

* Select and write one most appropriate option out of the four options given for each of the questions [50]

1. What is the main feature of a Civilisation?

- (A) Nomadic lifestyle (B) Absence of writing
(C) Advanced urban planning (D) Lack of trade

Ans. : (C) Advanced urban planning

2. Why are the inhabitants of the Indus Valley Civilisation called 'Harappans*?'

- (A) They lived near the Sarasvati River
(B) The city of Harappa was the first to be excavated
(C) They spoke the Harappan language
(D) They invented the first writing system

Ans. : (B) The city of Harappa was the first to be excavated

3. What was the main reason for the decline of the Harappan Civilisation?

- (A) Invasion by foreign armies
(B) Lack of trade
(C) Climatic changes and drying up of the Sarasvati River
(D) Over population

Ans. : C

4. What was a common feature of Harappan cities in terms of construction?

- (A) Made of wood
(B) Made of bricks with uniform quality
(C) Made of stones with varied quality
(D) Built on hills

Ans. : (B) Made of bricks with uniform quality

5. What was the primary purpose of the Great Bath in Mohenjo-daro?

- (A) Agricultural storage (B) A temple for worship
(C) A residential house (D) None of the above

Ans. : D

6. Which metal did the Harappans use extensively for their tools and ornaments?

- (A) Iron (B) Silver (C) Bronze (D) Platinum

Ans. : C



7. What does the presence of beads of carnelian in Harappan sites suggest about their society?
- (A) They had advanced trade networks
 - (B) They lacked artistic skills
 - (C) They did not use metals
 - (D) They were isolated from other regions

Ans.: (A) They had advanced trade networks

8. What type of evidence suggests that Harappans were engaged in maritime trade?
- (A) Discovery of airplanes
 - (B) Large dockyards such as the one at Lothal
 - (C) Presence of submarines
 - (D) Use of paper boats

Ans. : B

9. Which crops were commonly grown by the Harappans?
- (A) Corn and tomatoes
 - (B) Barley and wheat
 - (C) Pineapples and mangoes
 - (D) Potatoes and carrots

Ans. : B

10. Why did Harappan cities have separate bathing areas in their homes?
- (A) For religious rituals
 - (B) For water management and cleanliness
 - (C) For storing food
 - (D) For keeping animals

Ans. : B

11. How old is the Harappa civilisation?
- (A) About 4000 years old
 - (B) About 3000 years old
 - (C) About 4700 years old
 - (D) About 5500 years old

Ans. : C

12. When was the first city of Harappa discovered by the archaeologists?
- (A) About 80 years ago
 - (B) About 150 years ago
 - (C) About 50 years ago
 - (D) About 100 years ago

Ans. : D

13. The Great Bath is a part of
- (A) Mohenjo-daro
 - (B) Lothal
 - (C) Dholavira
 - (D) Kalibangan

Ans.: (A) Mohenjo-daro

14. Name the place where elites generally lived.

- (A) Lower town (B) Upper town (C) Middle town (D) None of these

Ans. : B

15. Tin was mixed with to produce bronze.

- (A) aluminium (B) gold (C) copper (D) silver

Ans. : C

16. The city of Lothal was located on the bank of a tributary of which river?

- (A) Ganga (B) Yamuna (C) Saraswati (D) Sabarmati

Ans. : D

17. Which material was most commonly used for constructing houses in Harappan cities?

- (A) Stone (B) Wood (C) Brick (D) Clay

Ans. : (C) Brick

18. The discovery of weights and measures at Harappan sites indicates

- (A) a lack of trade
(B) standardisation in trade practices
(C) the use of barter system
(D) no evidence of trade activities

Ans. : B

19. What was one of the primary reasons for the growth of villages and towns in the Indus-Sarasvati region?

- (A) Advancement in metallurgy
(B) Increased trade and exchanges
(C) Discovery of gold mines
(D) Development of art and architecture

Ans. : B

20. Arrange the following places from North-South direction.

I. Lothal

II. Mohenjo-daro

III. Harappa

IV. Kalibangan

- (A) I, II, III, IV (B) II, I, III, IV (C) III, II, II, IV (D) III, IV, II, I

Ans. : D

21. Assertion (A): About 4700 years ago some of the earliest cities flourished on the banks of the Indus River and its tributaries.

Reason (R): The cities flourished because of immaculate town planning and organisation by the people living in it.

- (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- (B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- (C) A is true but R is false.
- (D) A is false but R is true

Ans. : A

22. Assertion (A): These days we can find out almost everything about the past such as – what people ate, the kind of clothes they wore, the houses in which they lived.

Reason (R): Advancement in modern technology has allowed us to look at the past with better clarity and understanding.

- (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- (B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- (C) A is true but R is false.
- (D) A is false but R is true

Ans. : A

23. Assertion (A): People have lived along the banks of river Narmada for thousands of years.

Reason (R): People lived there because they enjoyed the scenic beauty that is situated near the river

- (A) Both. A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- (B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- (C) A is true but R is false.
- (D) A is false but R is true

Ans. : C

24. Assertion (A): Inscriptions are a useful tool in finding out about the past.

Reason (R): Inscriptions are writings on relatively hard surfaces such as metal or stone.

- (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- (B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- (C) A is true but R is false.
- (D) A is false but R is true

Ans. : B

25. Assertion (A): Some of the earliest people who lived near the river Narmada were skilled gatherers and hunters.

Reason (R): Hunting and gathering is a type of subsistence lifestyle which relied on hunting fish and animals and required an extensive knowledge about the nearby vegetation.

- (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- (B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- (C) A is true but R is false.
- (D) A is false but R is true

Ans. : B

26. Assertion (A) The Harappan civilisation had a highly organised urban planning system.

Reason (R) The streets in Harappan cities were wide and aligned with the cardinal directions.

- (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- (B) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (C) A is true, but R is false
- (D) A is false, but R is true

Ans. : A

27. Assertion (A) The Harappans were pioneers in the field of metallurgy.

Reason (R) They imported tin to mix with copper to produce bronze, which was used to make tools and other artefacts.

- (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- (B) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (C) A is true, but R is false
- (D) A is false, but R is true

Ans.: (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A

28. Assertion (A) The Harappan civilisation did not engage in long-distance trade.

Reason (R) Lothal, one of the Harappan sites, had a well-constructed dockyard, indicating maritime trade activities.

- (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- (B) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (C) A is true, but R is false
- (D) A is false, but R is true

Ans. : D

29. Assertion (A) The decline of the Harappan civilisation was caused solely by foreign invasions.

Reason (R) Environmental changes, such as the drying up of the Sarasvati river, significantly impacted agriculture and led to the abandonment of cities.

- (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- (B) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (C) A is true, but R is false
- (D) A is false, but R is true

Ans. : D

30. Assertion (A) Harappan seals were primarily used for religious rituals.
Reason (R) The seals often depicted animals and symbols and were used in trade activities as a mark of identity.

