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Sanjiv Refresher

Social Science

Class - VI

Based on Latest NCERT Textbooks

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SYLLABUS

No.	CHAPTER / UNIT	OBJECTIVES
HISTORY : Our Pasts-I		
1.	Introduction : What, Where, How and When?	Familiarise the students with the major developments in time frame under study.
2.	From Hunting-Gathering to Growing Food	Appreciate the skills and knowledge of hunter-gatherers. Understand the material culture generated by people in relatively stable settlements and farming.
3.	In the Earliest Cities	Learn the settlement pattern of the Harappan Civilisation and unique architectural features.
4.	What Books and Burials Tell Us	Understand the simple strategies of textual analysis and skills of archaeological analysis to study past.
5.	Kingdoms, Kings and an Early Republic	Understand the concept of the state and its varieties.
6.	New Questions and Ideas	Learn the basic tenets of the systems of thoughts and ideas and the context in which they developed and flourished.
7.	From a Kingdom to an Empire	Learn the establishment and administration of the Maurya empire under Chandragupta, his son Bindusara, and Bindusara's son, Ashoka.
8.	Villages, Towns and Trade	Demonstrate the variety of early urban centres-coastal towns, capitals and religious centres. Understand the trade and trade routes.
9.	New Empires and Kingdoms	Know about the establishments of new empires-Guptas, Pallavas and Chalukyas.
10.	Buildings, Paintings and Books	Study the development of science, art and culture during this period of history.
CIVICS : Social and Political Life-I		
1.	Understanding Diversity	Understand and appreciate various forms of diversity.
2.	Diversity and Discrimination	Understand how prejudice can lead to discrimination and the difference between diversity and inequality.



SYLLABUS

No.	CHAPTER / UNIT	OBJECTIVES
3.	What is Government?	To enable students to gain a sense of why government is required in a country.
4.	Panchayati Raj	Understand the workings of the Panchayati Raj and appreciate its importance.
5.	Rural Administration	Understand the various roles in different levels of rural administration.
6.	Urban Administration	Understand the various roles in different levels of urban administration.
7.	Rural Livelihoods	Learn about various types of livelihoods prevalent in a village.
8.	Urban Livelihoods	Learn about various types of livelihoods prevalent in a town or a city.
GEOGRAPHY : The Earth Our Habitat		
1.	The Earth in the Solar System	To understand the unique place of the earth in the solar system.
2.	Globe : Latitudes and Longitudes	To learn the shape of the earth and concept of latitudes and longitudes.
3.	Motions of the Earth	To understand two motions of the earth and their effects.
4.	Maps	To develop basic skills of map reading.
5.	Major Domains of the Earth	To understand interrelationship of four realms of the earth.
6.	Our Country - India	To comprehend broad physiographic divisions of India.

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INTRODUCTION : WHAT, WHERE, HOW AND WHEN?

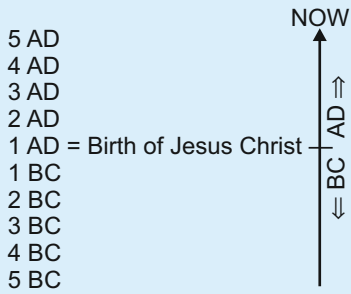
Summary

- History is the study of past which records the events of earlier times. The study of history enables us to appreciate the culture of different people all over the world.
- The earliest people lived on the banks of rivers in search of food and water. They were skilled hunters and gatherers.
- Wheat and barley were first grown on the Sulaiman and Kirthar hills whereas, rice was first grown in the areas of Garo hills and Vindhya ranges.
- Some of the earliest cities flourished on the banks of Indus river about 4700 years ago.
- One of the most powerful empire, Magadh was developed in the south of Ganga.
- Usually, earliest people moved from one place to another in search of food and to escape from vagaries of weather.
- The word India comes from the Indus, the Greek name of the river Sindhu. The name Bharat was used in the Rigveda for a group of people lived in the north-west.
- We can find out the information about the past from manuscripts, inscriptions, monuments and many excavated things like burials, coins, tools, weapons, etc.
- The word 'pasts' in plural draw attention to the fact that the past was different for different groups of people.
- Archaeology helps us to find about the lives of the ordinary people who did not maintain any written records of their lives.



