



Social Science

IX - Standard

Based on the Updated New Textbook

Free
Map
Workbook

Salient Features

- **Complete Answers** to Textbook Exercises.
- **Exhaustive Additional** Question in all Units.
- Answers for **Slow Learning Students**.
- Chapter-wise **Unit Tests**.
- Quarterly Exam 2019, 2023 & 2024 [**QY-2019, 2023 & 2024**], Half Yearly Exam - 2019, 2023 & 2024 [**HY-2019, 2023 & 2024**] and Common Annual Exam April 2023, 2024 & 2025 [**April-2023, 2024 & 2025**] questions are incorporated in the appropriate sections.
- Half Yearly Exam - December 2025 Question Paper is given with answers.

Slow
Learner's
Answers given



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Author:

Mr. T.Rajan, M.A., M.Ed.,
Chennai.

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NOTE FROM PUBLISHER

It gives me great pride and pleasure in bringing to you **Sura's Social Science** Guide for **9th Standard**. It is prepared as per the Updated New Textbooks.

This guide encompasses all the requirements of the students to comprehend the text and the evaluation of the textbook.

- Additional questions have been provided exhaustively for clear understanding of the units under study.
- Chapter-wise Unit Tests.

In order to learn effectively, I advise students to learn the subject section-wise and practice the exercises given. It will be a teaching companion to teachers and a learning companion to students.

Though these salient features are available in this Guide, I cannot negate the indispensable role of the teachers in assisting the student to understand the subject thoroughly.

I sincerely believe this guide satisfies the needs of the students and bolsters the teaching methodologies of the teachers.

I pray the almighty to bless the students for consummate success in their examinations.

Mr. Subash Raj, B.E., M.S.

Publications

All the Best

Head Office

Sura Publications

1620, 'J' Block, 16th Main Road,
Anna Nagar, Chennai - 600 040.

Phone : 044 - 4862 9977, 044 - 4862 7755.

e-mail : orders@surabooks.com

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SYLLABUS

MONTH	HISTORY	GEOGRAPHY	CIVICS	ECONOMICS	TOTAL UNITS
June	1	1	1	1	4
July	2,3	2,3	2	2	6
I MID TERM TEST 10 UNITS					
August	4,5	4,5	3	0	5
September	0	0	0	0	0
QUARTERLY EXAM 15 UNITS					
October	6,7	6	4	3	5
November	8	7	5	4	4
II MID TERM TEST 9 UNITS					
December	9	0	0	0	1
HALF YEARLY EXAM					
January	10	8	6	5	4
February	11	0	0	0	1
March	III MID TERM TEST & REVISION 5 UNITS				
April	ANNUAL EXAM				

UNIT 1

HISTORY

Evolution of Humans and Society – Prehistoric Period



EXERCISE

I. Choose the correct answer:

1. _____ is genetically closest to humans. [QY-'19, '23 & '24; HY-'23]
(a) Gorilla (b) Chimpanzee (c) Orangutan (d) Great Apes
[Ans: (b) Chimpanzee]
2. The period called _____ marks the beginning of agriculture and animal domestication. [April-'23]
(a) Paleolithic (b) Mesolithic (c) Neolithic (d) Megalithic
[Ans: (c) Neolithic]
3. Direct ancestor of modern man was _____. [QY-'23; April-'24 & '25]
(a) Homo habilis (b) Homo erectus (c) Homo sapiens (d) Neanderthal man
[Ans: (c) Homo sapiens]
4. _____ refers to the area covering Egypt, Israel-Palestine and Iraq. [HY-'19]
(a) Great Rift Valley (b) Fertile Crescent (c) Solo river (d) Neander Valley
[Ans: (b) Fertile Crescent]
5. Sir Robert Bruce Foote, a geologist from England first discovered the _____ tools at Pallavaram near Chennai.
(a) Microlithic (b) Paleolithic (c) Mesolithic (d) Neolithic
[Ans: (b) Paleolithic]
6. (i) The period before the introduction of writing is called pre-history.
(ii) The pre-historic people developed language, made beautiful paintings and artefacts.
(iii) The pre-historic societies are treated as literate.
(iv) The pre-historic period is called ancient.
(a) (i) is correct (b) (i) and (ii) are correct
(c) (i) and (iv) are correct (d) (ii) and (iii) are correct
[Ans: (c) (i) and (iv) are correct]
7. (i) The Neolithic people used polished stone axes called Celts.
(ii) Evidence of Neolithic village is found at Payyampalli in Chennai district.
(iii) The cultural period that succeeded the Neolithic is called the Bronze Age.
(iv) The period that witnessed domestication of animals and cultivation of crops is called Mesolithic.
(a) (i) is correct (b) (ii) is correct
(c) (ii) and (iii) are correct (d) (iv) is correct [Ans: (a) (i) is correct]

8. **Assertion (A) :** Many of the Mesolithic sites are founds nearby rivers and tanks.
Reason (R) : Irrigation management developed during Mesolithic period.

- (a) A and R are correct and R explains A
 (b) A and R are correct but R doesn't explain A
 (c) A is correct but R is incorrect (d) A and R both are incorrect

[Ans: (d) A and R both are incorrect]

II. Fill in the blanks:

1. Hand axes and cleavers are the important tool types of the _____ culture. [QY & HY-'24]
 [Ans: Lower Paleolithic]
2. The methods and techniques involved in the production of stone tools are called _____ technology.
 [Ans: Lithic]
3. _____ is known as the Middle Stone Age, as it is placed between the Paleolithic and Neolithic.
 [Ans: Mesolithic period]

III. Find out the correct statement:

1. (a) The concept 'survival of the fittest' contributed to the scientific understanding of human origins.
 (b) The book "On the Origin of Species" was published by Herbert Spencer.
 (c) Charles Darwin's theory of biological evolution connects with the process of natural selection.
 (d) Geology is the study of lithic technology. [Ans: a & c is correct]
2. (a) Among the Great Apes Orangutan is genetically the closest to humans.
 (b) The ancestors to humans were called Hominins and their origins have been traced to Africa.
 (c) Flake cannot be used for tool making.
 (d) Acheulian is the main block of stone from which small chips are flaked by using a hammer stone. [Ans: b is correct]

IV. Match the following:

[QY-2019]

No.	Column - I	Column - II
1.	Palaeoanthropology	Teris
2.	Hand axe tools	Venus
3.	Images on stone and bone	Acheulian
4.	Red sand dunes	Microliths
5.	Stone artefacts of small size	The study of the human ancestors

Answers
The study of the human ancestors
Acheulian
Venus
Teris
Microliths

V. Answer the following briefly:

1. **Discuss how the age of speculation made humans become conscious and knowledgeable.**
Ans: (i) Humans became conscious and knowledgeable by being curious and began to think and ask questions about nature, organisms and the world around them.
 (ii) They worshipped Sun, Moon and various natural forces about which they developed their understanding, some of which were not scientific.

