

LESSON – 1

EARLIEST PEOPLE

Additional questions

1. Many of the cave paintings are found in France and Spain.
2. Modern humans belong to the Homo Sapiens Sapiens species.

E. Answer the following:

1. List five important features of early humans.

- Early humans started walking erect (Homo erectus) and had a better understanding of how to make use of their hands.
- Early humans also developed brains, unlike other hominids.
- Early humans mostly lived on trees, in caves, or in some other natural shelters.
- Early humans were hunter-gatherers. They hunted wild animals and gathered fruits to eat.
- Early humans made different types of tools. These tools were made of bones, wood and stones.

2. What are the sources used to study the evolution of humans?

Fossils and archaeological remains are the two most important sources used to study the evolution of humans.

3. Define Fossils. What information do they give us about the past?

Fossils are imprints of humans, animals, or plants on rocks. The fossils tell us how and when early humans moved from one place to another, started to use tools, and how their brain evolved over a period of time.

4. What are artefacts? What information do they give us about early humans?

Artefacts are tools and utensils which help us to understand the history of early humans. They tell us about the kind of life these people led.

5. What is the importance of cave paintings in understanding the lives of early humans?

Early humans made painting on the walls and ceilings of the caves they lived on. These cave paintings give us glimpses into the lives of early humans.

Lesson – 2

The Stone Age

Additional questions

1. Neolithic age is also known as the New stone age.
2. Lascaux in France is famous for its beautiful palaeolithic cave paintings.
3. The Neolithic age saw the invention of wheel.
4. The technique of making bronze was started in the chalcolithic age.
5. The stone age was followed by the metal age.

E. Answer the following:

1. Define Stone Age.

A prehistoric period when weapons and tools were made of stone or of organic materials such as bone, wood, or horn is known to be stone age.

2. When was fire discovered? How did it help the early humans?

Palaeolithic humans discovered fire, which is one of the greatest discoveries of mankind. Fire gave them light and warmth and protected them from wild animals. It also helped them in cooking their food.

3. List some of the weapons made by Mesolithic people.

Mesolithic people started making smaller, sharper stone tools called microliths. We also find tools made of animal bones. Some tools had wooden handles.

4. How was the Neolithic Age different from the Palaeolithic Age?

	Neolithic Age	Palaeolithic Age
Meaning	Neo=new; Lithic=stone. Neolithic era is also called the New Stone age.	Paleo=old; Lithic=stone. The Palaeolithic era is also called the Old Stone age.
Dwelling	Mud bricks supported by timber	Mouths of caves, huts, skin tents
Lifestyle	Sedentary. They farmed in permanent settlements and raised/herded animals; agriculture was discovered and became a major source of food; families evolved.	Nomadic; in groups of up to 50; tribal society; hunters and gatherers
Tools	polished stone tools made sharper by grinding	Chipped stone, wooden weapons, light stone tools (not sharpened)
Clothes	Animal skins, woven garments	Animal skins
Economy	The concept of private property and ownership emerged for things such as land, livestock and tools.	There was no concept of private property.

5. Discuss the importance of domestication of animals in the life of the Neolithic people.

The domestication of animals such as sheep, goats, cattle, dogs and horses were used for milk, meat, wool, skin and labour.

Extra Questions:

1. What is Chalcolithic Age?

The first metal age of India is called Chalcolithic Age which saw the use of copper along with stone. It was also called Stone-Copper Age. Along with the use of

copper and stone these people also used low grade bronze to make tools and weapons.

2. Mention some of the characteristics of a civilization.

The growth of urban centres and use of superior techniques in daily life are some of the characteristics of a civilization.

3. Name some crafts that emerged in the chalcolithic age?

Crafts such as pottery-making, jewellery-making, and metal toolmaking emerged in the chalcolithic age.

LESSON – 3

IRON AGE

Additional questions

Iron weapons were much stronger than the bronze weapons.

E. Answer the following:

1. What were the main characteristics of the Iron age?

- Agriculture gave a fresh impetus to farming.
- Tools and weapons were made of iron by the technique of smelting and grinding. Steel, an alloy of Iron was also used.
- Iron helped in making stronger weapons and people with more access to iron won wars, built larger kingdoms.
- Urbanization resulted in increasing trading activity. Cities began to use coins made of metals for the first time.

2. How did the use of iron tools help in the expansion of agriculture?

Iron tools were much more efficient than wooden or bronze tools. Using iron ploughs, the fields were farmed better and increased productivity.

3. How did the discovery of iron affects the growth of towns and cities?

The use of iron tools and weapons helped in the growth of new cities and towns. These towns acted as markets and trading centres. The rise of urban centres resulted in the growth of crafts and trading.

4. What are punch- marked coins?

Punch-marked coins, also known as Aahat coins, are a kind of early Indian coinage dating from the 6th to 2nd centuries BC. It had an amorphous form. The first coins were cast and die-struck on only one side. Coins with one to five marks or symbols included on a single side are known as 'Punch Marked Coins.

5. Name two civilizations that grew during the Iron Age.

The two important civilization that grew during the Iron Age were the Greek and the Roman civilizations.

Extra Questions:

1. Mention any three advantages of Iron.

- Iron was easily available compared to other materials.
- Iron weapons and tools were much stronger, cheaper and lighter than the bronze weapons and tools.
- Iron tools helped farmers to farm their fields better and increased productivity.