

CLASS-6

CHAPTER-2 (HISTORY)

THE EARLIEST SOCIETIES

I. Tick the correct option.

1. The Palaeolithic Age is also called the

(a) New Stone Age (b) Middle Stone Age (c) Old Stone Age

Ans: (c) Old Stone Age

2. The first animal to be domesticated was

(a) cat (b) dog (c) horse

Ans: (b) dog

3. Dwelling pits are found in

(a) Nevasa (b) Daojali Hading (c) Burzahom

Ans: (c) Burzahom

4. Examples of Stone Age are in India have been found at

(a) Bhimbetka (b) Nevasa (c) Soan Valley

Ans: (b) Nevasa

5. The wheel was invented in the

(a) Mesolithic period (b) Palaeolithic period (c) Neolithic period

Ans: (c) Neolithic period

II. State whether the following statements are true or false and rewrite the incorrect statements to correct them.

1. Tools of crude stones were used for agriculture in the Neolithic Age. **False**

Ans: In the Neolithic Age microlithic blades tools were used for agriculture.

2. Mesolithic Age means Modern Stone Age. **False**

Ans: Mesolithic Age means Middle Stone Age.

3. The earliest evidence of wheel has been found in Mesopotamia. **True**

4. People in Burzahom lived in rectangular houses. **False**

Ans: People in Mehrgarh lived in rectangular houses.

5. Modern humans are known as Homo erectus. **False**

Ans: Modern humans are known as Homo sapiens.

III. Answer the following questions in one sentence.

1. Name some places in India where remains of people from Lower Palaeolithic period have been found.

Ans: Chirki-Nevasa, Pravara in Maharashtra and Bhimbetka in Madhya Pradesh are the some places in India where remains of people from Lower Palaeolithic period have been found.

2. What was the hand axe used for?

Ans: The hand axe tool was used for cutting and scavenging.

3. List three ways in which early humans used fire.

Ans: Three ways in which early humans used fire are:-

- i. To cook food.
- ii. To scare away wild animals.
- iii. To warm themselves up during winters.

4. Why is the phase of human life in Neolithic Age known as Neolithic Revolution?

Ans: Due to the drastic change in the lifestyle of human Neolithic Age is known as Neolithic Revolution.

5. Give two examples of Neolithic tools. How were they different from the previous age?

Ans: Stone axes and arrows were two examples of Neolithic tools. In Neolithic Age tools were polished and given a fine cutting edge, which lasted longer, therefore the tools were different from previous age.

IV. Answer the following questions in brief.

1. Write a note on the Early Palaeolithic Age.

Ans: The Early Palaeolithic Age, refers to the prehistoric period when stone tools were made by humans. At that time, the climate was extremely cold and

many parts of the Earth were covered in ice. This is why this age is also known as the Ice Age. In India, Lower Palaeolithic sites have been found on the banks of the river Soan in Punjab (now in Pakistan) and river Narmada. Palaeolithic Age lasted from 500,000 BCE to 10,000 BCE. During this time period, human beings lived a nomadic life.

2. How and where was fire discovered?

Ans: The early humans discovered fire by rubbing two stones against each other. They used to make fires in front of the caves to scare away wild animals, cook foods and protect themselves from winter. Fire was discovered in Chesovanja in Kenya and at Kurnool in India in Palaeolithic Age.

3. What is the importance of discovery of agriculture in history?

Ans: The importance of the discovery of agriculture in history is that it helped human beings develop settlements and civilizations and opened up more options for their survival other than hunting and gathering wild food grains.

4. 'Invention of the wheel was an important achievement'. Explain.

Ans: The invention of the wheel was an important achievement in the history of early time because wheel formed rotation motion which people to move things rather than drag them over the ground. The wheel made transportation and carrying people and goods very easy.

5. Name a few Neolithic sites found in India other than Burzahom. How is the latter different from others?

Ans: Neolithic sites found in India other than Buzahom are Lahuradewa in middle Gangetic Plains, Sarai Khola in west Punjab, villages at Piklihal in Karnataka and Mehrgarh in Pakistan.

Latter sites are different from others because they were usually located on hills or elevated land and people here performed shifting cultivation or jhum. There is a complete absence of microliths tools. Dogs were buried along with their masters.

V. Answer the following questions in detail.

1. Write a note on the subdivisions of the Palaeolithic Age.

Ans: The subdivisions of the Palaeolithic Age are as follows:-

Early Palaeolithic Age: It was the time when the first stone tools appeared. The tools used were hand axes and chopping tools. At that time climate was extremely cold that's why it is also known as the Ice Age. Lower Palaeolithic Age has been found on the banks of the river Soan in Punjab and river Narmada.

Middle Palaeolithic Age: In this age people used flake tools. People used animal skins as clothes to cover their body. People started living in a group. They began to paint on the walls of caves. Burial system was practiced. The site of this age was found on the banks of river Luni in Rajasthan and Narmada Valley.

Upper Palaeolithic Age: At this age climate became warmer. People used blade tools. This period also saw the first human-made shelter. People began to make necklaces and bracelets of shells and bones. The site of this age has been found in Bhimbetka in Madhya Pradesh.

2. Discuss the types of stone tools used during the Stone Age.

Ans: Types of stone tools used during the Stone Age are:-

Core tools: Almost the size of a human hand and were used for throwing and pounding.	Flake tools: Used for scraping.	Blade tools: Twice in length as their breadth and gradually evolved into knives, spears, and arrowheads.
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Some early stone tools are:

Hand axe: It was used for cutting objects or smashing things.

Chopper: It was used for chopping meat.

Cleaver: It was used to cut other stones.

Scraper: It was used to clean skin of animals.

Arrow-head: It was used to kill animals.

Blades: It was used for cutting edges.

3. What are the key features of the Mesolithic Age?

Ans: The key features of the Mesolithic Age are:-

1. People continued to live by hunting and gathering despite of climatic change.

2. People had interest in particular types of animals and plants, and ultimately led to the domestication of certain animals such as dog.
3. In this Age, people used small and efficient tools called microliths.

4. What do you know about the prehistoric sites of Nevasa and Kurnool?

Ans: At the site of Nevasa, on the banks of river Pravara in Maharashtra about 300,000 years ago during Lower Palaeolithic period archaeologists found tools of stone, mostly of basalt or dolerite, hand axe, cleavers and flake tools. At this period people lived on wild grasses, fruits and plants.

In Kurnool district of Andhra Pradesh there were sites of limestone caves where many blade tools and microliths including arrowheads, spearheads and scrapers have been found. The caves had large deposits of charcoal, ash and bone fragments of animals.

5. 'Tribes were central to the social formation of the Neolithic Age'. Discuss this statement.

Ans: Neolithic people lived in social groups called tribes. In order to make life smooth, tribes usually had a leader and there was division of labour. Men tilled the land, hunted or looked after animals. Women also did agricultural work, looked after crops, and helped in harvest. Tribes had their own languages, forms of music, and religious beliefs.