2. Write a note on the impact of pastoralism on the prehistoric people in Tamil Nadu.

- Ans:** (i) People practiced agriculture, domesticated cattle and sheep, and some of the groups were still hunting and gathering.
- (ii) Millets and rice were cultivated; irrigation management developed.
- (iii) Evidence of rice is seen in the megalithic sites like Adichanallur and Porunthal.

3. List out the features of Megalithic Burial types.

[QY-'23]

- Ans:** (i) Megalithic burials used large stones for the dead people.
- (ii) Skeletons or few bones of the dead persons were placed along with grave goods like iron objects, carnelian beads and bronze objects.
- (iii) Some burials do not have human bones and they have only the grave goods, called Memorial Burials.

4. Examine the tool making technical skills of lower Paleolithic people.

[HY-'23 & '24]

- Ans:** (i) The lower Paleolithic people were intelligent enough to select naturally available stone block or pebbles to make their tools.
- (ii) They made various tools such as hand axes and cleavers to meet their subsistence needs.
- (iii) The tools have physical symmetry and convey the human's cognitive (perception) skill.

VI. Answer all the questions given under each caption :

(Answers for Slow Learner given at the End of the Unit)

1. The developments in the fields of agriculture, pottery and metal tools are considered a landmark in the life of Megalithic period-Substantiate.**Ans: (a) Agriculture:**

- (i) People practiced agriculture, domesticated cattle and sheep.
- (ii) Millets and rice were cultivated.
- (iii) Irrigation management developed, since many of the megalithic sites are found nearby rivers and tanks.
- (iv) Evidence of rice is seen in the megalithic sites like Adichanallur and Porunthal.

(b) Pottery:

- (i) Pottery is an important evidence found in the archaeological sites.
- (ii) The Iron Age and Sangam Age people used the black and red colours to make blackware and redware pottery.
- (iii) Potteries were used for cooking, storage and dining purposes.
- (iv) The black and redware pottery has a black inside and a red outside, with lustrous surfaces.

(c) Metal tools:

- (i) Weapons such as swords and daggers, axes, chisels, lamps and tripod stands were also found.
- (ii) The iron tools were used for agriculture, hunting and gathering and in battles.

2. The history of humans is closely related to the history of the earth. Elucidate.

[HY-'19 & '24; QY-'23; April-'24 & '25]

- Ans:** (i) The history of humans is closely related to the history of the earth.
- (ii) The earth contains geological, archaeological, and biological records of historical times in its upper layers.
- (iii) These layers are important for reconstructing the history of the earth and living organisms.
- (iv) Fossil bones of human ancestors are embedded in the earth's layers.
- (v) Palaeoanthropologists and Archaeologists excavate the soil and rock layers to extract evidence.
- (vi) These layers and fossils are scientifically dated to study the stages of human evolution in chronological order



Fun with History

Students Activities

Mark the prehistoric sites on the world map.



Organize an exhibition on the pre-historic sites of Tamil Nadu.

Ans: Activity to be done by the students. ✍

Government Exam Questions

I. Answer the following questions:

1. Hominid and Hominins

[QY-'19]

- Who are Hominids?
- Who was the earliest human ancestor to make tools in Africa?
- How are the modern humans known?
- Name any one species of this tribe.

- Ans:**
- Hominid refers to all the species of the modern and extinct great apes, which also includes humans.
 - Homo habilis was the earliest human ancestor to make tools in Africa.
 - Modern humans are known as Homo Sapiens.
 - Humans are the only living species of this tribe.



ADDITIONAL

I. Choose the best answer

- We live in an age of _____ Technology.
 - Transport
 - Information**
 - Agricultural
 - Scientific
- The history of humans is closely related to the history of the _____.
 - Planets
 - Earth**
 - Solar system
 - Water bodies
- The study of human ancestors and their evolution is called _____.
 - Paleoanthropology**
 - Geology
 - Microbiology
 - Archaeology

4. The study of human past through the analysis and interpretation of material remains is called _____.
 (a) **Archaeology** (b) Paleanthropology
 (c) Geology (d) Biology
5. The earth was formed approximately _____ billion years ago.
 (a) 5.5 (b) 4.5 (c) **4.54** (d) 5.52
6. Palaeontology is the study of _____.
 (a) **Fossils** (b) Coins (c) Inscriptions (d) Handwriting
7. The capitoline Museum in _____ is perhaps the oldest surviving museum at present.
 (a) America (b) England (c) **Italy** (d) Greece
8. Modern human called Homo Sapiens first appeared in _____.
 (a) China (b) Europe (c) India (d) **Africa**
9. The beginning of history writing is traced to the time of ancient _____.
 (a) Egyptians (b) **Greeks** (c) Romans (d) Indians
10. The Father of history is _____.
 (a) **Herodotus** (b) Hercules (c) Aristotle (d) Socrates
11. The museum of Ennigaldi Nanna was established in _____.
 (a) Sumeria (b) Babylonia (c) **Mesopotamia** (d) Bulgaria
12. The oldest Capitoline museum is located in _____.
 (a) **Italy** (b) Germany (c) France (d) Belgium
13. World's oldest university museum Ashmolean is located at _____.
 (a) London (b) Ireland (c) Nalanda (d) **Oxford**
14. The study of Fossils is known as _____.
 (a) Immunology (b) **Palaeontology** (c) Microbiology (d) Geology
15. The stone-made chisel with a sharp cutting edge is known as _____.
 (a) Flake (b) Bifaces (c) Acheulian (d) **Burin**
16. Lithic technology involves _____.
 (a) electricity (b) water (c) land (d) **stone**
17. Cro-Magnons belonged to _____.
 (a) **Europe** (b) Asia (c) America (d) Africa
18. Cro-Magnons belonged to _____.
 (a) Lower Paleolithic period (b) Middle Paleolithic period
 (c) **Upper Paleolithic period** (d) Mesolithic period
19. The stone tools of Lower Paleolithic culture of Tamil Nadu are found at _____.
 (a) Ayambakkam (b) Kottivakkam (c) **Athirampakkam** (d) Medavakkam
20. Lunates are tools in the shape of a _____.
 (a) circle (b) cube (c) **crescent** (d) cuboid
21. The cultural period that succeeded the Neolithic is called _____ period.
 (a) Lower Paleolithic (b) Mesolithic
 (c) Middle Paleolithic (d) **Megalithic**

- 22. Assertion (A) : The cultural period that succeeded the Neolithic is called the Iron Age.**
Reason (R) : The people of Neolithic period used iron technology.

