

E Answer in brief.

Q1) Which two sites of the Indus Valley civilisation were the first to be discovered?

Ans Harappa and Mohengodaro are two sites of the Indus valley civilisation were to be discovered.

Q2) Write the environment of the Indus Valley as it was 4,000 years ago.

Ans (i) 4000 years ago, when the Indus Valley civilisation flourished, the land was fertile.

(ii) There was plenty of rainfall and wheat, barley and rice grew abundantly

(iii) There were dense forests, and animals like elephant, tiger and rhinoceros.

Q3) What were the houses of the Indus Valley Civilisation made of?

Ans The walls of the houses were made of baked bricks. The roofs were flat and made of wood.

Q4) How many social classes were there in the Indus valley society

Ans There might have been three social classes - priests and rich merchants made one group,

traders, craftsman and farmers made up the next, and the labourers formed the third group.

Q5) At which site was the Great Granary found?

Ans At Harappa, the Great Granary have been found.

Q6) How do we know that the people of Indus valley knew how to spin cotton.

Ans (i) The people of the Indus valley Civilisation knew how to spin and weave cotton - clay spindles have been found in all the cities.

(ii) On the basis of the style of clothing shown on the statuettes excavated from these sites.

Q7) Name two outstanding pieces of art discovered in the Indus valley?

Ans (i) The bronze dancing girl are excellent works of art.

(ii) Many of the toys found at Harappa and Mohengodaro had parts which moved.

Q8) Write three sentence about the script of the Indus valley Civilisation.

Ans (i) The Script of the Indus valley Civilisation has not been deciphered yet.

(ii)

(ii) It is a pictographic script and has around 400 basic signs with several variations.

(iii) Most of the script has been found written on seals.

F Answer in detail.

Q1 Write few sentence about the cities of the Indus valley civilisation were well-planned.

Ans (i) The cities of the Indus valley civilisation were built using the grid system of town planning.

(ii) The main roads were around nine metres wide and ran parallel to one another from north to south.

(iii) The city was divided into square or rectangular blocks. Each street and lane had a public well.

Q2 What was special about the drainage system of the Indus valley cities?

Ans (i) It was also the only ancient civilisation in which every house had a bathroom with brick flooring.

(ii) The floors of the bathroom were sloping, so that the water could drain easily.

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(iii) These bathrooms had outlets to carry the dirty water to the drains outside.

Q3) Write three sentences about the clothes and ornaments worn by the people of the Indus valley civilisation.

Ans (i) On the basis of the style of clothing shown on the statuettes excavated from these sites, archaeologists say that men wore flowing lengths of cloth.

(ii) The women wore skirts draped shawls over their shoulders and tied up their hair decorating it with combs.

(iii) Both men and women wore ornaments. Earrings, amulets, bracelets, nose-rings, bangles and anklets have been recovered from the ruins.

Q4) Write few sentences about the craft of the Indus valley people.

Ans (i) The pottery was beautiful and made mostly of red clay, with dots, lines, geometric designs and animals figures painted in black.

(ii) Several statues and toys of terracotta have been found.

Q5) Write three sentences on the religious beliefs of the Indus valley people.

Ans (i) The religious beliefs of the Indus valley people from the seals, pottery, figurines, stone images and amulets found in the excavations.

(ii) The people believed in a mother goddess

(iii) A seal showing a three-faced figure in a yogic position has been found.

Q6) What proof do we have to show that the people of the Indus valley traded with other civilisations by both land and sea? What items were traded?

Ans (i) The merchants traded with Mesopotamia and with towns along the Persian Gulf.

(ii) Stone beads, objects made from ivory and shell, and weights and seals belonging to the Indus valley civilisation have been found at Ur in Mesopotamia.

(iii) These finds prove that trade existed between the Indus valley civilisation and other cultures of the time.

Q7) What are the reasons historians give for the decline of the Indus valley civilisation?

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Ans (i) There may have been repeated floods caused by changes in the environment.

(ii) Some historians believe that a shift in the course of the river flowing through this region, causing the land to dry up.

(iii) It may also be that the civilisation decayed steadily due to a gradual decrease in rainfall, leading to long dry spells.