

Beginning of Indian Civilization – Class 6 CBSE

Questions and Answers (Question 1 to 14)

1. What is a civilization?

Answer:

- A civilization is an advanced stage of human society.
- It develops when people live in organised communities.
- It includes developments in agriculture, trade, technology, art, writing and administration.

2. Why did early humans begin to settle in one place?

Answer:

- They learned to grow crops.
- They began domesticating animals.
- Farming required people to stay near their fields.
- Permanent settlements gradually developed.

3. What was the importance of agriculture in the beginning of Indian civilization?

Answer:

- Agriculture provided a regular supply of food.
- It encouraged people to settle permanently.
- Surplus food could be stored or exchanged.
- It supported the growth of villages and towns.

4. What is meant by the term 'Harappan Civilization'?

Answer:

- It refers to one of the earliest urban civilizations of the Indian subcontinent.
- It developed mainly around the Indus River system and nearby regions.
- It is also known as the Indus Valley Civilization.
- Harappa was one of its important archaeological sites.

5. Name some important sites of the Harappan Civilization.

Answer:

- Harappa
- Mohenjo-daro
- Dholavira
- Lothal
- Rakhigarhi
- Kalibangan

6. What were the main features of Harappan cities?

Answer:

- Cities were carefully planned.
- Roads were generally laid out in a systematic pattern.
- Houses were built using standard-sized bricks.
- Many cities had an efficient drainage system.
- Some cities had large public structures.

7. Why is the drainage system of the Harappans considered remarkable?

Answer:

- Many houses had drains connected to larger street drains.
- Drains were usually covered.
- Wastewater was carried away from residential areas.
- This shows that Harappans paid attention to cleanliness and sanitation.

8. What was the Great Bath?

Answer:

- The Great Bath was a large brick-built water tank at Mohenjo-daro.
- It had steps leading into the tank.
- It was carefully constructed and waterproofed.
- It may have been used for special or ritual bathing.

9. What do seals tell us about the Harappan Civilization?

Answer:

- Seals were made mainly of materials such as steatite.
- Many seals contain animal figures and symbols.
- They may have been used in trade or for identification.
- They provide valuable information about Harappan culture.

10. What evidence shows that the Harappans were engaged in trade?

Answer:

- Archaeologists have found objects made from materials not available locally.
- Harappan seals have been discovered at different sites.
- Beads and other crafted goods were widely exchanged.
- Evidence suggests that the Harappans traded with regions outside the subcontinent.

11. What were the main occupations of the Harappan people?

Answer:

- Farming
- Animal rearing
- Pottery making
- Metalworking
- Bead making
- Weaving and other crafts
- Trade

12. What crops did the Harappans grow?

Answer:

- Wheat
- Barley
- Pulses
- Sesame
- Dates and other crops
- Cotton was also cultivated.

13. Why is Lothal important?

Answer:

- Lothal was an important Harappan site in present-day Gujarat.
- It was an important centre of trade and craft production.
- It is famous for its large basin, traditionally identified as a dockyard.
- Archaeological findings show its connection with maritime trade.

14. What is Dholavira famous for?

Answer:

- Dholavira was an important Harappan city.
- It had a well-planned settlement.
- It had impressive water-management structures.
- Large reservoirs were used to collect and store water.