(a) A and R are correct and R explains A

(b) A and R are correct but R does not explain A

(c) A is correct but R is incorrect

(d) A and R both are incorrect

II. Fill in the blanks

1. Prehistoric people were the pioneers of _____ knowledge. **[Ans: creative]**
2. Charles Darwin published the book _____ in 1871. **[Ans: The Descent of Man]**
3. The long span of time in earth's history is divided into eras, periods and epochs by the _____. **[Ans: Geologists]**
4. _____ Museum at Oxford University is the oldest university museum in the world. **[Ans: Ashmolean]**
5. Australopithecines were the _____ from which modern humans evolved. **[Ans: apes]**
6. The father of History is _____. **[Ans: Herodotus]**
7. Animal bones are preserved due to _____. **[Ans: Mineralisation]**
8. The period before the introduction of writing is called _____. **[Ans: Pre-history]**
9. The _____ is genetically the closest to humans. **[Ans: chimpanzee]**
10. The earliest tools made by human ancestors are found in _____ in Kenya. **[Ans: Lomekwi]**
11. Subsistence necessities of prehistoric humans were mainly _____ and _____. **[Ans: food, water]**
12. The human ancestors possibly used _____ language. **[Ans: Sign]**
13. Levalloisian tools are named after the _____ town. **[Ans: Levallois (French)]**
14. Some of the rock paintings of India are dated to _____ Paleolithic culture. **[Ans: upper]**
15. Mesolithic period is known as _____ age. **[Ans: Middle stone]**

III. Find out the correct statement

1. (a) Early evidence of the Neolithic period is found in the fertile crescent region of India.
 (b) Neolithic age is called the 'new age' because of the new grinding and polishing techniques used for the tools.
 (c) People preferred to live on river banks as it was a cool atmosphere.
 (d) Wheat and barley were cultivated at Mehrgarh. **[Ans : b & d is correct]**
2. (a) In mesolithic period there was no knowledge of metal.
 (b) The stone tools are found near Chennai at Athirampakkam.
 (c) Sir Robert Bruce Foote belonged to Spain.
 (d) Basalt rocks are sedimentary rocks. **[Ans : a & b is correct]**

IV. Match the Following

1. (a) Mesopotamia - (i) Tools
 (b) Homo sapiens - (ii) Burials
 (c) Lunates - (iii) Herodotus
 (d) Menhirs - (iv) Modern human
 (e) The History - (v) Oldest Museum

[Ans: (a) - v, (b) - iv, (c) - i, (d) - ii, (e) - iii]

2. (a) Ennigaldi - Nanna Museum - (i) 1471 C.E
 (b) Capitoline Museum - (ii) 1820-1903 C.E
 (c) Ashmolean Museum - (iii) 1809-1882 C.E
 (d) Herbert Spencer - (iv) 530 B.C.E
 (e) Charles Darwin - (v) 1501 C.E
 - (vi) 1677 C.E

[Ans: (a) - iv, (b) - i, (c) - vi, (d) - ii, (e) - iii]

3. (a) Species of modern period - (i) Chimpanzee
 (b) Great apes - (ii) Africa
 (c) Human Ancestors - (iii) Homo erectus
 (d) Great Rift Valley - (iv) Hominins
 (e) Two million years ago - (v) Homo Sapiens
 - (vi) America

[Ans: (a) - v, (b) - i, (c) - iv, (d) - ii, (e) - iii]

4. (a) Basalt - (i) Southern part of Tamil Nadu
 (b) Lemuria - (ii) Palk Strait
 (c) Sivarakottai - (iii) Sri Lanka
 (d) Teris - (iv) Igneous rocks
 (e) Water crafts - (v) Continent
 (vi) Red sand dunes

[Ans: (a) - iv, (b) - v, (c) - i, (d) - vi, (e) - ii]

V. Answer the following briefly

1. What is information technology?

Ans: We live in the age of information technology in which mobile phones and modern technology give us wide and all encompassing knowledge, putting the world of our fingertips and helping in the development of powerful technology.

2. Mention the importance of the upper layers of the earth.

- Ans:** (i) The upper layers of the earth help to reconstruct the history of the earth and various living organisms.
 (ii) The fossil bones of the human ancestors embedded in these layers are scientifically dated to study the stages of human evolution.

3. What is meant by Stratigraphy?

Ans: The study of origin, nature, relationships of rock and soil layers that were formed due to natural and cultural activities is known as stratigraphy.

4. Where is Great Rift Valley located?

Ans: The Great Rift Valley runs for about 6,400 km from Northern part of Syria to Central Mozambique in East Africa.

5. Where do we find the earliest lithic tools of human ancestors?

- Ans:** (i) The earliest tools made by human ancestors are found in Lomekwi in Kenya.
 (ii) Oldowan tools occur in the Olduvai gorge in Africa.

6. What are Levalloisian tools?

- Ans:** (i) The lithic tool making tradition of the Levalloisian belonged to the Middle Paleolithic Culture.
 (ii) Levalloisian tools are the stone implements made after preparing the core.

7. Mention the importance of the Upper Paleolithic period.

- Ans:** (i) The Upper Paleolithic period marks innovation in tool technology with long blades and burins.
- (ii) Numerous paintings and art objects suggests the improvement in cognitive skills and the development of languages.

8. Neolithic age is called New age. Why?

- Ans:** Neolithic Age is called New Age because of the new grinding and polishing techniques used for the tools.

9. What is meant by Cosmic-ray exposure dating?

- Ans:** Cosmic ray exposure dating is a method in which exposure to cosmogenic rays is done for dating the samples.

10. What does the term burnishing mean?

- Ans:** (i) Before firing, the pottery was polished with pebbles.
- (ii) This process is known as burnishing.

11. When was the foundation for Sangam age laid?

- Ans:** (i) The iron age was a formative period and the foundation for the Sangam Age was laid.
- (ii) During the iron age, many parts of Tamil Nadu were occupied by people and an exchange relationship developed among these people.

12. Mention the sites in Tamil Nadu where Iron age evidence is found.

- Ans:** (i) The iron age evidence is found at many sites including Adichanallur in Thoothukudi district, Sanur near Madhuranthakam and Sithannavasal near Pudukkottai.
- (ii) Megalithic burial sites are found in the whole of Tamil Nadu.

13. What are memorial burials?

- (i) Some burials do not have human bones and they have only the grave goods like iron objects, carnelian beads and bronze objects.
- (ii) They may be called 'Memorial Burials'.

14. What is Portholes?

- Ans:** (i) Portholes are holes found in the cists and dolmens on one side.
- (ii) They may have acted as the entrance to the burials.
- (iii) There is a view that they were meant for the movement of the soul or spirit.

15. Write a short note on : i) Archaeology ii) Palaeoanthropology

- Ans:** (i) **Archaeology:** Archaeology is the study of human past through the analysis and interpretation of material remains.
- (ii) **Palaeoanthropology :** Palaeoanthropology is the study of the human ancestors and their evolution by the study of the fossil remains.