Palm leaf manuscripts were written in ink on rectangular cut and cured palm leaf sheet. Each sheet typically had a hole through which a string could pass through, and with these the sheets were tied together with a string to bind like a book.

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- All the dates before the birth of Christ are counted in BC (Before Christ) and dates after the birth of Christ are counted in AD (Anno Domini).
- Sometimes, CE (Common Era) and BCE (Before Common Era) is used instead of AD and BC respectively.



IMPORTANT DATES & EVENTS

8000 years ago : Beginning of agriculture and animal rearing

4700 years ago : Some earliest cities flourished on the banks of river Indus.

2500 years ago : Cities developed on the banks of Ganga and its tributaries.

About 2000 AD/CE: The present time.



KEY WORDS

- (1) Manuscripts - Handwritten records of history are called manuscripts. These were written on palm leaves, bark of trees, etc.
- (2) Inscriptions - Writings on cave walls, rocks, seals or metal surface are known as inscriptions. These were written on hard surface so they were not easily destroyed.
- (3) Archaeology - Archaeology is a branch of history which studies the remains of ancient past.
- (4) Historian - A historian is a person who uses some sources such as texts, artefacts etc. to study the past. Historians also use the sources which were gathered by archaeologists as evidences of past.
- (5) Source - This term is generally used by historians to refer to the different types of evidences. These evidences were drawn from manuscripts, inscriptions, coins and archaeology.
- (6) Tributaries - These are the small rivers which flow into a large river.
- (7) Skilled-gatherers - The primitive man who moved from one place to another place and gathered his food from nature.
- (8) Prakrit - A language read and written by ordinary people.
- (9) Archaeologist - A person who studies about the remains of buildings made up of stones and bricks, paintings and sculptures.
- (10) Excavation - Digging under the surface of the earth.
- (11) Monuments - Buildings built for some special purpose are called monuments.
- (12) Artefacts - Articles such as tools, weapons, pottery, small sculptures, toys, coins, jewellery made and used by men are called artefacts.