- (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A
- (B) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (C) A is true, but R is false
- (D) A is false, but R is true

Ans. : D

31. What is one of the characteristics of a civilisation?

- (A) Nomadic lifestyle
- (B) Absence of writing
- (C) Development of crafts and trade
- (D) Lack of urbanism

Ans. : (C) Development of crafts and trade

32. Which river was central to the Harappan Civilisation?

- (A) Ganges
- (B) Yamuna
- (C) Indus
- (D) Brahmaputra

Ans. : (C) Indus

33. What material was used for waterproofing the 'Great Bath' in Mohenjo-daro?

- (A) Cement
- (B) Tar
- (C) Stone
- (D) Wood

Ans. : (B) Tar

34. Which Harappan city is known for its dockyard?

- (A) Mohenjo-daro
- (B) Harappa
- (C) Lothal
- (D) Rakhigarhi

Ans. : (C) Lothal

35. What were two main factors that may have contributed to the decline of the Harappan cities?

- (A) Invasions and warfare
- (B) Climatic change and the drying up of the Sarasvati River



- (C) Overpopulation and lack of resources
- (D) Technological failures and political instability

Ans. : (B) Climatic change and the drying up of the Sarasvati River

36. What evidence suggests that the Harappan civilisation was relatively peaceful?

- (A) The presence of large armies and weaponry
- (B) No trace of warfare or invasion has been found
- (C) Frequent conflicts with neighboring civilisations
- (D) Evidence of fortified city walls and defensive structures

Ans. : (B) No trace of warfare or invasion has been found

37. Why did the Sindhu-Sarasvatī civilisation begin to fall apart around 1900 BCE?

- (A) Due to invasions from neighbouring civilisations
- (B) Because of internal conflicts and civil wars
- (C) Due to abandonment of cities and shift to rural lifestyles
- (D) Due to a sudden increase in population

Ans. : (C) Due to abandonment of cities and shift to rural lifestyles

38. What was the primary purpose of the large basin found in Lothal?

- (A) A water reservoir for the city
- (B) A dockyard for receiving and sending boats
- (C) A place for ceremonial activities
- (D) A storage area for agricultural goods

Ans. : (B) A dockyard for receiving and sending boats

39. What material were the Harappan seals generally made of?

- (A) Gold
- (B) Clay
- (C) Steatite
- (D) Marble

Ans. : (C) Steatite

40. What is a notable feature of the Harappan seals found at many settlements?

- (A) They are made of precious metals and depict historical events.
- (B) They are small, made of steatite, and depict animal figures with writing signs.
- (C) They are large and made of wood, featuring scenes of daily life.
- (D) They are made of ceramic and include maps of trade routes.

Ans. : (B) They are small, made of steatite, and depict animal figures with writing signs.

41. What is NOT a characteristic feature of a civilisation?

- (A) Nomadic lifestyle
- (B) Trade
- (C) Government and administration
- (D) Writing systems



Ans. : A. Nomadic lifestyle

Explanation.

A civilisation typically has certain characteristics, including structured government and administration, urban development, trade, a system of writing, cultural expressions through art and social customs, and productive agriculture.

42. Which of the following rivers is associated with the early Indus Valley Civilisation?

- (A) Kaveri (B) Ganga (C) Sarasvati (D) Brahmaputra

Ans. : C. Sarasvati

Explanation.

The Sarasvati River was a prominent river in the region where the Indus Valley Civilisation flourished.

43. When was the city of Harappa excavated?

- (A) 1920-21 (B) 1921-22 (C) 1930-31 (D) 1980

Ans. : A. 1920-21

Explanation.

The city of Harappa was the first city of the Harappan Civilisation to be excavated in 1920-21.

44. What feature(s) is/are typically found in Harappan city planning?

- (A) Wide streets oriented to cardinal directions
(B) Separate areas for bathing and waste management
(C) Both (a) and (b)
(D) Buildings made of wood

Ans. : C. Both (a) and (b)

Explanation.

Harappans had wide streets which were oriented to the cardinal directions and bathrooms. Whereas, the Harappan buildings were generally made of bricks, not wood.

45. Which material was used by Harappa to make seals?

- (A) Steatite (B) Clay (C) Gold (D) Bronze

Ans. : A. Steatite

Explanation.

Harappan seals were using steatite a soft stone.

46. In today's India, where is the ancient Harappan site, Dholavira located?

- (A) Haryana (B) Punjab (C) Rajasthan (D) Gujarat

Ans. : D. Gujarat

Explanation.

The Harappan site Dholavira is located in the state of Gujarat.

47. Which material was NOT commonly used by the Harappans?

- (A) Shells (B) Carnelian (C) Steel (D) Bronze

Ans. : C. Steel

Explanation.

The Harappans used shells, carnelian, copper and bronze. Steel was not known to the Harappans.

48. From where did the people of Mohenjo-daro draw water?

- (A) Reservoirs (B) Ponds (C) River (D) Wells

Ans. : D. Wells

Explanation.

The people of Mohenjo-daro drew water from hundreds of wells made of bricks.

49. What is believed to be the major reason for the decline of the Harappan Civilisation?

- (A) Warfare (B) Climate change (C) Invasion (D) Civil war

Ans. : B. Climate change

Explanation.

Climate change and the drying up of the Sarasvati River are the two reasons that are believed to be the main reasons for the decline of the Harappan Civilisation.

50. Which of the statements is correct about the Harappans?

- (A) The Harappans did not develop a writing system and only relied on oral traditions.
(B) The trade activities of the Harappans were only carried out within their boundaries.
(C) The Harappans were very hygienic.
(D) The cities of the Harappan Civilisation were not planned properly as they lacked uniformity.

Ans. : C. The Harappans were very hygienic.

Explanation.

The Harappans lived in well-planned cities that were uniformly built. They prioritised hygiene as they had private bathrooms and proper water management systems. Harappans had developed their script though it remains undecipherable till date. They even had trade networks with outside civilisations like Mesopotamia.

* **Assertion - Reasoning based questions.**

[10]

51. Assertion (A): The Harappan Civilisation had a complex system of urban planning.
Reason (R): The cities were built with wide streets oriented to cardinal directions and had detailed drainage systems.

- (A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
(B) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).

(C) (A) is correct but (R) is wrong.

(D) (A) is wrong but (R) is correct.

Ans.: (A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

52. Assertion (A): The Harappans were known for their advanced water management techniques.

Reason (R): They built large reservoirs and had intricate systems of drainage in their cities.

(A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

(B) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).

(C) (A) is correct but (R) is wrong.

(D) (A) is wrong but (R) is correct.

Ans.: (A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

53. Assertion (A): The Harappans were engaged in active trade, not only within their own civilisation, but with other civilisations and cultures within and outside India.

Reason (R): They exported ornaments, timber, some objects of daily use, probably also gold and cotton, and possibly some food items.

(A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

(B) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).

(C) (A) is correct but (R) is wrong.

(D) (A) is wrong but (R) is correct.

Ans.: (A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

54. Assertion (A): The Harappans created many of their settlements along the banks of large or small rivers.

Reason (R): They were also the first in Eurasia to grow cotton, which they used to weave into clothes.

(A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

(B) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).

(C) (A) is correct but (R) is wrong.

(D) (A) is wrong but (R) is correct.

Ans. : (B) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).

55. Assertion (A): The Harappans did not give much importance to water management and cleanliness.

Reason (R): In Mohenjo-daro, people drew water from hundreds of wells made of bricks.

(A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

(B) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).



(C) (A) is correct but (R) is wrong.

(D) (A) is wrong but (R) is correct.

Ans.: (A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

56. Assertion: The Harappan Civilisation is also called the 'First Urbanisation of India'.
Reason: The Harappan cities had a highly, organised and well-maintained urban layout.

(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(C) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.

(D) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Ans. : A. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

Explanation.

The Harappan cities were precisely planned with wide streets, advanced drainage system, private bathrooms, fortification and distinct areas for the elite and common people.

57. Assertion: The Great Bath in Mohenjodaro was specially made for communal bathing.

Reason: The houses in the Harappan cities had private bathrooms.

(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(C) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.

(D) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Ans. : D. Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Explanation.

The primary purpose of the Great Bath is debated and two main arguments suggest that either it was used by the royal family or else it was meant for religious rituals. The reason is correct as many homes had private bathrooms, indicating communal bathing was unlikely.

58. Assertion: Most of the Harappan settlements were along the banks of rivers.

Reason: The soil near rivers is fertile.

(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).



(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(C) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.

(D) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Ans. : A. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

Explanation.

Most of the Harappan were found along the banks of small or large as rivers not only provide easy access to Water also enrich the soil around them, making it suitable to carry out agricultural practices.