16. Write about three ages.

- Ans:** (i) **Stone Age :** The period when stone was mainly used for making implements.
- (ii) **Bronze Age :** The period when bronze metallurgy (extraction of metal from ores) developed.
- (iii) **Iron Age :** The period when iron was smelted to produce implements.

17. Write a short note on Great Rift Valley.

- Ans:** (i) The Great Rift Valley is a valley-like formation that runs for about 6,400 km from the northern part of Syria to Central Mozambique in East Africa.
- (ii) This geographical feature is visible even from the space, and many prehistoric sites are found in Eastern Africa.

18. Where is Payyampalli located?

Ans: Payyampalli is a village in Vellore district of Tamil Nadu.

VI. Answer the following in detail.**1. What was contributed by Herbert Spencer and Charles Darwin towards biological evolution and understanding of human origins?**

- Ans:** (i) **Herbert Spencer** contributed the concept of biological evolution.
- (ii) **Charles Darwin** proposed the theory of biological evolution.
- (iii) He proposed the concepts of natural selection and survival of the fittest.
- (iv) Darwin published the books *On the Origin of Species* in 1859 and *The Descent of Man* in 1871.
- (v) **Natural Selection** is the process by which organisms that are better adapted to their environment would survive and produce more offspring.
- (vi) **Survival of the Fittest** means the “survival of the form that will leave the most copies of itself in successive generations”.

2. The Lower Paleolithic culture conveys the cognitive skill of the human ancestors. How?

- Ans:** (i) Human ancestors belonging to *Homo habilis* and *Homo erectus* flaked large stone blocks to make tools.
- (ii) They designed various tools like hand axes and cleavers to meet their daily subsistence needs.
- (iii) These tools, also called bifaces or Acheulian tools, show physical symmetry, indicating careful planning and skill.
- (iv) The process of making tools required forethought, precision, and understanding of materials, reflecting advanced perception.
- (v) The widespread presence of these tools shows the cognitive skill of the human ancestors.

3. Mention the contribution of Sir Robert Bruce Foote towards Paleolithic culture of Tamil Nadu.

- Ans:** (i) Robert Bruce Foote, a geologist from England, discovered Paleolithic tools at Pallavaram near Chennai in 1863.
- (ii) They are the earliest finds of such tools in India.
- (iii) The hand axe assemblages were considered as the Madras Stone Tool Industry.
- (iv) The tools that he discovered are in the Chennai Museum.



SLOW LEARNER'S MATERIAL - TEXTBOOK EVALUATION

VI. Answer the following in detail:

1. The developments in the fields of agriculture, pottery and metal tools are considered a landmark in the life of Megalithic period-Substantiate.

Ans: Agriculture:

- (i) Millets and rice were cultivated.
- (ii) Irrigation developed since many sites were near rivers and tanks.

Pottery:

- (i) They made Black and Red Ware pottery.
- (ii) It was used for cooking and storing food.

Metal Tools:

- (i) They made iron weapons like swords, axes, chisels and daggers.
- (ii) Iron tools were used for farming and hunting.

2. The history of humans is closely related to the history of the earth. Elucidate.

[HY-'19 & '24; QY-'23; April-'24]

- Ans:**
- (i) The earth's upper layers contain geological, archaeological, and biological records.
 - (ii) These layers help us understand the history of the earth and living beings.
 - (iii) Fossil bones of human ancestors are found in these layers.
 - (iv) Fossils and layers are scientifically dated to study human evolution in order.

UNIT TEST

Time : 40 Minutes

Marks: 25

I. Choose the Correct Answer:

4 × 1 = 4

1. Direct ancestor of modern man was _____.
 - (a) Homo habilis
 - (b) Homo erectus
 - (c) Homo sapiens
 - (d) Neanderthal man
2. The period called _____ marks the beginning of agriculture and animal domestication.
 - (a) Paleolithic
 - (b) Mesolithic
 - (c) Neolithic
 - (d) Megalithic
3. Genetically _____ is closest to humans.
 - (a) Gorilla
 - (b) Chimpanzee
 - (c) Orangutan
 - (d) Ape
4.
 - (i) The period before the introduction of writing is called pre-history.
 - (ii) The prehistoric people developed language, made beautiful paintings and artefacts.
 - (iii) The prehistoric societies are treated as literates.
 - (iv) The pre-historic period is called ancient.
 - (a) (i) is correct
 - (b) (i) and (ii) are correct
 - (c) (i) and (iv) are correct
 - (d) (ii) and (iii) are correct.

II. Fill in the Blanks:**6 × 1 = 6**

1. The father of History is _____
2. Hand axes and cleavers are the important tool types of the _____ culture.
3. _____ is an object or tool made or modified by humans.
4. The Iron age is also known as _____ .
5. Lunates are tools in the shape of a _____ .
6. Mesolithic period is known as _____ age.

III. Find out the correct statement:**1 × 1 = 1**

1. (a) The concept 'survival of the fittest' contributed to the scientific understanding of human origins.
(b) The book "On the Origin of Species" was published by Herbert Spencer.
(c) Charles Darwin's theory of biological evolution connects with the process of natural selection.
(d) Geology is the study of lithic technology.

IV. Match the Following:**5 × 1 = 5**

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Palaeo anthropology | - a. Teris |
| 2. Hand axe tools | - b. Venus |
| 3. Images on stone and bone | - c. Acheulian |
| 4. Red sand dunes | - d. Microliths |
| 5. Stone artefacts of small size | - e. the study of the human ancestors |

V. Answer the following briefly:**2 × 2 = 4**

1. Write a note on the impact of pastoralism on the prehistoric people in Tamil Nadu.
2. Examine the tool making technical skills of lower Paleolithic people.