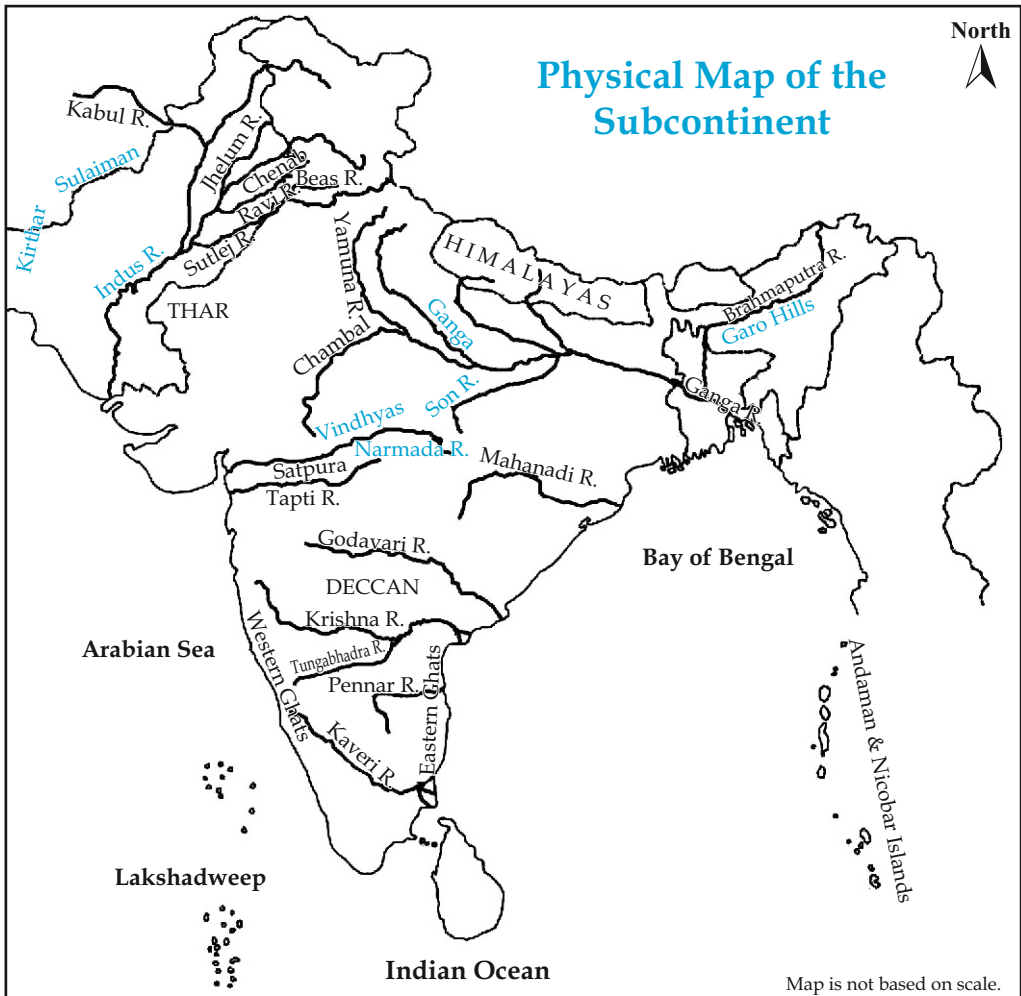


INTEXT QUESTIONS

Q. 1. On an outline map of India locate the following : (Page 01-03)

- (i) Find the river Narmada on map.
- (ii) Find the Sulaiman and Kirthar hills to the north-west.
- (iii) Locate the Garo hills to the north-east and the Vindhyas in central India.
- (iv) Trace the river Indus and its tributaries.
- (v) Locate the Ganga and its tributary called the 'Son'.

Ans. [Students need to mark all the above mentioned in an outline map of India.]



Q. 2. Why do people travel nowadays? (Page 03)

Ans. People travel now a days to enrich cultural traditions, to search livelihood and sometimes to escape from natural disasters. Some people travel to different places driven by a spirit of adventure to discover new things.

Q. 3. Find Iran and Greece in your atlas? (Page 04)

Ans. [Hint : Find out from World Map (political) in your atlas.]

Q. 4. Can you think of the advantages of writing on a hard surface? And what could have been the difficulties? (Page 05)

Ans. The advantages of writing on a hard surface are as follows :

(a) They can not be easily destroyed (b) They can be kept for long time.

Difficulties : As the tools were not too sharp to engrave. It was time consuming to write on a hard surface.

Q. 5. Do you think cloth is found frequently by archaeologists? (Page 06)

Ans. Cloth is not frequently found by archaeologists as people were not aware of cotton at that time. People used to wear barks of plants and animals skin in the earlier times. First time, the cloth pieces were found by the archaeologists in Indus Valley Civilisation.

Q. 6. In what ways is the coin different from the ones we use today? (Page 06)

Ans. Those coins were hand made. They were of different size, weight, appearance and metals. Whereas, today's coins are minted by machines which are identical in weight, size, appearance and metal alloys.

Q. 7. Find two dates mentioned on page 3. Which set of letters would you use for them? (Page 08)

Ans. 4700 BC, 2500 BC.



NCERT TEXTUAL EXERCISES

1. Match the following :

Column A	Column B
(i) Narmada Valley	(a) The first big kingdom
(ii) Magadha	(b) Hunting and gathering
(iii) Garo hills	(c) Cities about 2500 years ago
(iv) Indus and its tributaries	(d) Early agriculture
(v) Ganga Valley	(e) The first cities

Ans. (i) - (b) (ii) - (a) (iii) - (d) (iv) - (e) (v) - (c)

2. List one major difference between manuscripts and inscriptions.

Ans. Manuscripts are written by hand, usually on palm leaves or on specially prepared barks of the tree. While inscriptions were engraved on hard surfaces like metals, rocks or stones.

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

Ans. Rasheeda's question was "How could anyone know what had happened so many years ago?"