59. Assertion: Harappans were engaged In active trade both within and outside their civilisation

Reason: Harappans conducted the first intensive maritime activity in India.

(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(C) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.

(D) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Ans. : B. Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

Explanation.

The Harappans engaged in extensive trade within and outside their borders and for distant exchanges they utilised various rout including maritime.

60. Assertion: A number of seals have been excavated from many settlements that were made of steatite and had animal figures on them.

Reason: Tue seals were likely related to agricultural activities.

(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(C) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.

(D) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Ans. : C. Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.

Explanation.

The Harappan seals were related to trade activities, as they probably helped the trade to identify their goods and also each other.



* Fill in the blank with correct answer.[1 Mark each]

[23]

61. The five main tributaries of Indus river are _____ and _____.

Ans. : Jhelum, Sutlej, Beas, Ravi and Chenab.

62. The mature phase of Indus Valley Civilisation (2600-1900 BCE) is known as _____

Ans. : Harappan Civilisation

63. Harappan seals have been found in _____ Civilisation.

Ans. : Mesopotamian

64. The Great Bath ruins of the Indus Valley Civilisation are at _____.

Ans. : Gujarat state

65. The _____ is the earliest city discovered in India.

Ans. : Harappa

66. The signs on the top of the seal are part of a _____.

Ans. : writing

67. _____ and _____ were available around settlements.

Ans. : Water, fertile soil

68. The Harappan civilisation is also known as the _____ civilisation.

Ans. : Indus- Sarasvati

69. The city of _____ was the first Harappan site to be excavated in 1920-21.

Ans. : Harappa

70. The river _____ was important to the Harappan civilisation and is known today as Ghaggar in India.

Ans. : Sarasvati

71. Harappan cities were known for their advanced _____ system, which included covered drains.

Ans. : drainage

72. _____ was the first city to show evidence of cotton cultivation in the Harappan civilisation.

Ans. : Mohenjo-daro

73. The Harappan Civilisation is also known as the _____ Civilisation.

Ans. : Indus-Sarasvati

74. The 'Great Bath' was found in the city of _____.

Ans. : Mohenjo-daro

75. The Harappans were the first in Eurasia to grow _____.

Ans. : cotton

76. The Sarasvati River is now known as _____ in India and _____ in Pakistan.

Ans. : Ghaggar, Hakra

77. The Harappan Civilisation is also known as the _____ Civilisation.

Ans. : Indus_Sarasvati/Sindhu_Sarasvati

78. Harappa and _____ were the first two cities of the Harappan Civilisation to be discovered.

Ans. : Mohenjo-daro

79. In the upper town of the Harappan cities local _____ lived.

Ans. : elite

80. Goods to be transported were stored in _____.

Ans. : warehouses

81. Harappans were the first in Eurasia to grow _____.

Ans. : cotton

82. The most favoured ornaments that the Harappans exported were beads of _____.

Ans. : Carnelian

83. Around _____ the Sindhu-Sarasvati civilisation, began to fall apart.

Ans. : 1900 BCE

*** State if the following are true or false.[1 Mark each]**

[22]

84. The Indus valley seals show "Swastika" symbol.

Ans. : true

85. The Harappans may have imported copper in exchange of imported goods

Ans. : True

86. People of the Indus Valley Civilisation had developed a writing system.

Ans. : True

87. Harappans did not know about Ornament making.

Ans. : False

88. No weapons of offence and no Indus Cities.

Ans. : True

89. Till date, no concrete reasons have been found for the decline of Harappan cities.

Ans. : True

90. Most of the houses in Harappa had separate bathing areas.

Ans. : True

91. The Harappan towns in the state of Gujarat have been found in Dholavira and Lothal.

Ans. : True

92. The term "Indus Valley Civilisation" is no longer widely used because the civilisation extended beyond the Indus region.

Ans. : True

93. The Harappan civilisation was characterised by its lack of urban planning.

Ans. : False

94. The Great Bath at Mohenjo-daro was a large reservoir for storing drinking water.

Ans. : False

95. The Harappan cities had a uniform construction style, regardless of the size of the house.

Ans. : True

96. The Indus Valley Civilisation is also referred to as the Harappan Civilisation.

Ans. : true

97. The Harappans used bronze for making tools and figurines.

Ans. : true

98. All Harappan cities had large fortifications and were surrounded by walls.

Ans. : false

99. The Harappan Civilisation was characterized by frequent warfare and invasions.

Ans. : false

100. The Indus Valley Civilisation depended on the Ganges River for its development.

Ans. : false

101. Most of the Harappan cities had four distinct parts.

Ans. : false

102. Harappans used plough for agricultural activities.

Ans. : true

103. The remains of turmeric, ginger and apple were found in the Harappan cooking pots.

Ans. : false

104. The symbolic meaning of the animal figures on seals are deciphered now.

Ans. : false

105. The Sarasvati river is mentioned in the Rigveda as both a goddess and a river.

Ans. : true

* Answer the questions.[1 Mark each]

[31]

106. Why the Harappans might have returned to rural settlements?

Ans. : The Harappans returned to rural settlements because a rural lifestyle gives easier access to food and water than an urban lifestyle. Then as even now, cities depended on villages to provide food, and sometimes water.

107. When did the early cities develop in India?

Ans. : About 4700 years ago some of the earliest cities flourished on the banks of the Indus and its tributaries. Later, other early cities developed on the banks of the Ganga and its tributaries and along the sea coasts, about 2400 years ago.

108. Why are the inhabitants are called 'Harappans' in this Civilisation?

Ans. : They are called 'Harappans' because of the city Harappa.

109. Mention a few materials related to Harappan culture.

Ans. : Copper, Bronze, Clay, Terracotta etc.

110. Note down a few cities of Harappan culture.

Ans. : Harappa, Mohenjo-daro, Dholavi-ra, Lothal, Kalibangan, Rakhgarhi, Ganweriwala etc.

111. Note the states of India where the Harappan culture spread over.

Ans. : Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, Gujarat.

112. What is Civilisation in general terms?

Ans. : In general, the term Civilisation is used for an advanced stage of human societies.

113. Mention any two characteristics which are precisely associated with civilisation?

Ans. : There are many such as government and administration, urbanism, crafts and trade, writing form to communicate and record, a productive agriculture.

114. When did the Civilisation begin?

Ans. : Civilisation begin at different times in different parts of the world. For example, Mesopotamia Civilisation began around 4000 BCE, and Indus Sarasvatl Civilisation began around 2000 BCE.

115. How Punjab plains are so fertile?

Ans. : The Punjab plains divided between India and Pakistan now is so fertile due to the fact that it is watered by Indus river and its tributaries.

116. Mention the flow of Sarasvati river a few millenniums ago.

Ans. : A few millenniums ago the river Sarasvati used to flow from the foothills of the Himalayas through the modern Haiyana, Punjab and parts of Rajasthan and Gujarat.

117. Where is the Sarasvati river mentioned for the very first time?

Ans. : It is mentioned in the text Rig Veda.

118. Note down the first two cities to be discovered in Harappan Civilisation.

Ans. : Harappa and Mohenjo-daro.

119. Name a large building used for collective purposes.

Ans. : Warehouses for storing and transporting goods.

120. What are tributaries? Give an example.

Ans. : Tributaries are small rivers that join a bigger river for example – Son is a tributary of river Ganga.

121. What is Great Bath?

Ans. : Found in Mohenjo-daro, the great bath is a small but elaborate tank surrounded by small rooms.

122. What did the Harappans eat?

Ans. : Archaeological findings have shown that the Harappans grew cereals like barley, wheat, some millets, and sometimes rice, in addition to pulses and a variety of vegetables.