VI. Answer the following in detail:**1 × 5 = 5**

1. The history of humans is closely related to the history of the earth. Elucidate.



UNIT 2

Ancient Civilisations



EXERCISE

I. Choose the correct answer

1. The earliest signs to denote words through pictures
(a) Calligraphy (b) Pictographic (c) Ideographic (d) Stratigraphic
[Ans: (b) Pictographic]
2. The preservation process of dead body in ancient Egypt
(a) Sarcophagus (b) Hyksos (c) Mummification (d) Polytheism
[Ans: (c) Mummification]
3. The Sumerian system of writing
(a) Pictographic (b) Hieroglyphic (c) Sonogram (d) Cuneiform
[April-'23; HY-'24]
[Ans: (d) Cuneiform]
4. The Harappans did not have the knowledge of
(a) Gold and Elephant (b) Horse and Iron
(c) Sheep and Silver (d) Ox and Platinum
[HY-'23; April-'25]
[Ans: (b) Horse and Iron]
5. The Bronze image suggestive of the use of lost-wax process known to the Indus people.
(a) Jar (b) Priest king (c) Dancing girl (d) Bird
[QY-'19]
[Ans: (c) Dancing girl]
6. (i) The oldest civilisation in Mesopotamia belonged to the Akkadians.
(ii) The Chinese developed the Hieroglyphic system.
(iii) The Euphrates and Tigris drain into the Mannar Gulf.
(iv) Hammurabi, the king of Babylon was a great law maker.
(a) (i) is correct (b) (i) and (ii) are correct
(c) (iii) is correct (d) (iv) is correct
[Ans: (d) (iv) is correct]
7. (i) Yangtze River is known as Sorrow of China.
(ii) Wu-Ti constructed the Great Wall of China.
(iii) Chinese invented gun powder.
(iv) According to traditions Mencius was the founder of Taoism.
(a) (i) is correct (b) (ii) is correct
(c) (iii) is correct (d) (iii) and (iv) are correct
[QY-'23]
[Ans: (c) (iii) is correct]
8. What is the correct chronological order of four civilisations of Mesopotamia?
(a) Sumerians - Assyrians - Akkadians - Babylonians
(b) Babylonians - Sumerians - Assyrians - Akkadians
(c) Sumerians - Akkadians - Babylonians - Assyrians
(d) Babylonians - Assyrians - Akkadians - Sumerians
[Ans: (c) Sumerians - Akkadians - Babylonians - Assyrians]

9. Assertion (A) : Assyrians of Mesopotamian civilisation were contemporaries of Indus civilisation. [HY-'19; QY-'24]

Reason (R) : The Documents of an Assyrian ruler refer to the ships from Meluha.

- (a) A and R are correct and A explains R
- (b) A and R are correct but A doesn't explain R
- (c) A is incorrect but R is correct
- (d) Both A and R are incorrect

[Ans: (a) A and R are correct and A explains R]

II. Fill in the blanks

1. _____ is a massive limestone image of a lion with a human head. [April-'24]

[Ans: The Great sphinx of Giza]

2. The early form of writing of the Egyptians is known as _____. [QY-'24] [Ans: Hieroglyphic]

3. _____ specifies the laws related to various crimes in ancient Babylonia.

[Ans: Hammurabi's code of law]

4. _____ was the master archive keeper of Chou state, according to traditions.

[Ans: Lao Tze]

5. The _____ figurines and paintings on the pottery from the sites suggest the artistic skills of the Harappans.

[Ans: Terracotta]

III. Find out the correct statement

- 1. (a) The Great Bath at Harappa is well-built with several adjacent rooms.
- (b) The cuneiform inscriptions relate to the epic of Gilgamesh.
- (c) The terracotta figurines and dancing girl made of copper suggest the artistic skills of Egyptians.
- (d) The Mesopotamians devised a solar calendar system

[Ans: b is correct]

- 2. (a) Amon was an "Egyptian God".
- (b) The fortified Harappan city had the temples.
- (c) The great sphinx is a pyramid-shaped monument found in ancient Mesopotamia.
- (d) The invention of the potter's wheel is credited to the Egyptians.

[Ans: a is correct]

IV. Match the following

[QY. & HY. 2019]

No.	Column - I	Column - II
1.	Pharaoh	A kind of grass
2.	Papyrus	the oldest written story on Earth
3.	Great Law Maker	Mohenjo-Daro
4.	Gilgamesh	Hammurabi
5.	The Great Bath	The Egyptian King

Answers
The Egyptian king
A kind of grass
Hammurabi
The oldest written story on Earth
Mohenjo-Daro

V. Answer the following briefly

1. The Egyptians excelled in art and architecture. Illustrate.

- Ans:** (i) Numerous sculptures, paintings and carvings attest to the artistic skills of Egyptians.
- (ii) The pyramids are massive monuments built as tombs of mourning to the Pharaohs.
- (iii) The great pyramids near Cairo are known as the Giza Pyramids.
- (iv) The Great Sphinx of Giza is a massive limestone image of a lion with human head.

2. State the salient features of the Ziggurats.

[QY-'23]

- Ans:** (i) Ziggurats were Pyramid shaped monuments found in the ancient Mesopotamia (Modern Iraq)
- (ii) One of the most famous ziggurats of the time is the one in the city of Ur.
- (iii) The ziggurats were at the city centre on a platform and appeared like steep pyramids.

3. Hammurabi Code is an important legal document. Explain.

[QY-'19 & '24; April-'23, '24 & '25]

- Ans:** (i) Hammurabi code is an important legal document with 282 provisions specifying cases related to family rights, trade, slavery, taxes and wages.
- (ii) It is carved on a stone, which portrays Hammurabi as receiving the code from the Sun God Shamash.
- (iii) An 'eye for an eye' and a 'tooth for a tooth' form of justice is used in the Hammurabi code.

VI. Answer the following in detail

(Answers for Slow Learner given at the End of the Unit)

1. Define the terms Hieroglyphics and Cuneiform with their main features.**Ans: (a) Hieroglyphics (Egypt):**

- (i) Hieroglyphic is the Egyptian system of writing.
- (ii) It was used in inscriptions on seals and other objects.
- (iii) Another form called Heretic used a pictogram-based system for common purposes.
- (iv) It was developed around 3000 BC (BCE) and attests to the Egyptians' skills in handling symbols.

(b) Cuneiform (Mesopotamia):

- (i) Cuneiform is the Sumerian system of writing.
- (ii) The letters are in the form of wedges, hence the name Cuneiform.
- (iii) It was used for commercial transactions, writing letters, and stories.
- (iv) Clay tablets contain loads of information in this script. The epic of Gilgamesh was written in Cuneiform.

2. To what extent is the Chinese influence reflected in the fields of philosophy and literature.

Ans: Chinese influence in the field of philosophy: Chinese poets and philosophers like Lao Tze, Confucius, Mencius, and Mo Ti contributed significantly to philosophy and literature.

Lao Tze (Taoism):

- (i) He was the founder of Taoism.
- (ii) He argued that desire is the root cause of all evils.
- (iii) His book Tao Teh Ching is a guide to the conduct of life.

Confucius:

- (i) He was a famous reformer. He insisted on cultivating one's personal life to regulate the family and national life.
- (ii) He authored five important works, including the Book of Records and Spring and Autumn Annals.

Mencius:

He travelled throughout China and offered his counsel to the rulers.

Literature:

- (i) Sun-Tzu wrote the Art of War.
- (ii) The Yellow Emperor's Canon of Medicine is China's earliest written book on medicine.

3. Write about the hidden treasure of Indus civilisation.

[QY-'19, '23 & '24; April-'23 & '25; HY-'24]

Ans: The Indus civilisation, also known as the Harappan civilisation, covers an area of over 1.5 million square kilometres in India and Pakistan.

Planned Towns :

- (i) Fortification, well-planned streets and lanes and drainages can be observed in the Harappan towns.
- (ii) The Harappans used baked and unbaked bricks and stones for construction.
- (iii) A civic authority perhaps controlled the planning of the towns.

