



Class ; VI

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Subject : SST(History)

L8 - Villages, Towns And Trade

Q1. Fill the blanks:

- (a) **Vellalar** was a word used for large landowners in Tamil.
- (b) The gramabhojaka often got his land cultivated by the **slaves and workers**.
- (c) Ploughmen were known as **uzhavar** in Tamil.
- (d) Most grihapatis were **smaller** landowners.

Q2. Describe the functions of the gramabhojaka. Why do you think he was powerful?

Ans.

- 1. In the northern part of India, the village headman was known as the gramabhojaka.
- 2. He owned a very large piece of land and got it cultivated by his slaves and hired workers.
- 3. He used to collect taxes from village, by the order of the king.
- 4. He also functioned as a judge and sometimes as a policeman.

Gramabhojaka was powerful because:

- 1. His post was hereditary. Usually men from same family held the position for generations.
- 2. The gramabhojaka was generally the largest landowner.
- 3. Generally, he had slaves and hired workers to cultivate the land.
- 4. Besides, as he was powerful, the king often used him to collect taxes from the village.
- 5. The gramabhojaka also functioned as a judge and sometimes a policeman.

Q3. List the crafts persons who would have been present in both villages and cities.

Ans. Craftsmen such as blacksmith, weavers, carpenters, perfumers, sculptors and potters were present in both villages and cities.

Q4. Choose the correct answer:

(a) Punch marked coins were made of :

- 1. silver 2. Gold 3. Tin 4. Ivory

(b) Mathura was an important:

- 1. village 2. Port 3. Religious centre 4. Forested area

(c) Shrenis were associations of :

- 1. rulers 2. Craftspersons 3. Farmers 4. herders

Q5. What kind of evidence do historians use to find out about trade and trade routes?

Ans. They found evidence through multiple sources.

1. Through the literature of the concerned period
2. Ancient coins
3. Travellers account
4. Pottery

Q6. Which of the iron tools shown on page 73 (of the NCERT textbook) would have been important for agriculture? What would the other tools have been used for?

Ans. The iron tools shown are: tongs, axe and sickle.

*Out of these tools, sickle would have been important for agriculture.

*Tongs would have been used by a blacksmith for making tools from hot iron.

*Axe would have been important for cutting grass.

Q7. Compare the drainage system in your locality with that of the cities mentioned in the lesson. What similarities and differences do you notice?

Ans. In our locality we have an underground drainage system in which the bathrooms, toilets, and kitchens are connected to the main drains outside the houses.

In the ancient times, the archaeologists have found rows of pots, or ceramic rings arranged one on top of the other in many cities. These were known as ring wells. These seem to have been used as toilets in some cases, and as drains and garbage dumps.

Similarities: The drainage system in our localities is well-planned. The same system was adopted in the cities mentioned in the lesson.

Differences: Today's modern drainage systems are made of durable materials like concrete pipes and metals. The drainage in ancient times was made out of wood, mud bricks and thatch that was not durable and could not survive for long.

Q8. Why did the kings want to control the silk route?

Ans. The kings want to control the silk route because they could benefit from the taxes, tributes and gifts that were brought by traders travelling along the route.