



CLASS: VI

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Subject: SST (History)

L3: In The Earliest Cities

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS

1. How do archaeologists know that cloths were used in the Harappan civilization?

Ans. Actual pieces of cloth have been found in the Mohenjodaro, attached to the lid of a silver vase and some copper objects. Spindle Whorls have also been discovered, which were used to spin threads. This indicates cloth was used in the Harappan civilization.

2. Why were metals, writing, the wheels and the plough important for the Harappans?

Ans. Metals were used like copper and bronze for making tools, weapons, ornaments, vessels, and gold and silver were used for ornaments and vessels. Writing has always been a very important means of communication. It was important for the Harappans also to send any message or write any script. The wheels were used in carts and pottery. The plough was used to dig the earth for turning the soil and for planting seeds.

3. Make a list of what the Harappans ate?

Ans. Food items eaten by Harappans-

- i. Wheat
- ii. Barley
- iii. Pulses
- iv. Peas
- v. Rice
- vi. Linseed
- vii. Mustard.

4. Do you think that the life of farmers and herders who supplied food to the Harappan cities was different from that of the farmers and herders

we studied earlier? Give reason for your answer.

Ans. The point of difference between the lives of farmers and herders who supplied food to the Harappan cities and those about whom we studied earlier are- Tools- Harappan farmers and herders used wooden tools called plough. The earlier farmers and herders used mortars and pestle for grinding grain. Their tools were also made of bones.

- ii. Irrigation- Harappan farmers and herders used irrigation for better produce while the earlier ones did not.
- iii. Storage- the Harappan farmers stored food in well-built granaries while the others don't.
- iv. Residence- Harappan farmers lived on the outskirts of the cities whereas there were no settled cities in the time of the farmers and herders referred earlier.

EXTRA QUESTIONS

1. Write a short note on the craft practiced by Harappans.

Ans. Harappan objects were made of stone, shell and metal. Copper and bronze were used to make tools, weapons, ornaments and vessels. Gold and silver were used to make ornaments and vessels. Harappans also made stone seals. They made pots with beautiful designs.

2. Describe the drains of the cities.

Ans. Most cities had covered drains. They were laid out carefully in straight lines. Each drain had a gentle slope. Thus water could flow easily through it. Drains in houses were connected to those on the streets and smaller drains led to the bigger ones. The drains were covered, and provided with inspection holes at intervals to clean them.

3. Who was the 'specialist' in reference to the chapter?

Ans. A specialist was one who was trained to do one kind of work, e.g. cutting stone, polishing beads or carving seals.