123. Mention a few things which the Harappans use to export.

Ans. : They exported ornaments, timber, some objects of daily use, probably also gold and cotton, and possibly some food items.

124. Write any two figures found in Harappan Civilisation.

Ans. : A statuette of the Priest King and the bronze figurine of the Dancing Girl.

125. What term is used for an advanced stage of human society with urban planning and governance?

Ans. : Civilisation is the term used for an advanced stage of human society with urban planning and governance.

126. Name the earliest city discovered in India.

Ans. : Harappa was the first city to be discovered in India.

127. Which grains were produced by the Harappans?

Ans. : Wheat, barley, pulses, peas, rice, sesame, linseed and mustard were the grains produced by the Harappans.

128. Where was the evidence of a dockyard found in Harappan cities?

Ans. : Evidence of a dockyard has been found in Lothal, Gujarat, where a huge basin measuring 217 metres in length and 36 metres in width has been present. It is the



place where the boats and ships came from the sea.

129. Name four excavation sites of Harappan civilisation.

Ans. : Dholavira, Lothal, Mohenjodaro and Harrapan are the excavation sites of the Harappan civilisation.

130. What do you mean by the term urbanisation?

Ans. : The practice of town planning which is seen in civilisations is known as urbanisation. It is the growth of cities, and their management. It also includes water management and a drainage system.

131. Name a few objects of daily use found from Dholavira.

Ans. : Few objects of daily use found from Dholavira are a bronze mirror, a terracotta pot, a few stone weights, a bronze chisel and a game board engraved on a stone, about 25 cm in length were found from Dholavira.

132. What was the earliest civilisation of the Indian Subcontinent?

Ans. : The earliest known Civilisation of the Indian subcontinent is the Indus Valley Civilisation, also known as the Harappan Civilisation.

133. Looking at all the pictures in this chapter, make a list of the ornaments / gestures / objects that still feel familiar in our 21st century.

Ans. : Following ornaments/ gestures/ objects can still found in 21st century

- Mirror • Comb
- Pots • Drainage system
- Plough • Whistle
- Chess board

134. Which of the characteristics of civilisation do you think is the most fundamental, that is, a characteristic essential to the development of all others?

Ans. : The system of government and administration and urbanism are fundamental characteristics for development of all other characteristics.

135. Have a debate in class about the last two interpretations. Can you think of any others? Remember that in this case, we do not have any other source of history- no inscription, no text, no traveller's account.

Ans. : The other use of the Great Bath of Mohenjo-daro might be

- It may be used as a water reservoir during summers.
- It may also be used as a source of irrigation.

136. Complete the story found on the Lothal pot. How was such a story remembered for more than 4,000 years, in your opinion?

Ans. : Such stories might be remembered through oral transfer from one generation to the other.



137. In what ways did the Harappan civilisation demonstrate advanced knowledge in water management?

Ans. : The Harappan civilisation exhibited advanced knowledge in water management through their intricate systems of wells, reservoirs and drainage. Cities like Mohenjo-daro had a well-planned drainage system where wastewater was channelled away from homes into large brick-lined sewers.

138. What caused the decline of the Harappans?

Ans. : The decline of the Harappans was due to two main factors. Archeologists have suggested that climatic change was first factor. Drought or less rainfall could have reduced the food supply. Second factor was the drying up of the basin of Sarasvati river which led to abandoning of few cities.

139. How can you say that the Harappan, Indus or Indus-Sarasvati Civilisation, was indeed remarkable in many way?

Ans. : We can say that the Harappan, Indus or Indus-Sarasvati Civilisation, was indeed remarkable in many ways because

1. The differences between the rich and the poor was not glaring.
2. Also the Harappan societal scenario was not that of 'exploitation', but of mutual 'accommodation'.

140. Write a short note on the Harappan Civilisation.

Ans. : The Indus, Harappan or Sindhu- Sarasvati Civilisation is one of the oldest of the world. Its inhabitants, the Harappans, created planned cities with efficient water management, diverse crafts and a brisk trade. A productive agriculture brought a variety of crops to the cities. The Civilisation eventually declined, probably because of climatic and environmental changes and its people returned to a rural lifestyle.

141. Who are archaeologists?

Ans. : Archaeologists study the remains of the past, like objects, remains of build-ings etc. They explore and excavate tools, weapons pots, pans, coins etc. and study paintings and sculptures. They look for bones of animals to find what people ate in the past.

142. What is called as the – First Urbanisation of India?

Ans. : From about 3500 BCE, in the region of modern Haryana, Punjab, Gujarat and Rajasthan, villages grew into towns, and with increasing trade and other exchanges, those towns further grew into cities. This transition happened around 2600 BCE. Archaeologists have given several names to one of the oldest Civilisation of the world such as 'Indus', 'Harappan', 'Indus-SarasvatT or 'Sindhu- SarasvatT Civilisation and its inhabitants are called 'Harappans'. This development is also known as the 'First Urbanisation of India'.

143. Explain the architectural features and the rituals which were offered in the Great Bath.

Ans. : The architectural features of Great Bath are"

- It is a special tank, which was lined with bricks, coated with water proofing material called bitumen.
- There were steps leading down to it from two sides, while there were rooms on all sides.
- The ritual offered in Great Bath was that people took a dip in the tank on special occasions.

144. Describe the craft works of the Harappans.

Ans. : The craft works of the Harappans were as follows

- Crafts in Harappa were made of stone, shell and metal, including copper, bronze, gold and silver.
- Copper, bronze, silver and gold were used to make tools, weapons, ornaments and vessels. Apart from these artefacts, beads, weights and blades were also made.

145. What are the probable factors that marked the decline of the Harappan civilisation?

Ans. : The following factors marked the decline of the Harappan civilisation

- The cities were abandoned one by one.
- The inhabitants of cities started to live the rural lifestyle.
- A climatic change in the world from 2200 BCE onwards.

146. What are the defining characteristics of the Harappan civilisation's urban planning?

Ans. : The characteristics that defines Harappan civilisation are

- Its advanced urban planning, which included grid-like street patterns.
- A well-planned drainage system.
- Use of standardised brick sizes for construction.
- Cities were divided into different sectors, with distinct areas for residential, administrative and religious activities.
- The presence of large public structures like the Great Bath in Mohenjo-daro and granaries indicates a high level of social organisation and state control over resources.

147. How did the Harappan civilisation contribute to the development of metallurgy?

Ans. : The Harappan civilisation made significant advances in metallurgy, particularly in the crafting of tools and ornaments from copper, bronze and other metals. They developed techniques for casting and alloying metals, which were used to produce a variety of objects including tools, weapons and jewellery.

This expertise in metallurgy not only facilitated their daily life but also played a role in trade, as metal goods were likely exchanged with neighbouring regions.

148. What evidence suggests that the Harappan civilisation engaged in trade and with whom did they likely trade?

Ans. : Evidence of trade in the Harappan civilisation comes from the discovery of standardised weights and measures, seals and artefacts made from materials not native to the region, such as lapis lazuli and marine shells.

These items suggest a wide trade network, possibly extending to Mesopotamia, Central Asia and the Persian Gulf. The presence of Harappan seals in Mesopotamian cities further supports the idea that the Harappans engaged in long-distance trade, exchanging goods like textiles, beads and crafts.

149. What role did agriculture play in the economy of the Harappan civilisation?

Ans. : Agriculture was the backbone of the Harappan economy, with the cultivation of crops like wheat, barley, pulses and cotton providing the main sustenance for the population.

The fertile plains of the Indus and Sarasvati rivers allowed for productive farming, supported by advanced irrigation techniques.

Surpluses generated from agriculture likely fueled urbanisation and trade, as excess goods could be stored in granaries and traded with other regions.

150. Compare the town-planning features of different Harappan cities like Harappa, Mohenjo-daro and Dholavira. What does this tell us about the civilisation's administrative structure?

