

Std VI

Lesson 3.

History.

(The first farmers and herders)

Answer the questions:-

Q1. Name two regions in India where mesolithic sites have been found.

Ans. In India mesolithic remains have been found at various places including Mysore in Karnataka and parts of Western and Central India.

Q2. Mention two types of archaeological sources that tell us about man's life during the mesolithic age.

Ans. Tools and rock paintings are the two types of archaeological sources that tell us about man's life during the mesolithic age.

Q3. What do you understand by domestication?

Ans. All processes by which plants and animals are brought under human control are together called domestication.

Q4. Mention some regions in India where neolithic tools have been found.

Ans. Neolithic tools have been found in Kashmir, the northern Vindhyas the middle Ganges valley and Eastern, North Eastern and Southern India.

Q5. What made up a typical neolithic village?

Ans. Farming and herding led to the establishment of permanent human settlements and community life began to take shape.

Q6. What kind of work did women children and old people do in a neolithic community?

Ans. *Women took care of home and children.

*Women ,children and old people performed light agricultural tasks like sowing and harvesting.

*Grazing small herds and protecting crops from pests such as birds.

* Both men and women possibly took part in pot making, weaving and making tools, weapons and ornaments.

Q7. How did Neolithic people dispose off their dead?

Ans. Neolithic people buried their dead. They often marked the burial places with huge rectangular blocks of stone called megaliths.

Q8. Where is Mehargarh situated?

Ans. Mehargarh is situated near the Bolan pass in Pakistan.

Q9. What are microliths? How did mesolithic man use microliths?

Ans. Smaller tools made by mesolithic man were called microliths.

Microliths were usually stone blades ranging from 1 to 5 cm in length. Some of them were fixed on wood or bone and used as spears, saws ,knives and arrows.

Q10. Explain how men might have discovered the magic link between seed and plant.

Ans. Seeds that fell at the time of gathering or seeds in discarded vegetable remains might have sprouted and suggested the magic link between seed and plant. Man might then have experimented by dropping seeds into the soil and found plants growing.

Q11. What do mesolithic paintings usually depict ?what information do they give us?

Ans. The mesolithic paintings depict various activities of mesolithic people and tell us about mesolithic methods of hunting, fishing ,collecting honey, religious worship and so on.

The poses depicted in such paintings are quite similar to the tribal dances we see today .

These were probably dances performed during rituals before the men set out for hunting.

Q12. Write about the occupations of the Neolithic people of Mehargarh.

Ans. The settlement at Mehargarh was one of the earliest Neolithic villages of the Indian subcontinent. Its people built mud houses, grew wheat, barley and cotton and kept goats, sheep and cattle. The Neolithic people of Mehargarh combined farming and herding with hunting - gathering.

The village had a mud wall around it.

Q13. How did farming and herding change man's life?

Ans. Growing crops assured man of a continuous supply of food. Although man still hunted, the rearing of animals assured him of a continuous supply of meat, milk and hides. Man could produce more food than he required.

To take care of his crops, man needed to stay at one place for a long time. Hence, permanent human settlements began to be established and community life began to take shape.

He also had surplus food now and so devoted his free time to art or to invent things.

This is how farming and herding changed man's life.

Q 14. Distinguish between Paleolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic period.

Ans. The stone age has been divided into three parts: Paleolithic age, Mesolithic age, & Neolithic age.

*Paleolithic period - paleo means old and lithos means stone, so Palaeolithic age means old stone age. The period started from man's existence on the earth to the end of 12000 BC.

*In this period, man was completely a hunter and a gatherer.

*Man did not know the link between plants and seeds.

*Man used big and crude stones to kill animals for eating flesh.

*In the early Paleolithic age, he did not know about fire, but when he discovered fire, he learnt to roast his food.

*In the later Paleolithic age, man came to know to cover his body with leaves, bark of trees and animal skin.

*There was no community life in the Paleolithic age and their tools were also very crude.

*Mesolithic age- Meso means middle so mesolithic means middle stone age. This period was existing from 10000 BCE to 8000 BCE.

*In the Mesolithic age man learnt the link between seeds and plants.

*He learnt to making better tools so his hunting skills improved.

*He lived in rock shelters and caves houses were usually built in river valleys because the land was suitable for growing crops.

*He buried his dead and it was also beginning of religious beliefs.

* He drew crude drawings.

*Neolithic age-Neo means new,so neolithic means new stone age. This is was from 8000 BCE to 3300 BCE.

*In the Neolithic age man became a farmer and a good hunter.

* Villages sprung up around cultivation sites.

* The people of a village carried out activities like farming, herding, hunting, gathering and fishing in groups.

*Neolithic people got the idea of wheel while rolling logs of wood. Wheel improved transport and quickened the pace .

*The concept of families came into being. A group of such families was called a tribe.

*Neolithic man was a better artist.

* The Neolithic people usually buried their dead. Cremation was also practiced.

Q15. How did invention of wheel changed early man's life?

Ans. The wheel was a remarkable invention of early man.

- i) Wheel improved transport and quickened the pace of development .
- ii) The potter's wheel improve the process of making pots.
- iii) The wheel was also used in spinning thread which led to weaving ,once weaving was known man used cotton and wool to make cloth.

DO THE OBJECTIVE TYPE QUESTIONS IN THE BOOK, BY YOURSELF.