



Grade : VI

Subject : Social science

## Chapter: 8. Vital Villages, Thriving Towns

### Objective Type Questions

#### I. Multiple choice questions

- The use of iron began in the subcontinent around:  
a. 2000 years ago   b. 3000 years ago   c. 4000 years ago   d. 5000 years ago
- In Tamil religion, ordinary ploughmen were known as:  
a. Vellalar                      b. Adimai                      c. Uzhavar                      d. Karmakara
- Ring wells were used as:  
a. Toilets                      b. Drains                      c. Garbage                      d. All of these
- Northern Black Polished ware is a type of:  
a. Pottery                      b. Stamp                      c. Footwear                      d. Cloth
- Dyeing vats were used to dye:  
a. Paper                      b. Candles                      c. Cloth                      d. None of these

1. b

2. c

3. d

4. a

5. c

#### I. Fill in the blanks

- Many of the cities that developed from about 2500 years ago were capitals of the \_\_\_\_\_.
- In many cities \_\_\_\_\_ have found rows of pots, or ceramic rings arranged one on top of the other.
- The earliest coins which were in use for about \_\_\_\_\_ were punch marked coins.



4. The use of iron began in the subcontinent around \_\_\_\_\_ years ago
5. Some of the largest collections of iron tools and weapons were found in the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.
6. While new tools and the system of \_\_\_\_\_ increased production, irrigation was also used.
7. Some of the earliest works in Tamil, known as \_\_\_\_\_ were composed around 2300 years ago
8. \_\_\_\_\_ has been an important settlement for more than 2500 years.
9. Around 2000 years ago, Mathura became the second capital of the \_\_\_\_\_.
10. Mathura was also a religious centre-there were Budhist \_\_\_\_\_, Jain \_\_\_\_\_ and it was an important centre for the worship of \_\_\_\_\_.
11. Many crafts persons and merchants now formed associations known as \_\_\_\_\_.
12. \_\_\_\_\_ was a costal settlement where ships unloaded goods from distant lands.

1. Mahajanpadas	2. Archaeologists	3. 500 years	4. 3000
5. Megalithic burials	6. Transplantation	7. Sangam literature	8. Mathura
9. Kushanas	10. Monasteries, Shrenies, Krishna	11. Shrenis	12. Arikamedu

**I. Match the following**

1. Landless labourers	i) Vellalar
2. Man and women who did not own land	ii) Gram Bhojaka
3. Village headman	iii) Uzhavar
4. Large landowners	iv) Ladaisiyar
5. Ordinary Ploughmen	v) Dasa Karnakara

1. iv	2. v	3. ii	4. i	5. iii
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### I. True or False

1. Arretine ware was named after a city in Canada.
2. Extremely fine pottery was found in the southern part of the sub-continent.
3. The ploughshare was used to increase agricultural production.
4. Most of the grihpatis were big landowners.
5. Shrenis also served as banks where rich men and women deposited money.

1. False	2. False	3. True	4. False	5. True
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### Very Short Answer Type Questions

#### 1. What are Jatakas?

Jatakas were stories written and preserved by Buddhist monks in Sanghas.

#### 2. What do you mean by Shrenis?

Associations of crafts persons and merchants were known as Shrenis

#### 3. Who were Grihaptis?

Small land owners were known as Grihapatis.

#### 4. What is a port?

A harbour or a town possessing a harbour is called a port.

#### 5. What is a city?

A bigger unit than the town is known as a city.

#### 6. Which metals were used to make punch marked coins?

Silver or copper

#### 7. Name the different means of irrigation that were built around 2500 years ago.

Irrigation works that were built around 2500 years ago included canals, wells, tanks, and artificial lakes.

## Short Answer Type Questions

### 1. How were sculptures used by people?

Many sculptures were used for decoration purposes. Railways, pillars and gateways of buildings were often decorated with the help of buildings were often decorated with the help of sculptures.

### 2. What are ring wells?

In many cities, archaeologists have found rows of pots or ceramic rings arranged one on top of the other. These are known as ring wells.

### 3. What is NBPW?

NBPW is Northern Black Polished Ware. It got its name from the fact that it is generally found in the northern part of the subcontinent. It is usually of black colour and has a fine shine.

### 4. What are punched marked coins?

The earliest coins which were in use for about 500 years were punch marked coins. They have been given this name because the designs were punched on to the metal-silver or copper.