Ans. : Harappa and Mohenjo-daro featured wide streets, uniform brick houses, and advanced drainage systems, indicating centralised planning. Dholavira, on the other hand, had a unique layout with three distinct zones and stone foundations for buildings, showing variation in town planning within the civilisation.

The consistent quality of construction and the presence of large public structures across these cities suggest a well-organised administrative structure capable of overseeing large-scale urban development.

151. Why does the civilisation studied in this chapter have several names? Discuss their significance.

Ans. : The civilisation in this chapter has several names based on the areas where it was discovered and settled.

Each name has its own significance. Some of them are as follows

- **Indus** The civilisation was settled mostly near the fertile plains of the river Indus and its tributaries.
- **Harappan** The civilisation was named Harappan because the very first site of this civilisation was discovered in Harappa city.
- **Indus-Sarswati or Sindhu- Saraswati** The name was given based on the widespread expanse of the civilisation over the vast fertile plains of Indus and Saraswati rivers.



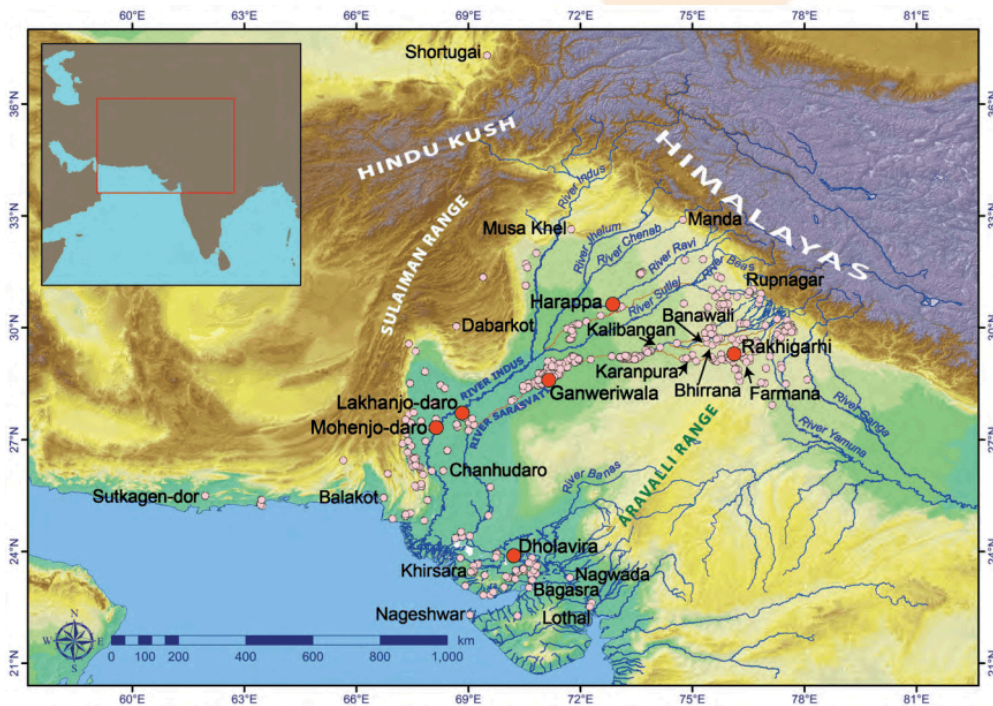
152. Imagine you have to travel from the city of Harappa to Kalibangan. What are your different options? Can you make a rough estimation of the amount of time each option might take?

Ans. : If one has to go to the Kalibangan from Harappa, they can travel through river Ravi and reach the confluence of Ravi and Sutlej, from there take a land route to reach Kalibangan. The trip from Harappa to Kalibangan might take 10-15 days.

153. Why are the inhabitants of this civilisation called 'Harappans' today?

Ans. : The inhabitants of this civilisation are called 'Harappans' today because the city of Harappa (today in Pakistan's Punjab) was the first of this civilisation to be excavated, way back in 1920-21, over a century ago.

154. Some of the important cities of this civilisation are marked in the map. As a class activity, can you try to match these cities with the modern states or regions in the table?



Harappan City	Modern State/Region
Dholavira	Punjab
Harappa	Gujarat
Kalibangan	Sindh
Mohenjo-daro	Haryana
Rakhigarhi	Rajasthan

Ans. :

Harappan City	Modern State/Region
Dholavira	Gujarat
Harappa	Punjab
Kalibangan	Rajasthan

Mohenjo-daro	Sindh
Rakhigarhi	Haryana

155. You may have come across the term 'Indus Valley Civilisation' and noticed that we have not used it. A look at the map (Fig. 6.3 on page 89) explains why the term 'Valley' is obsolete, as we now know that the civilisation extended much beyond the Indus region.

Ans. : The term valley is not suitable for civilisation as the civilisation was spread beyond the plains of the Indus river and its tributaries. The civilisation was spread between the plains of Indus, Saraswati and Ganga river. While the valley is a landform in the mountainous region. Hence, the term 'Valley' is obsolete.

156. As a class activity, measure the length of your classroom, a school corridor or a playground with the help of any measuring tape. Compare these lengths with the length of the largest reservoir in Dholavira.

Ans. : self

157. Imagine you cook a meal in a Harappan house. What dish or dishes would you prepare?

Ans. : Based on the information, following dishes could be prepared in a Harappa house

- Dal and rice
- Fish
- Meat
- Chapati and vegetables
- Curd
- Pudding

158. Looking at these three Harappan seals with some writing signs, what goes through your mind? Would you like to suggest any interpretations? Let your imagination run!



Ans. : On observing the above given seals following thoughts come to the mind

- The animals that are shown on these seals were known to the people in Harappa.
- These animals might be sacred to the people of Harappa.
- The name of the rulers might have been written.

159. Looking at the objects given in the chapter. Can you make out what activities or aspects of life were important for the Harappans?

Ans. : Based on the objects given in the chapters, following activities might be important for the Harappans

- Jewellery making
- Pottery
- Sculpting
- Dancing
- Seal making

160. Consider the 'Dancing Girl' figurine. What do you make of the attitude the figurine expresses? Observe her bangles covering an entire arm, a practice still visible in parts of Gujarat and Rajasthan. Where else in this chapter can you spot bangles worn in this manner. What conclusion should we draw from this?



Ans. : The figurine expresses the posture of waiting or dancing. In the Kalibangan site of Harappan civilisation such bangles could be spotted.

The conclusions from these facts are as follows

- The Dancing Girl figure might have been brought to Mohenjo-daro from Kalibangan.
- The bangles were traded between Mohenjo-daro and Kalibangan.

* Answer short answer questions. [3 Mark each]

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161. The Harappans gave much importance to water management and cleanliness. How did it contribute to the civilisation's sustainability?

Ans. : Water management was crucial for the Harappan civilisation. Their practice of water management and cleanliness contributed to the civilisation's sustainability in the following ways

- The Harappans developed sophisticated systems for harvesting and storing water, including wells, reservoirs, and a complex drainage system that maintained cleanliness and prevented flooding.
- This not only supported agriculture but also ensured a steady water supply for daily use.
- The efficient management of water resources was vital for the sustainability and growth of civilisation.



162. The geography of the Indus-Sarasvati region influenced the development of the Harappan civilisation. How?

Ans. : The geography of the Indus-Sarasvati region influenced the development of the Harappan civilisation in the following ways-

- The fertile plains of rivers provided an ideal environment for the growth of the Harappan civilisation.
- The rivers supported agriculture through irrigation, which supported urbanisation.
- The region's location also facilitated trade, connecting the Harappan civilisation with other contemporary cultures like Mesopotamia.
- However, changes in the course of these rivers may have contributed to the eventual decline of civilisation.