Agriculture and Animal Domestication :

- (i) The Harappans practised agriculture. They cultivated wheat, barley and various types of millets.
- (ii) Pastoralism was also known to them. They reared cattle, sheep and goats.

Metal, Tools and Weapons :

- (i) The Harappans used chert blades, copper objects and bone and ivory tools.
- (ii) The tools and equipments such as points, chisels, needles, fishhooks, razors, weighing pans, mirror and antimony rods were made of bronze.

Textiles and Ornaments :

- (i) The Harappans used metal and stone ornaments. They had knowledge of cotton and silk textiles.
- (ii) They made carnelian, copper and gold ornaments. Faience, stoneware and shell bangles were also used.

Trade and Exchange :

- (i) The mention of 'Meluhha' in the cuneiform inscriptions is considered to refer to the Indus region.

Weights and Measures :

- (i) The Harappans developed a system of proper weights and measures.
- (ii) Since they engaged in commercial transactions, they needed standard measures.

Seals, Sealings and Scripts :

- (i) The seals from various media such as steatite, copper, terracotta and ivory are found in the Harappan sites.
- (ii) They were probably used in the trade activities.

Arts and Amusement :

- (i) The terracotta figurines, paintings on the pottery and the bronze images from the Harappan sites suggest the artistic skills of the Harappans.
- (ii) Toy carts, rattles, wheels, tops, marbles and hop scotches made in terracotta suggest the amusement of the Harappan people.

Religion :

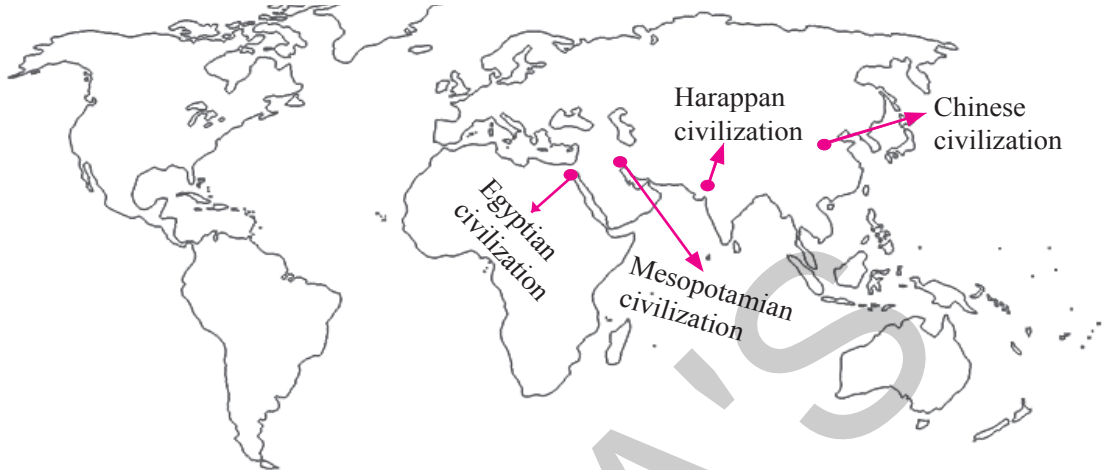
- (i) The Indus people had a close relationship with nature.
- (ii) They worshipped pipal trees. Some of the terracotta figures resemble the mother Goddess.



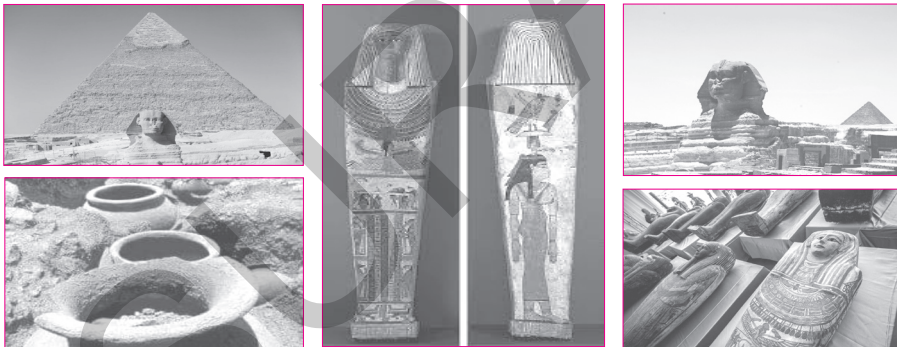
Fun with History

Students Activities

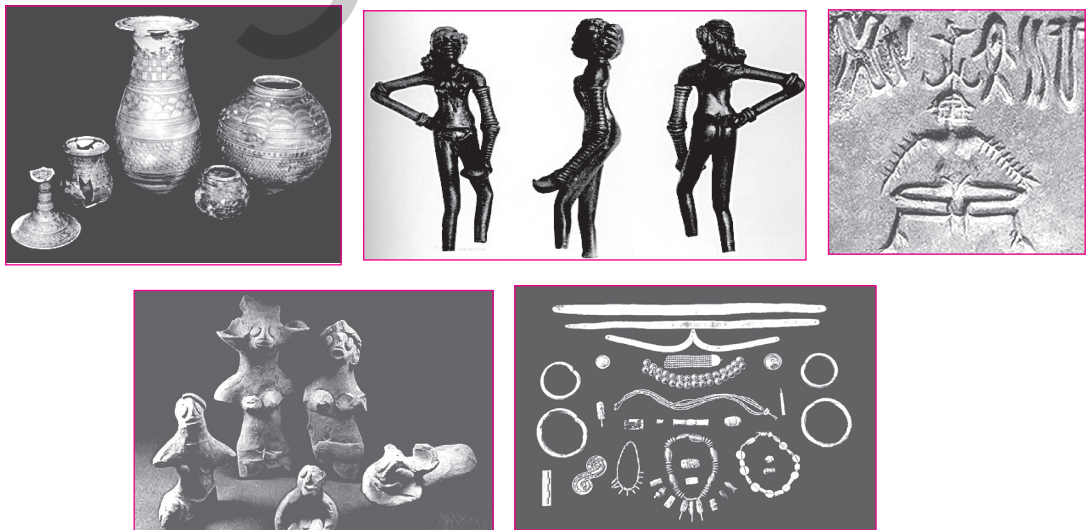
Mark the areas of Bronze Age civilisation on the world map.



Prepare a chart on the pyramids and the mummies.



Collect the pictures of the seals and the pottery of Indus people.



Government Exam Questions

I. Answer the following questions:

1. Early Civilisations

[QY & HY-'19]

1. What is meant by civilisation?
2. Name the important early civilisations.
3. What did South India witness during the time of early civilisation?
4. What happened when civilisation began to take shape?

- Ans:**
1. Civilization means an advanced, organised way of life. It is an adaptation to particular environmental and cultural contexts.
 2. The Egyptian, the Mesopotamian, the Chinese and the Indus are the important early civilization.
 3. During the time of early civilisations, South India witnessed the emergence of Neolithic agro-pastoral communities and Microlithic form of life by hunter-gatherers.
 4. As civilizations began to take shape, huge buildings were built, the art of writing developed and science and technology contributed to the betterment of society.



