

Class 9 - Social Science

Understanding Society India and Beyond PART-I

History - Early Humans and Beginning of Civilisation

CBSE NOTES

History - Early Humans and Beginning of Civilisation - Mastery Worksheet

Strengthen your foundation with key concepts and basic applications.



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Solve the following questions. Write your answers in the space provided.

1. Discuss the lifestyle of early humans during the Palaeolithic period, highlighting their tools, housing, and social structures. How did these aspects influence their survival?

Hint: Consider the interrelation between tools, social groups, and survival strategies.



Solve the following questions. Write your answers in the space provided.

2. Explain the significance of the Neolithic Revolution and its impact on human societies. Include comparisons of hunter-gatherer and agricultural lifestyles.

Hint: Create a table to compare lifestyles and their societal impacts.



Solve the following questions. Write your answers in the space provided.

3. Analyze the role of archaeology in reconstructing early human history. Include methods used and their effects on our understanding of human evolution.

Hint: Categorize the different archaeological methods and their contributions.



Solve the following questions. Write your answers in the space provided.

4. Compare and contrast the Harappan civilization with one of the early civilisations, such as Mesopotamia or Egypt, focusing on urban planning, trade, and technological advancements.

Hint: Use a Venn diagram to outline similarities and differences.



Solve the following questions. Write your answers in the space provided.

5. Examine the changes in climate around 12000 years ago and their influence on human population dynamics and settlement patterns during the transition from the Mesolithic to Neolithic period.

Hint: Consider how climate affects resource availability and human behavior.



Solve the following questions. Write your answers in the space provided.

6. Describe the role of symbolic communication in early human societies. How did this contribute to the development of social structures and cultural identity?

Hint: Reflect on how communication methods link to community bonding.



Solve the following questions. Write your answers in the space provided.

7. Evaluate the significance of domestication in the transition from hunter-gatherer societies to agrarian lifestyles. What were its long-term effects?

Hint: Think about how stabilizing food sources changes community structures.



Solve the following questions. Write your answers in the space provided.

8. Investigate the archaeological evidence supporting the existence of early agricultural practices in Mehrgarh. How does this site reflect the transition to civilization?

Hint: List the key artifacts found and their implications for social complexity.



Solve the following questions. Write your answers in the space provided.

9. Discuss the communication methods used by early humans before writing was invented. How did these methods evolve and influence later societies?

Hint: Consider the importance of oral tradition in cultural preservation.



Solve the following questions. Write your answers in the space provided.

10. Analyze the factors that led to the rise of trade between the Harappan civilization and its neighbors. How did this interaction influence cultural exchange?

Hint: Enumerate specific goods traded and their cultural significance.



Check your answers with the solutions below.

1. Discuss the lifestyle of early humans during the Palaeolithic period, highlighting their tools, housing, and social structures. How did these aspects influence their survival?

Solution: Early humans in the Palaeolithic period relied on hunting and gathering. They crafted tools like hand axes from stone to facilitate hunting. Their housing included temporary shelters made from natural materials. Socially, they lived in small groups, which fostered cooperation and sharing. This communal approach improved their survival against predators and environmental challenges.

2. Explain the significance of the Neolithic Revolution and its impact on human societies. Include comparisons of hunter-gatherer and agricultural lifestyles.

Solution: The Neolithic Revolution marked a transition to agriculture, allowing humans to settle in one place. Unlike hunter-gatherers who were nomadic, farmers cultivated crops and domesticated animals. This shift enabled food surplus, leading to population growth and the development of villages and trade, laying the foundation for civilization.

3. Analyze the role of archaeology in reconstructing early human history. Include methods used and their effects on our understanding of human evolution.

Solution: Archaeology employs methods like excavation and analysis of artifacts and fossils to reconstruct human history. These findings provide insights into early human behavior, tool use, and migration patterns. Archaeological evidence, such as stone tools and remains of settlements, is crucial for understanding cultural evolution.



Check your answers with the solutions below.

4. Compare and contrast the Harappan civilization with one of the early civilisations, such as Mesopotamia or Egypt, focusing on urban planning, trade, and technological advancements.

Solution: Both the Harappan civilization and Mesopotamia showed advanced urban planning with grid patterns and drainage systems. However, Mesopotamia relied heavily on irrigation, while the Harappans utilized the Indus River. Trade networks were significant for both, with the Harappans known for seals and crafts. Technologically, both civilizations developed writing but differed in script decipherability.

5. Examine the changes in climate around 12000 years ago and their influence on human population dynamics and settlement patterns during the transition from the Mesolithic to Neolithic period.

Solution: The warming climate expanded forests and grasslands, leading to diverse resources. This climatic shift facilitated population growth and the transition to agriculture. As humans adapted, they formed permanent settlements, consolidating communities and enabling the development of social structures.

6. Describe the role of symbolic communication in early human societies. How did this contribute to the development of social structures and cultural identity?

Solution: Symbolic communication, such as cave paintings and carvings, played a crucial role in sharing knowledge and experiences. This art form nurtured cultural identity and fostered social cohesion. By establishing shared beliefs and narratives, it helped to solidify group identity.



Check your answers with the solutions below.

7. Evaluate the significance of domestication in the transition from hunter-gatherer societies to agrarian lifestyles. What were its long-term effects?

Solution: Domestication allowed humans to control food production, enabling stable food sources. It led to population growth, urbanization, and the division of labor. Over time, this shift contributed to social hierarchies and complex societies, marking a pivotal change in human history.

8. Investigate the archaeological evidence supporting the existence of early agricultural practices in Mehrgarh. How does this site reflect the transition to civilization?

Solution: Archaeological findings in Mehrgarh, such as grain storage and domesticated animals, indicate advanced agricultural practices. The construction of permanent structures and graves shows societal organization and belief in an afterlife, marking the transition to more complex civilizations.

9. Discuss the communication methods used by early humans before writing was invented. How did these methods evolve and influence later societies?

Solution: Before writing, early humans communicated through oral traditions, art, and symbols. This evolution eventually led to the development of pictographic scripts, allowing for record-keeping and complex ideas, which influenced governance, trade, and cultural exchange in later societies.

10. Analyze the factors that led to the rise of trade between the Harappan civilization and its neighbors. How did this interaction influence cultural exchange?

Solution: Factors such as surplus production, geographic proximity, and shared rivers promoted trade. The exchange of goods, ideas, and cultural practices enriched both the Harappans and their neighbors, evidenced by similar artifacts in different regions, showcasing how trade fosters adaptation and innovation.



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