163. The Harappan cities were well planned cities. Do you agree? Explain.

Ans. : Yes we agree to the above statement that the Harappans cities were well planned cities because

1. The main streets ran parallel to each other cut at right angles by smaller streets dividing the cities into rectangular blocks.
2. The main roads were straight and very wide. The streets were, often paved with baked bricks.
3. Dwelling houses were building that people live in. They were in different sizes. They were made of baked bricks of very good quality.

164. Describe the reasons why and how the Harappan Civilisation disappeared.

Ans. : Archeologists have suggested many theories to describe the reasons why and how the Harappan Civilisation disappeared.

There might be two main factors for Harappans disappearance:

1. First factor was climate change which caused drought due to less rainfall.
2. Second factor was drying up of Sarasvati river, again due to reduced rainfall.
3. Both above factors led to drought with less agriculture, reducing food supply to the cities.
4. There might also have been a pandemic (may be caused by severe drought) with breakout of a disease causing huge number of deaths at that time.

There could have been other factors, but these two remind us of how much we depend on climate and the environment for our well-being.

165. What were the factors that contributed to the development of the Harappan civilisation?

Ans. : The following factors contributed in the development of the Harappan civilisation

- The Harappan civilisation developed in the fertile plains of the Indus and Sarasvati rivers, which provided ample water for agriculture and supported a growing

population.

- The availability of raw materials, the development of trade networks and advancements in metallurgy and craftsmanship contributed to its growth.
- The society had a form of governance to manage urban planning, trade and public utilities, which further facilitated the civilisation's development.

166. What is a civilisation?

Ans. : A Civilisation is a complex society with the following key features :

- Urbanisation : Cities as centers of population and activity.
- Social Hierarchy : Organised social structures with different roles and statuses.
- Advanced Technology : Tools and knowledge beyond basic survival needs.
- Writing Systems : Developed methods for recording information.
- Complex Economy : Systems for trade, production, and distribution of goods.
- Government and Laws : Organised systems for leadership and maintaining order.
- A Productive Agriculture : To feed people in the civilisation.

167. What were its major achievements?

Ans. : The Harappan Civilisation achieved great things for its time, here are some of their major achievements :

- Urban Planning : Well-planned cities with grid layouts, drainage systems, and sanitation facilities.
- Advanced Architecture : Use of fired bricks, multi-storied buildings, and impressive granaries.
- Craft and Technology : Skilled in metalworking, pottery and seal carving. Developed a system of weights and measures.
- Trade : Extensive trade network with Mesopotamia and other regions. Evidence of trade goods like beads and tools.
- Writing System : Developed a writing system, though its full decipherment remains a work in progress.

168. Write a brief report (150 to 200 words) summing up some of the achievements of the Indus-Sarasvati civilisation.

Ans. : Some achievements of the Indus-Sarasvati Civilisation are as follows

- The large cities were built according to precise plans.
- Their streets were wide and aligned to the cardinal directions.
- They gave importance to water management and cleanliness.
- Most of the cities were fortified and divided into two parts, upper town and lower town. Upper town was for elite people and lower town was for common people.
- There were some large buildings like warehouses to store goods.
- They used to have separate areas for bathing in their homes that were connected to a larger network of drains.
- In Mohenjo-daro people have wells in their houses and others used to fetch water from ponds, nearby streams or human-made reservoirs.



- They were engaged in active trade between the civilisations and other civilisations in the world.

169. Let us imagine a Harappan man or woman being transported to an average kitchen in today's India. What are the four or five biggest surprises awaiting them?

Ans. : The biggest surprises for a man or woman being transported to an average kitchen in today's India will be

- A refrigerator
- A microwave and oven
- Steel utensils
- Packed milk packets

170. For each characteristic of a civilisation, can you make a list of professions or occupations that might exist in such a society?

Ans. : A list of professions or occupations that might exist in such a society are as follows

- A. **Government and Administration** King, chieftians and police man
- B. **Urbanism** Sweeper, house-help, cook and gardner
- C. **Craft** Goldensmith, blacksmith, artist and sculptor
- D. **Trade** Vendors, exporter and importer
- E. **Writing** Authors and sculptors
- F. **Agriculture** Farmers
- G. **Culture** Priest

171. Imagine the large number of workers required to build such a network of reservoirs. Who do you think organised their work and gave them precise instructions? How do you think they were paid for their labour? (Hint: there was no money at that time in the way we have today.) Since the reservoirs needed to be cleaned from time to time, was there some local authority to manage their maintenance? What clues do we get from all this about this city's ruler and municipal administration?

Use your imagination and discuss with your teacher. Archaeologists also discuss these questions and the answers are not always final!

Ans. : The construction of reservoirs might be organised by the government and administration. As there was no money, they might have been paid through cereals or some other goods. There might be a system of municipal administration that took care of cleanliness of reservoirs from time to time. As there is a system of government and administration, there will be authorities assigned to different sections in administration.

* Long answer questions [4 Mark each]

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172. Around 1900 BCE, the Indus Valley Civilisation, began to fall apart. Examine the statement.

Ans. : • Around 1900 BCE, despite all its achievements, the Indus Valley Civilisation began to fall apart. The cities were abandoned one by one.

- The remaining inhabitants adopted a rural lifestyle in the changed environment.
- The factors of the decline of Indus Valley Civilisation are as follows Earlier, it was thought that warfare or invasions may have destroyed the cities, but there is no evidence of warfare or invasion have been found.
- Indeed, the Harappans do not seem to have kept any army or weapons of war.
- Harappa seems to have been a relatively peaceful civilisation. Thus, this reason is not taken much into consideration.
- A climatic change which affected much of the world from 2200 BCE onward, causing reduced rainfall and a drier phase affected the civilisation. This would have made agriculture more difficult and could have reduced food supply to the cities.
- The sudden drying up of Sarasvati river in its central basin severely impacted availability of food for the people. Also, cities such as Kalibangan or Banawali were abandoned.

173. Read the following source and answer the questions that follow.

The Harappans were engaged in active trade, not only within their own civilisation (other cities nearby or far away), but with other civilisations and cultures within and outside India. They exported ornaments, timber, some objects of daily use, probably also gold and cotton and possibly some food items. The most favoured ornaments were beads of carnelian, a reddish semi precious stone found mostly in Gujarat. What the Harappans imported in exchange of the exported goods is not so clear. It probably included copper, since this metal was not so common back home.

To conduct such a trade, they used land routes and rivers, and the sea for more distant destinations this is the first intensive maritime activity in India. Indeed, quite a few Harappan settlements are located in the coastal regions of Gujarat and Sindh. Lothal, a small settlement in Gujarat. Harappan beads of carnelian beads excavated at Susa (present-day Iran).

(i) What does the evidence of Harappan carnelian beads found at Susa suggest about their trade activities ?

- (a) The Harappans used carnelian beads only for local decoration.
- (b) The Harappans had trade connections extending beyond the Indian sub-continent.
- (c) Susa was a Harappan city known for bead-making.
- (d) Carnelian was imported by the Harappans from Susa.

(ii) Why is the large basin found in Lothal significant in understanding Harappan trade practices ?

- (a) It was used as a water reservoir for agricultural purposes.
- (b) It indicates that Lothal was primarily a fishing village.
- (c) It was likely a dockyard used for receiving and sending goods via boats.
- (d) It was a ceremonial site for religious rituals.

(iii) What can be inferred about the Harappans' expertise in working with materials like shell and carnelian ?

- (a) They were only able to work with soft, easily shaped materials.
- (b) They developed advanced techniques to handle hard and precious materials.
- (c) Their crafts were limited to basic tools and implements.
- (d) They imported all of their ornaments from other civilisations.

(iv) Which aspect of the Harappan civilisation indicates the beginning of maritime activities in India ?

