

Answer Key.  
HISTORY AND CIVICS  
CLASS 9

INDUS VALLEY CIVILIZATION WORKSHEET:

Short Answers

1. What do you understand by the term civilisation?

Ans. The process by which a society or place reaches an advanced stage of social and cultural development and organization.

2. Why is the Indus valley civilisation also known as the Harappan civilisation?

Ans. Indus valley civilisation also known as the Harappan civilisation because Harappa is the most important site and one of the first to be discovered.

3. Mention the sources of information of the Harappan civilisation.

Ans. the sources of information of the Harappan civilisation are: a. great bath, b. citadels, c. seals, d. lothal dockyard.

4. Mention any two occupations of the people of the Harappan civilisation.

Ans. 1. Agriculture, 2. Trader

5. What is a citadel?

Ans. The Harappan city was divided into the upper town, called the Citadel and the lower town. Citadel was on an elevated platform and had important monuments.

6. What was the extent of the civilisation?

Ans. It extended from Jammu in North to Narmada in South, Baluchistan in west to Meerut in east.

7. Mention any two great monuments.

Ans. Great Bath, Great Granary.

8. Mention any two seals.

Ans. Pashupati seal, unicorn seal.

9. What was the religious belief of the harappans centred on?

Ans. Nature worshipping. They used to worship elements of nature and mother goddess and pashupati, the earliest known description of shiva.

10. Mention two reasons for its decline

Ans. Natural calamity such as earthquake and invasions by the Aryans.

Long Answers

1. With reference to emergence of civilisation answer the following

a. What are the main features that mark a civilisation?

Ans. 1. Growth of cities, 2. Surplus food production, 3. Structures and buildings

b. Give example of any two contemporary civilisation.

Ans. Mesopotamian and Egyptian civilisation

2. With reference to the Harappan civilisation describe the features of the following:

a. Town planning

Ans. Streets were straight and intersected each other at right angle. Advanced sewage system. All the waste water from house drained into the main street drain which was underground. All houses were made of brick and wood. They had good ventilation and a courtyard, kitchen and bathroom.

b. Drainage system

Ans. advanced system of drainage, all waste water emptied into the main drain under the street, every house had paved bathroom with proper sewage system.

c. The houses of the people

Ans. They were made of bricks and wood. Each house had a courtyard, bathroom, kitchen. Doors and windows opened on the streets .

3. With regards to the urban planning of the Indus valley cities explain the following

a. The great bath

Ans . largest structure in the Indus valley. 108x180ft with a bathing pool 39ft long,28 ft wide and 8 ft deep. Had an open quadrangle and verandas on 4 sides.

b. The great granary

Ans great granaries were found in four different sites – Harappa , mohenjodaro,lothal and kalibangan. They had working floors which consisted of circular bricks and stored grains .

c. Lothal dockyard

Ans Largest manmade dockyard during the time. Connected by channels that lead to gulf of cambay. Was indicative of the trade and commerce during the time

4. With reference to the art and craft describe the following

a. Dancing girl

Ans. the tiny bronze-cast, the statue of a young lady now unanimously called 'Indus dancing girl', represents a stylistically poised female figure performing a dance. The Indus artists knew metal blending and casting and perhaps other technical aspects of metallurgy, and two, that a well developed society Indus people had innovated dance and other performing arts as modes of entertainment.

b. Bearded man

Ans. Stone sculpture shows a man with trimmed beard and half closed eyes. With a shawl wrapped around his shoulders it is assumed to be figure representing a priest or noble man.

c. Figurine of mother goddess

Ans. Terracotta figure of Mother Goddess was a unique piece of sculpture which represented Earth . the harappans believed that the mother goddess was a source of energy and creation.

5. With respect to the harappan seal excavated in other parts of the world explain

a. Trade relation with other civilisation

Ans. External trade was extensively carried out which is evident from seals and harappan artifacts found in different parts of the world.

b. Uses of weight and measures.

Ans. Use of regulated weight and measure was prevalent. Sets of stone weights were for measurement by the harappans.

6. With respect to religious practices of Indus valley people write short note on

a. mother goddess

Ans. Mother Goddess was representation of Earth . The harappans believed that the mother goddess was a source of energy and creation.

b. pashupati

Ans. A horned three faced deity who is seated in the posture of a yogi with a horned headdress.

c. worship of nature and its elements

Ans. The harappans worshiped trees, animals, birds and elements of nature such as fire, water. The most common animal found on seals is the bull. They also worshipped unicorn and some form of cobra.