaeologists describe this as the citadel.
- ii. And the part to the east was larger but lower. This is called the lower town.
- iii. Very often walls of baked brick were built around each part. The bricks were so well made that they lasted for thousands of years. The interlocking of bricks made the walls strong.
- iv. In some cities of this civilisation, special buildings were constructed on the citadel. For example, we can see a special tank in Mohenjodaro. It is popularly known as the Great Bath.
- v. Other cities, such as Kalibangan and Lothal, had fire altars, where sacrifices might have been performed. And some cities like Harappa, Mohenjodaro and Lothal had elaborated store houses (or Granaries)

7. Describe the main features of the Great Bath of Mohenjodaro.

The Great Bath:

- i. In Mohenjodaro, a very special tank, which archaeologists called the Great Bath, was built in its Citadel Area.
- ii. This special tank was made of bricks, coated with plaster and made water-tight with a layer of natural tar.
- iii. There were steps leading down to it from two sides, while there were rooms on all sides.
- iv. Water was probably brought in from a well, and drained out after use.
- v. Perhaps important people took a dip in this tank on special occasions.

8. Discuss in brief the life in Harappa City.

Life in Harappa City

- i. Probably Harappa was a busy place. There were people who planned the construction of special buildings in the city. These were probably the rulers.
- ii. Most probably the rulers of the Harappan city sent people to distant lands to get metal, precious stones and other things that they desired or required.

- iii. The rulers may have kept the most valuable objects, such as ornaments of gold and silver or beautiful beads for themselves.
- iv. And there were scribes, people who knew how to write, who helped prepare the seals and perhaps wrote (or engraved) on other materials.

9. What could have been the possible reasons behind the end of the Harappan civilization?

The Harappan civilization suddenly seems to have started to end, around 3900 years ago. People stopped living in many cities. Writing, seals and weights became 'extinct'. Raw materials were now rarely imported.

Some scholars suggest that this happened due to the drying of rivers. Some others have explained it with deforestation. In some areas there were floods. The floods could have been a reason for the end.

Rulers might also have lost control. Consequently, People abandoned sites in Sind and Punjab and moved to newer, smaller settlements to the east and the south.

10. Write a short note on farming methods and rearing done by Harappan farmers and herders.

i Harappans grew wheat, barley, pulses, peas, rice, sesame, linseed and mustard. A new tool called plough was used to dig earth for turning the soil and planting seeds. Due to little rainfall, a method of irrigation was probably used.

ii The Harappan reared cattle, sheep, goat and buffalo. Water and pastures were present around many sites. People collected fruits like 'ber', caught fish and hunted wild animals.

11. On the physical map of India, mark the following: (refer page no – 25 from the history book)

- a. Fire Altars were found here : Kalibagan
- b. Great bath was built here: Mohenjo-Daro
- c. Harappan city divided into 3 parts: Dholavira
- d. Oldest city found by archaeologists: Harappa
- e. Important centre for making objects out of stone : lothal