### 5. What is the use of ring wells?

Ring wells are used as toilets in some cases, and also, as drains and garbage dumps. These ring wells are usually found in individual houses.

### 6. What is Sangam literature?

i) Some of the earliest works in Tamil, known as Sangam literature, were composed around 2300 years ago.

ii) These texts were called Sangam because they were supposed to have been composed and compiled in assemblies (known as Sangams) of poets which were held in the city of Madurai.



**7. Name the different types of people who lived in the southern part of the subcontinent in the earlier times.**

There were at least three different kinds of people living in most of the villages in the southern parts of the subcontinent. In the Tamil region:

- i) Large landowners were known as vellalar,
- ii) Ordinary ploughmen were known as uzharar and
- iii) Landless labourers, including slaves, were known as kadaiyiar and adimai.

**8. Name the different types of people who lived in the northern part of the subcontinent in the earlier times.**

In the northern part of the sub-continent:

- i) The village headman was known as the Grama Bhojaka.
- ii) The independent farmers were known as grilhapatis, most of whom were smaller landowners.
- iii) The other men and women who did not own land, and had to earn their living by working on the field owned by other, were known as dasa karmakara.

**9. What are Shrenis? What were their functions?**

Many crafts persons and merchants formed associations known as Shrenis. They performed the following function:

- i) These shrenis of craftspersons provided training, procured raw material and distributed the finished products.
- ii) The Shrenis of merchants organised trade.
- iii) Shrenis also served as banks where rich men and women deposited money, which was invested and part of the interest was returned or used to support religious institutions such as monasteries.



## Long Answer Type Questions

### 1. What type of life was there in villages and towns?

- i) **Growth of towns:** The establishment of kingdoms and empires led to an increase in agriculture and trade. Internal and overseas trade routes opened up. These developments resulted in the growth of towns.
- ii) **Greater agriculture production:** Agricultural production increased due to an increased use of iron tools. It became possible to produce more from the same land. Iron tools such as axe helped in clearing forests. The kings of the period also encouraged the building of irrigation works and dug wells, tanks and canals.
- iii) **Growth of crafts:** Arts and crafts also flourished. Each village had potters, weavers, dyers, metal workers, carpenters, blacksmiths, goldsmiths, garland makers, basket makers and other craftsman.
- iv) **Functions of town:** Some towns were religious centres, while others were administrative centres. Broach, Sopara and Tamralipti were trading centres.

### 2. What is the importance of the city of Mathura?

- i) Mathura has been an important settlement for more than 2500 years. It was important because it was located at the crossroads of two major routes of travel and trade - from the North-West to the East and from North to South.
- ii) Mathura was also a centre where some extremely fine sculptures were produced.
- iii) Around 2000 years ago, Mathura became the second capital of the Kushanas.
- iv) Mathura was also a religious centre - there were Buddhist monasteries, Jain shrines and it was an important centre for the worship of Krishna.



### 3. Describe the ways through which the archaeologists have found about the earlier cities.

The archaeologists have found about these cities through the following:

- i) **Jatakas:** These were stories that were probably composed by ordinary people and then written down and preserved by Buddhist monks.
- ii) **Sculptures:** These were carved structures, depicting peoples' lives in towns and villages as well as in the forests. Many of these sculptures were used to decorate railings, pillars and gateways of buildings that were visited by people.
- iii) **Ring wells:** In many cities, archaeologists have found rows of pots, or ceramic rings arranged one on top of the other. These are known as ring wells.
- iv) From the accounts of sailors and travellers who visited various places, one of the most detailed accounts that have been found was by an unknown Greek sailor. He described all the ports he visited.

### 4. Why is the city of Arikamedu historically important?

- i) Between 2200 and 1900 years ago, Arikamedu was a costal settlement where ships unloaded goods from distant lands.
- ii) A massive brick structure, which may have been a warehouse was found at the site.
- iii) Other findings include pottery from the Mediterranean region, such as amphorae (tall double-handled jars that contained liquids such as wine or oil) and stamped ref-glazed pottery, known as Arretine Ware which was named after a city in Italy.
- iv) Roman lamps, glassware and gems have also been found at the site.
- v) Small tanks have been found that were probably dyeing vats, used to dye cloth.