ADDITIONAL

I. Choose the Best Answer:

1. In the Neolithic way of life large groups of people were concentrated in the _____.
 (a) Towns (b) **Villages** (c) Cities (d) River banks
2. The chiefdoms were _____ formations.
 (a) **Political** (b) Trade (c) Guild (d) Social
3. The early states had _____ stratification.
 (a) Political (b) Economic (c) Cultural (d) **Social**
4. Hieroglyphics developed in _____.
 (a) China (b) **Egypt** (c) Harappa (d) Sumeria
5. In the post Neolithic period _____ as science developed.
 (a) Botany and Zoology (b) Physics and Chemistry
 (c) **Mathematics and Astronomy** (d) Philosophy and astronomy
6. Egypt lies in the North Eastern corner of the _____ continent.
 (a) Asia (b) Australia (c) **Africa** (d) America
7. Egypt is irrigated by the river _____.
 (a) **Nile** (b) Amazon (c) Congo (d) Brahmaputra
8. Pharaoh was the Egyptian _____.
 (a) **King** (b) Noble (c) Trader (d) Teacher
9. Lapis Lazuli is a _____.
 (a) Massive Stone (b) **Precious Stone** (c) Big Palace (d) Great Tomb
10. Hieroglyphics was a form of _____.
 (a) Trade (b) Communication (c) **Writing** (d) Painting

11. Cuneiform writing system was developed by the _____.
(a) Akkadians (b) Sumerians (c) Assyrians (d) Babylonians
12. Gilgamesh was a king of _____.
(a) Babylonia (b) Assyria (c) Sumeria (d) China
13. Under the Assyrians, Lamassu was the deity of _____.
(a) Agriculture (b) Education (c) Peace (d) Protection
14. Ziggurats were _____.
(a) Public halls (b) Palaces (c) Granaries (d) Temples
15. The Indus Valley culture is also known as _____.
(a) Egyptian (b) Sumerian (c) Chinese (d) Harappan
16. Zebu were Harappan _____.
(a) Temples (b) Land (c) Cattle (d) Crops
17. 'Meluhha' in the Cuneiform inscriptions referred to the _____ region.
(a) Sumerian (b) Indus (c) Babylonian (d) Assyrian
18. Dancing girl of bronze was excavated from _____.
(a) Sumeria (b) Mohanjodaro (c) Harappa (d) Rome
19. The Harappans used Rohri chert for making _____.
(a) Vessels (b) Boats (c) Pottery (d) Blades

II. Fill in the Blanks:

1. _____ is considered to be the first emperor of China. [Ans: Shi Huangdi]
2. _____ was the main occupation of the Mesopotamians. [Ans: Agriculture]
3. Egypt is irrigated by _____. [Ans: Nile]
4. The city of _____ later became the city of Babylon. [Ans: Akkad]
5. The Hyksos were probably from _____. [Ans: West Asia]
6. The Egyptian king was known as _____. [Ans: Pharaoh]
7. The high officials called _____ administered territories under the direction of Pharaohs. [Ans: Viziers]
8. Lapis Lazuli is a _____. [Ans: Precious stone]
9. The Egyptian devised a _____ calendar consisting of twelve months. [Ans: Solar]
10. The word paper comes from _____. [Ans: Papyrus]
11. The Tigris and Euphrates drain into the _____. [Ans: Persian Gulf]
12. The oldest civilization in Mesopotamia belonged to the _____. [Ans: Sumerians]
13. The Semitic people called Amorites came from the _____. [Ans: Arabian desert]
14. The oldest written epic on earth is perhaps the Epic of _____. [Ans: Gilgamesh]
15. The first military power in history was the _____ empire. [Ans: Assyrian]

III. Match the Following

1. (a) Nile - (i) Greece
(b) Alexander - (ii) Egyptian King
(c) Persians - (iii) Mediterranean Sea
(d) Pharaoh - (iv) High officials
(e) Viziers - (v) Italy
(vi) Iran

[Ans: (a) - iii, (b) - i, (c) - vi, (d) - ii, (e) - iv]

2. (a) Sumerians - (i) Sargon
 (b) Akkad - (ii) God of Sky and Wind
 (c) Babylon - (iii) Nippur
 (d) Assyria - (iv) Wedge shape
 (e) Enlil - (v) Hammurabi
 (vi) Ashurbanipal

[Ans: (a) - iii, (b) - i, (c) - v, (d) - vi, (e) - ii]

3. (a) Shi Huangdi - (i) Romans
 (b) Wu Ti - (ii) Art of War
 (c) Chinese Silk - (iii) Philosopher
 (d) Sun-Tzu - (iv) Han Emperor
 (e) Confucius - (v) Canon of Medicine
 (vi) Qin dynasty

[Ans: (a) - vi, (b) - iv, (c) - i, (d) - ii, (e) - iii]

4. (a) Dholavira - (i) Rajasthan
 (b) Banawali - (ii) Sindh
 (c) Rakhigarhi - (iii) Maharashtra
 (d) Daimabad - (iv) UP
 (e) Alamgirpur - (v) Gujarat
 (vi) Haryana

[Ans: (a) - v, (b) - i, (c) - vi, (d) - iii, (e) - iv]

IV. Find out the Correct Statement.

1. (a) The Sumerians are believed to have originated from central Asia.
 (b) The Sargon was a famous ruler of the Akkadians.
 (c) Hammurabi was the first King of Egypt.
 (d) The Assyrian kings were the priests of Ashur, the chief deity of the Babylonians.

[Ans : a & b is correct]

2. (a) A typical Sumerian city was surrounded by industries.
 (b) In the Sumerian society the priests maintained the account of the taxes.
 (c) Sumerians had well developed irrigation system.
 (d) The Sumerians traded with Syria and Asia Minor.

[Ans : c & d is correct]

3. (a) The Mesopotamian art included sculptures in stone and clay.
 (b) Mesopotamians were very poor in the field of science.
 (c) Mesopotamians were very familiar with weight and measurement system.
 (d) The Diagnostic Handbook was contributed by the Chinese.

[Ans : a & c is correct]

4. (a) Yellow river caused frequent floods.
 (b) 'Son of Heaven' was the title given to the Egyptian Pharaoh.
 (c) The Great Wall of China gave protection from the attack made by the Greeks.
 (d) Wu Ti belonged to Han empire.

[Ans : a & d is correct]

V. Answer the Following Briefly:

1. Mention one important artifact of the Egyptian civilization.

Ans: (i) The famous Egyptian Pharaoh Tutankhamen's tomb is located near Luxor in Egypt.
 (ii) The mask of his mummy was made of gold and decorated with precious stones, making it an important artifact of the Egyptian civilization.