- (a) The construction of large temples.
- (b) The crafting of ivory combs found in Oman.
- (c) The presence of coastal settlements and a dockyard at Lothal.
- (d) The development of inland water reservoirs.

Ans. : (i) The Harappans had trade connections extending beyond the Indian sub-continent.

(ii) It was likely a dockyard used for receiving and sending goods via boats.

(iii) They developed advanced techniques to handle hard and precious materials.

(iv) The presence of coastal settlements and a dockyard at Lothal.

174. Read the following source and answer the questions that follow.

Harappa and Mohenjo-daro, now in Pakistan, were the first two cities of this civilisation to be discovered; their identification goes back to 1924, a century ago. Several sites followed in the Indus plains, which is why the civilisation was initially called 'Indus Valley civilisation'. The larger Harappan cities were built according to precise plans: They had wide streets, which were often oriented to the cardinal directions. Most cities seem to have been surrounded by fortifications and had two distinct parts – the 'upper town', where the local elite probably lived, and the 'lower town', where common people lived.

Some large buildings seem to have been used for collective purposes – for instance, warehouses where goods to be transported were stored. Individual houses of various sizes lined the streets and smaller lanes. Interestingly, the quality of construction was the same for small and big houses. All those buildings were generally made of bricks.

(i) Why might the discovery of Harappa and Mohenjo-daro have been significant ?

(ii) How do the city layouts of Harappan cities reflect their planning and organisation ?

(iii) Why might it be important that Harappan cities had similar construction quality for all buildings ?

Ans. : (i) The discovery of Harappa and Mohenjo-daro was significant because they were the first two cities found from the Indus Valley Civilisation. They provide us a glimpse into one of the earliest urban cultures in history.

(ii) The city layouts of Harappan cities, with wide streets oriented to cardinal directions and separate areas for elites and common people, reflect a well-planned and organised urban structure.

(iii) It is important because it suggests a uniform standard of living and construction practices. It indicates that there was no division in the quality of housing between different social classes.

175. For each characteristic in the list above, can you make a list of professions or occupations that might exist in such a society?

Ans. : The list of professions or occupations that might exist in such a society is as follows :

- Fisherman
- Animal Herder
- Potter
- Stone Carver
- Jeweler

Construction and Engineering :

- Mason
- Carpenter
- Architect
- Brick Maker
- Canal Builder
- Road Builder
- House Builder
- Drainage Engineer
- Wall Painter

Trade and Commerce :

- Merchant
- Trader
- Caravan Leader
- Market Vendor
- Moneylender
- Warehouse Keeper
- Scribe
- Accountant



- Transporter
- Shipbuilder

Administrative and Religious Roles :

- City Planner
- Priest
- Astrologer
- Healer
- Chieftain
- Tax Collector
- Law Enforcer
- Record Keeper
- Council Member

These occupations reflect the diverse and complex nature of the Harappan Civilisation, which was known for its advanced urban planning, trade networks, and craft specialisation

176. What mindset does the system of reservoirs at Dholavira reflect?

Ans. : The system of reservoirs at Dholavira reflects the idea that

- People in Harappan civilisation were aware about water conservation.
- They used to store rainwater.
- Harappans gave much importance to water management and cleanliness.

177. In Mohenjo-daro, about 700 wells built with bricks have been counted. They seem to have been regularly maintained and used for several centuries. Discuss the implications.

Ans. : The use of about 700 wells built with brick have several implications. Some of them are as follows

- The regular use of wells for several centuries will lead to decline in groundwater.
- It will reduce the water for irrigation.
- There may be wastage of water due to easy accessibility.

178. The diet of Harappans was quite diverse. Validate the statement.

Ans. : The diet of Harappans was quite diverse. The statement can be validated through following facts

- Scientific examinations of clay pots found the remains of turmeric, ginger and banana.
- Some pots also validate the consumption of dairy products.
- They used to do fishing in both rivers and sea.
- They used to domesticate the animals to consume meat.
- Harappans used to cultivate cereals like barley, wheat, some millets, rice, pulses and a variety of vegetables.



- The Harappans engaged in trade with other regions, which likely introduced new food items into their diet.
- The presence of large granaries and storage facilities indicates the systematic collection and storage of various, food items

*** Long answer questions [5 Mark each]**

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179. Describe the features of Harappan Civilisation.

Ans. : Some of the striking features of the Harappan Civilisation are as follows :

1. The Harappan cities show a level of sophistication and advancement not seen in any of the other contemporary Civilisations. Most cities had similar patterns – as divided into two parts: a upper town and the lower town.
2. Most cities had a Great Bath.
3. There were also granaries, two storied houses made of burnt bricks, closed drainage lines, excellent water system, and wastewater management system, weights for measurements, toys, pots, etc. A large number of seals have also been discovered.
4. Agriculture was the most important occupation and the first Civilisation to cultivate cotton. We see that animals were domesticated like sheep, goats, and pigs. Crops were wheat, barley, cotton, ragi, dates, and peas.
5. Trade was a part of their financial system. Metal products were produced including those with copper, bronze, tin, and lead. Gold and silver were also known but Iron was not known to them.
6. Civilisation also was advanced in making artworks. A statuette named 'Dancing Girl' has been found from Mohenjo-daro and is believed to be 4000 years old. A figure of a bearded Priest- King has also been found from Mohenjo-daro.

180. What lessons can modern India learn from cities of Harappan Civilisation?

Ans. : The ancient Harappan Civilisation offers valuable insights into hygienic and well-planned urban living. Here are some key lessons we can learn from the Harappans :

1. Urban Planning : Harappan cities were well planned which facilitated efficient movement within the cities and allowed for the systematic allocation of residential, commercial, and public spaces.
2. Sanitation Systems : One of the most remarkable features of Harappan cities was their sophisticated sanitation systems.
3. Water Management : The Harappans were adept at managing water resources, essential for sustaining urban life.
4. Hygienic Practices : Archaeo logical excavations have uncovered evidence of public baths highlighting the importance of personal hygiene in Harappan society. Additionally, the presence of well-built toilets in houses suggests a concern for sanitation and cleanliness q.t the individual household level.
5. Waste Management : The Harappans practiced waste segregation, with different



types of waste likely disposed of in designated areas.

6. Community Living : The layout of Harappan cities suggests a strong sense of community living, with shared amenities and public spaces. In the context of our self-sustainable city initiative, learning from the Harappans' urban planning and sanitation practices can inform modern urban development strategies.

181. Discuss the significance of urban planning in the Harappan civilisation. How did it reflect the administrative capabilities of the society?

Ans. : Urban planning in the Harappan civilisation was highly advanced and reflects the administrative capabilities of the society in the following ways

- Cities like Harappa and Mohenjo-daro were planned, with wide streets laid out in a grid pattern and aligned with the cardinal directions.
- The cities were divided into different zones, including residential areas, public baths, granaries and administrative buildings, indicating a clear understanding of urban management.
- The uniformity in the size and construction of bricks across different cities suggests the existence of standardised regulations, possibly enforced by a central authority.
- The extensive drainage system, which included covered drains beneath the streets, points to the emphasis on hygiene and public health.
- The presence of large warehouses and granaries indicates organised storage and distribution of food, reflecting an efficient administrative system capable of managing large populations.
- This level of urban planning not only ensured the smooth functioning of the cities but also demonstrates the sophisticated governance that characterised the Harappan civilisation.

182. The Harappans managed their trade networks and they had extensive trading relationships both within and outside their civilisation. What evidence supports this statement?

