

Q1

What is archaeology?

Ans Archaeology means 'The Study of ancient things' in Greek. It is the study of the physical remains of the past.

Q2 On what materials were early manuscripts written?

Ans Early manuscripts are written on dried palm leaves, the bark of trees and parchments.

Q3 Name two religious books which provide information about Indian history.

Ans The Puranas, the Tripitakas and the Angas provide information about Indian history.

Q4 Name the foreign travellers to India whose accounts are valuable source of history.

Ans (i) Megasthenes who visited India during Chandragupta's time wrote Indica.

(ii) The accounts of Faxian and Xuanzang, two Chinese travellers also throw light on the reigns of the Guptas and Harshavardhana respectively.

Q5 What are monuments?

Ans There are many ancient buildings of historical importance and places of worship that have

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not been buried underground. Such buildings that still remain today are called monuments.

Q6) What is meant by BCE and CE?

Ans) With these days we use the terms CE in place of AD and BCE in place of BC. CE stands for 'Common era' while BCE stands for before Common era.

(ii) This system is thought to be a more neutral way of writing dates, acceptable to people of all religions.

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Q1) Why do we study history?

Ans) We study history for following reason:-

- (i) History and Prehistory show how things are always changing.
- (ii) Life was different 200 years ago, and even more so 2000 years ago.
- (iii) History studies these changes, and the factors that caused these changes.

Q2) How are history and prehistory different?

History

Pre-history

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| (i) History is a written account of people, place and events of the past. | (i) Prehistory, on the other hand, is an account of events that happened, or may have happened. |
| (ii) History tells us how and where people lived, what they did and what their customs and beliefs were. | (ii) Pre history also means that before people invented writing, it also deals with a very distant past. |
| (iii) History also tells us the way they traded, the wars they fought and the rulers who governed them. | (iii) There are no written records from this period. |

Q3 How is archaeology useful in the study of prehistory?

Ans Archaeology useful in the study of prehistory in following ways:-

- (i) Ancient cities and villages are often buried under soil, water or volcanic ash.
- (ii) These places, called archaeological sites are carefully excavated by archaeologists.
- (iii) The archaeologists study the artefacts and

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fossils they find in these sites to understand and ancient past better.

Q4) What are the different written or documented sources from which we learn history? Give Example.

Ans The different written or documented sources are:-

- i) Religious :- The Puranas, the Tripitakas and the Angas.
- ii) Secular :- The Arthashastra of Kautilya and the Harshacharita written by Banabhatta.
- iii) Accounts of travellers :- Megasthenes who visited India during Chandragupta's time wrote Indica. The account of Faxian and Xuanzang two Chinese travellers who throw light on Gupta and Harshavardhan rule.

Q5) How do coins help us learn about history?

Ans Like the coins that we use today, many ancient coins also had pictures and words on both sides.

They depicted battle scenes, court scenes, the figures of gods and goddesses, and the faces of Kings and queens.

Q6) What are inscriptions? How do they help us study the past?

Ans Writings on hard surfaces like stones, metals or rocks.

(i) Inscriptions tell us about the reigns of different queens and kings, the experiences of travellers

(ii) Life in the Royal Courts, trade and Commerce.

(iii) The life of the Common people, battles, region and other important events.

Q7) How do we indicate dates in history? Why were the terms AD and BC replaced by CE and BCE?

Ans To be able to locate an event in time, dates are used. Traditionally, the birth of Christ was used as the point from which years were numbered in history.

(i) We use the terms CE in place of AD and BCE in place of BC. CE stands for 'Common era', while BCE stands for 'before Common era'.

PICTURE STUDY PAGE-6

1) What is this?

Ans 1st Picture is the fossil of a fish. 2nd Picture is about the Coin used by people in ancient time and 3rd Picture is about the artefacts excavated from different sites.

2) What information did these pictures give us?

Ans These pictures give us lots of information like the animals found in ancient period. The Coins used by various Kings in different time. The coins also contain the ships that were used during ancient times. The artefacts gives us the information about tools, weapons, pottery used by ancient people.

3) Where do we get these pictures?

Ans We get these pictures in museums where they are preserved.