2. Why was the Egyptian civilization known as the Gift of the Nile?

- Ans:** (i) Egypt is irrigated by the river Nile and the Egyptian civilization depended solely upon the flow of River Nile.
- (ii) The Nile River deposited fresh alluvium every year, helped to produce surplus, served as a means of transport and hence Egyptian civilization was called as the Gift of the Nile.

3. What was the role of Pharaoh in the Egyptian Kingdom?

- Ans:** (i) The Egyptian king was known as Pharaoh and he was considered divine.
- (ii) Under the Pharaoh there was a hierarchy of officials including viziers, the Governors of provinces, local mayors and tax collectors.
- (iii) Land belonged to king and was assigned to officials.

4. Name the region which was referred to as Mesopotamia.

- Ans:** (i) Mesopotamia refers to the region of Iraq and Kuwait in West Asia, where several kingdoms emerged around the city states in the early third millennium B.C. (BCE).
- (ii) The Sumerian, Akkadian, Babylonian and Assyrian civilization flourished here.

5. What does the term Mesopotamia mean?

- Ans:** (i) In Greek language 'Meso' means 'in between' and 'Potamus' means 'rivers'.
- (ii) The rivers of Euphrates and Tigris flow here, with the northern part known as Assyria, and the southern part called Babylonia.

6. With whom did the Mesopotamia trade?

- Ans:** (i) Trade was an important economic activity of the Mesopotamian society, and they traded with Syria and Asia Minor in the West and with Iran and Indus Valley Civilization in the east.
- (ii) They used ships for navigation, and their temples acted as banks and lent credit on their own account.

7. Mention the contribution of the Mesopotamian civilization.

- Ans:** The Mesopotamian civilization contributed the invention of the potter's wheel, the calendar system of 360 days with a circle divided into 360 units, the Cuneiform system of writing and the Hammurabi's law code.

8. Why was silk route considered very important?

- Ans:** (i) The Han emperor Wu Ti sent Zhang Qian as emissary to the West in 138 BC(BCE), paved the way for Silk route in 130 BC(BCE).
- (ii) Because of the silk route, China benefited from trade and Chinese silk became very famous among the Romans during the time of Emperor Marcus Aurelius.

9. Give a description of the Indus civilization.

- Ans:** (i) The Indus civilization, also known as Harappan civilization, covered nearly 1.5 million sq. km in India and Pakistan.
- (ii) Sutkagen-Por in the west, Shortugai in the north, Alamgirpur in the East and Daimabad in the south are the boundaries within which Harappan culture was found, with its main concentration in Gujarat, Pakistan, Rajasthan and Haryana.

10. Describe the pottery used by the Harappans.

- Ans:** (i) The Harappans used painted pottery with a deep red slip and black paintings.
- (ii) The pottery included dish-on-stands, storage jars, perforated jars, goblets, S-shaped jars, plates, dishes, bowls and pots, decorated with motifs like *pipal* tree leaves, fish-scale designs, intersecting circles.

11. How did the Indus civilization decline?

- Ans:** (i) The Indus civilization started declining from about 1900 BC(BCE).
(ii) Changes in climate, decline of the trade with Mesopotamia and drying up or flooding of the River Indus may have caused the decline and People may have migrated towards South and East.

12. Write a note on the Religion of Egyptian civilization?

- Ans:** (i) The Egyptians practiced polytheism and Amon, Re, Seth, Thoth, Horus and Anubis are some of their Gods.
(ii) They worshipped many Gods, but the Sun God, Re, was the predominant and was later called Amon.

13. What are the contributions of the Chinese civilization.

- Ans:** (i) Writing system was improved (ii) Invention of paper
(iii) Opening of the Silk Road (iv) Invention of gun powder

VI. Answer the following detail:**1. Write short notes on Mummies of Egypt.****Ans: Preservation of the Dead :**

- (i) The Egyptians believed in life after death, so they preserved the dead body. The preserved dead body is called the mummy.
(ii) The Egyptians had the tradition of preserving the dead bodies using Natron salt, a combination of sodium carbonate and sodium bicarbonate. The preservation process is called mummification.

Process :

- (i) After 40 days, when the salt absorbed all the moisture, the body was filled with sawdust and wrapped with strips of linen cloth and covered with a fabric.
(ii) The body was stored in a stone coffin called sarcophagus.

2. Under Chinese civilization Shi Huangdi was given the title 'Son of Heaven'. Justify the statement.

- Ans:** (i) Shi Huangdi founded the Qin dynasty and is considered to be the first emperor of China.
(ii) The emperor had the title 'son of heaven'.
(iii) He conquered other principalities in 221 BC (BCE) and defeated the feudal lords and established a strong empire.
(iv) He is credited with unifying China.
(v) He destroyed the walled fortifications of different States and constructed the Great Wall of China to protect the empire from the invading nomadic people.

**SLOW LEARNER'S MATERIAL - TEXTBOOK EVALUATION****VI. Answer the following in detail:****1. Define the terms Hieroglyphics and Cuneiform with their main features.****Ans: Hieroglyphics (Egypt):**

- (i) This was the Egyptian writing system.
(ii) It used symbols and pictures.
(iii) It was used on seals and monuments.

Cuneiform (Mesopotamia):

- (i) This was the Sumerian writing system.
- (ii) The letters were wedge-shaped.
- (iii) They wrote on clay tablets.

2. To what extent is the Chinese influence reflected in the fields of philosophy and literature.

Ans: Lao Tze (Taoism):

- (i) He said desire is the root cause of all evils.
- (ii) He wrote the book Tao Teh Ching.

Confucius:

- (i) He focused on good behaviour and family life.
- (ii) He wrote the Book of Records.

Literature:

- (i) Sun-Tzu wrote the Art of War.
- (ii) They wrote the first medical book in China.

3. Write about the hidden treasure of Indus civilisation.

[QY-'19, '23 & '24; April-'23 & '25; HY-'24]

- Ans:**
- (i) **Planned Towns:** The civilisation featured planned towns like Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro with fortifications, well-planned streets, lanes, and drainage systems.
 - (ii) **Architecture:** They used baked and unbaked bricks. Key structures include the Great Bath at Mohenjo-Daro and granaries.
 - (iii) **Agriculture:** They practiced double cropping and cultivated wheat, barley, and millets. They domesticated cattle (Zebu), sheep, and goats.
 - (iv) **Pottery:** They used painted pottery with deep red slip and black paintings of geometrical motifs and flora.
 - (v) **Trade:** They had trade links with Mesopotamia, evidenced by seals and cuneiform inscriptions mentioning 'Meluhha'.
 - (vi) **Weights and Measures:** They used a system of proper weights (cubical chert weights) based on a binary system.
 - (vii) **Art:** Terracotta figurines, the "Priest King" statue, and the "Dancing Girl" bronze image show their artistic skill.