Ans. : The Harappans managed their trade networks with a high level of organisation. Some of the evidences which support this statement are

- They engaged in both internal and external trade, exchanging commodities like pottery, beads, cotton, and metal goods.
- The presence of materials such as copper and tin, which were not locally available hence, they imported these resources.
- Harappan cities like Lothal in Gujarat served as major trading hubs, with a well-constructed dockyard that facilitated maritime trade. This indicates that the Harappans not only traded overland but also had established sea routes.
- The discovery of seals with inscriptions and animal motifs further points to their use in trade, possibly as a form of identification or ownership for goods.
- Trade goods from the Harappan civilisation have been found in distant lands that indicates extensive trading relationships of Harappans with other contemporary

civilisations.

- The standardised system of weights and measures across the civilisation also highlights the organised nature of their trade.

Overall, the evidence of sophisticated trade networks and the presence of foreign goods in Harappan sites underline the significance of trade in the economic and cultural development of the civilisation.

183. Imagine you are an architect in the Harappan civilisation. Design a new city layout that improves upon existing features like drainage, water supply and housing. Explain your design and the rationale behind your improvements.

Ans. : As an architect in the Harappan civilisation, I would design a new city layout that enhances the features we already have, like drainage, water supply and housing. Some of the development can be like this

- Central Water Reservoirs At the centre of the city, I would place large water reservoirs. These would collect rainwater and store it for the dry season.
- Advanced Drainage I would improve the drainage . system by making it more efficient. Every house would have its own drain connected to the main street drain, which would be covered and lead to a central sewage system. This would keep the streets clean and prevent waterlogging during the monsoon season.
- Housing The houses would be made of uniform bricks, but I would introduce more variety in sizes to accommodate different family needs. Each house would have a courtyard for ventilation and a small garden for growing herbs or vegetables.
- These development will support in the following manner
- Water Management By placing reservoirs in the centre, water would be easily accessible to everyone, and rainwater would be efficiently collected.
- Cleanliness The advanced drainage system ensures that waste is quickly removed from residential areas, keeping the city clean and healthy. This new layout would not only improve the living conditions in the city but also make it more sustainable and pleasant for future generations.

184. It is often said that the Harappans had a high civic sense. Discuss the significance of this statement. Do you agree with it? Compared with citizens in a large city of India today.

Ans. : Yes, Harappans had a high civic sense. Some of the facts that support the statement are as follows

- They had a separate bathing area that was well connected with the network of drains.
- The waste used to flow through the drains.
- The houses were made of bricks only.
- People in Harappan cities were engaged in trading activities.

In today's large cities of India, the drainage system is not working very well due to over population and pollution. There are slum areas around the large cities these



days which were not the feature of Harappan cities. Hence, in these ways Harappan cities were more civic than modern cities in India.

*** case - based/data -based questions**

[8]

The Harappans created many of their settlements along the banks of large or small rivers. This is a logical choice, not just for easy access to water, but also for agriculture, since rivers enrich the soil around them. Archaeological findings have shown that the Harappans grew cereals like barley, wheat, some millets, and sometimes rice, in addition to pulses and a variety of vegetables. They were also the first in Eurasia to grow cotton, which they used to weave into clothes. They made farming tools, including the plough, some of which continue to be used by modern-day farmers.

This intense agricultural activity was managed by hundreds of small rural sites or villages. Then, as now, the cities could survive only if enough agricultural produce from rural areas reached them on a daily basis.

Q.1. Why did the Harappans choose to settle along the banks of rivers?

- (a) For easy access to fishing
- (b) For protection from invaders
- (c) For easy access to water and enriched soil for agriculture
- (d) For transportation facilities

185. Which of the following crops were mainly grown by the Harappans?

- (a) Corn and tomatoes
- (b) Barley, wheat and some millets
- (c) Sugarcane and tea
- (d) Grapes and apples

186. How did Harappan cities survive?

- (a) Through trading
- (b) Through hunting and gathering
- (c) Through the daily influx of gricultural produce from rural areas
- (d) None of the above

187. What information can be inferred about the importance of agriculture in the Harappan Civilisation?

- (a) It was an activity meant for entertainment purposes.
- (b) It supported both rural and urban populations.
- (c) It made foreign trade possible.
- (d) It made Harappans rich and powerful.

Ans. : 1.C. For easy access to water and enriched soil for agriculture

Explanation.

Creating settlements along rivers was a practical choice for the Harappans as rivers provided easy access to water and enriched soil, which were crucial for agricultural practices.

2.B. Barley, wheat and some millets

Explanation.



The Harappans grew cereals like barley, wheat, some millets, and sometimes rice, in addition to pulses and vegetables. They even grew cotton.

3.C. Through the daily influx of agricultural produce from rural areas

Explanation.

The survival of Harappan cities was only possible if enough agricultural produce from rural areas reached them on a daily basis.

4.B. It supported both rural and urban populations.

Explanation.

The passage highlights that intense agricultural activity was practiced and managed by rural sites, which supported both the villages and the cities, indicating its vital role in sustaining the civilisation.

India's history starts with the emergence of the Indus Valley Civilisation, also known as the Harappan Civilisation. It thrived about 2,500 BC in western South Asia, which is now Pakistan and Western India. The Indus Valley housed Egypt Mesopotamia, India, and China's biggest four ancient urban civilisations. However, nothing was known about this civilisation until the 1920s when India's Archeological Department conducted excavations in the Indus Valley, where the two ancient towns, Mohenjodaro and Harappa, were discovered. The remains of structures and other items like domestic goods, military weapons, gold and silver decorations, seals, toys, ceramic products, etc., indicate that a highly developed civilisation existed in this area four to five thousand years ago. The Indus Valley civilisation was essentially an urban civilisation, and people lived in well-planned and well-built cities, which were also centres of commerce. Mohenjo-daro and Harappa's remains indicate great commercial cities—perfectly planned, carefully constructed, and well cared about. They had large roadways and well-developed drainage. The homes featured baked bricks and two or more stories.

Q.1. The excavations that led to the discovery of Mohenjo-daro and Harappa were conducted by which department?

- (a) Department of Agriculture (b) Department of Geology
(c) Department of Archaeology (d) Department of Urban Planning

188. Which ancient urban civilisations were contemporary to the Harappan Civilisation?

- (a) Roman, Greek, Persian and Babylonian
(b) Egyptian, Mesopotamian and Chinese
(c) Incan, Mayan and Egyptian
(d) Greek, Roman, Egyptian, and Mesopotamian

189. What was the possible social structure of the Harappan Civilisation?

- (a) It was a democratic society.
(b) It had a nomadic society.
(c) It was a religious society.
(d) It had a well-organised and advanced urban society.



190. The remains of which of the following items were NOT found during the excavations of Mohenjodaro and Harappa?

- (a) Gold and silver decorations (b) Electronic devices
(c) Toys (d) Ceramic products

Ans. : 1.C. Department of Archaeology

Explanation.

According to the passage the Harappan cities of Mohenjodaro and Harappa were discovered by India's Archaeological Department.

2.B. Egyptian, Mesopotamian and Chinese

Explanation.

Harappan or Indus Valley Civilisation was one of the four largest ancient urban civilisations, along with Egypt, Mesopotamia, and China.

3.D. It had a well-organised and advanced urban society.

Explanation.

The Harappan cities were well-planned and constructed, indicating well-organised and advanced urban set-up.

4.B. Electronic devices

Explanation.

The remains of items like domestic goods, military weapons, gold and silver decorations, seals, toys, ceramic products, etc., were found during the excavations of Mohenjodaro and Harappa.

* Match the following.

[5]

191.

Column A	Column B
(1) Harappa	(i) Great Bath
(2) Mohenjo-daro	(ii) Large reservoir
(3) Dholavira	(iii) Tributary of Ganga
(4) Yamuna	(iv) First discovered city

Ans. :

Column A	Column B
(1) Harappa	(iv) First discovered city
(2) Mohenjo-daro	(i) Great Bath
(3) Dholavira	(ii) Large reservoir
(4) Yamuna	(iii) Tributary of Ganga

