

CBSE CLASS 6 — SOCIAL SCIENCE**Chapter 5: India, That Is Bharat****Worksheet — Set 3**

Name: _____ Class: 6 ____ Date: _____

Section A: Multiple Choice Questions

1. What does the Sri Aurobindo quotation at the start of the chapter mainly emphasise?
 - a) military unity
 - b) spiritual and cultural unity
 - c) economic unity
 - d) linguistic unity
2. Which emperor used the term 'Jambudvipa' to describe the Indian Subcontinent
 - a) Chandragupta Maurya
 - b) Ashoka
 - c) Akbar
 - d) Harsha
3. Who was the first foreigner to refer to India as 'Hind'?
 - a) Greeks
 - b) Chinese
 - c) Persians
 - d) Romans
4. Which of the following texts does NOT describe the entire geography of India?
 - a) Vishnu Purāṇa
 - b) Mahābhārata
 - c) R̥ig Veda
 - d) Ashoka's inscriptions
5. Who first used the term 'Hindustān', according to the chapter?
 - a) the Greeks, in a text
 - b) the Persians, in an inscription
 - c) the Chinese, in a scroll
 - d) the Romans, in a coin
6. Which civilisation used the term 'Indoi' or 'Indike' for India?
 - a) Persian
 - b) Greek
 - c) Chinese
 - d) Arabic

7. The English word 'India' is closest in form to the term used in which language?
 - a) Latin
 - b) Chinese
 - c) Persian
 - d) Tamil
8. Xuanzang translated the Buddhist manuscripts he collected from Sanskrit into:
 - a) Persian
 - b) Greek
 - c) Chinese
 - d) Arabic
9. Which of these names is NOT mentioned in the chapter as an ancient name for India?
 - a) Jambudvīpa
 - b) Bhāratavarṣha
 - c) Hindustān
 - d) Āryāvarta
10. Why, according to the chapter, is it difficult to say exactly when a name for the entire Subcontinent first appeared?
 - a) no ancient texts survive
 - b) ancient Indian texts are difficult to date
 - c) India had no writing then
 - d) the names kept changing every year

Section B: Fill in the Blanks

1. Fig. 5.2 in the chapter is a physical map of the Indian _____, showing some of its rivers.
2. The two 'Big Questions' of Chapter 5 are: How do we define India, and what were the _____ names for India?
3. 'Bharata' is a name that first appears in the _____.
4. Several _____ named 'Bharata' are mentioned in later Indian literature.
5. 'Jambudvīpa' refers to a tree also called the 'Malabar plum tree' or the '_____ tree'.
6. The Vishnu Purāṇa's verse describes Bhārata as lying north of the ocean and south of the _____ mountains.
7. 'Cape Kumari', mentioned in the Tamil poem, refers to the southern tip of India, today known as _____.
8. The Persians gained control of the region of the _____ River in the 6th century BCE.
9. In Arabic and Persian, the term used for India is '_____ '.
10. The ancient Chinese also referred to India by the term '_____', meaning 'heavenly master'.

Section C: True or False

1. Sri Aurobindo's quotation talks about unity between the Himalayas and the two seas.
2. Figure 5.1 depicts a scene from the Great Sanchi Stupa.
3. The Mahābhārata is one of India's most famous texts.
4. Emperor Ashoka can be dated to about 250 CE.

5. The R̥ig Veda refers to 'Bharata' as one of the main Vedic groups of people.
6. The Mahābhārata's use of 'Bhāratavar̥sha' includes the names of numerous rivers and peoples.
7. The term 'Hindustān' was first used by the ancient Greeks.
8. Xuanzang is also known by the older spellings 'Hiuen Tsang' or 'Hsuan Tsang'.
9. The Chinese word 'Yintu' has no connection at all to the word 'Sindhu'.
10. India has had exactly the same name and the same borders throughout its long history.

Section D: Answer in Two Lines

1. What is shown in Figure 5.1, and where is it from?
2. What are the two 'Big Questions' asked at the start of Chapter 5?
3. According to the chapter, why is it difficult to date many ancient Indian texts?
4. What is the connection between 'Bharata' the Vedic group of people and the name 'Bhāratavar̥sha'?
5. What does the ancient Tamil poem suggest about ancient Indians' knowledge of geography?
6. What was the extent of Ashoka's 'Jambudvīpa'?
7. By what other names is Xuanzang also known?
8. Explain, step by step, how 'Sindhu' changed into the Chinese word 'Yindu'.
9. How does the chapter define the word 'Constitution'?
10. Name two possible motivations foreigners may have had to travel to ancient India.

Section E: Write Short Notes (5-8 lines)

1. Write a short note on the word-chain showing how 'Sindhu' evolved into 'Hindu', 'Indoi' and finally 'India'.

2. Describe what the chapter tells us about the geography and natural boundaries of ancient India.

3. Write a note on the ancient Indian texts (Ṛig Veda, Mahābhārata, Vishnu Purāṇa) and what each tells us about the names of India.

4. Describe the role of foreign travellers and invaders in naming India.

5. Imagine you are Xuanzang. Write a short note, in his voice, about your journey to India.

ANSWER KEY — Worksheet — Set 3

Section A: Multiple Choice Questions

1. b) spiritual and cultural unity
2. b) Ashoka
3. c) Persians
4. c) Rig Veda
5. b) the Persians, in an inscription
6. b) Greek
7. a) Latin
8. c) Chinese
9. d) Āryāvarta
10. b) ancient Indian texts are difficult to date

Section B: Fill in the Blanks

1. Subcontinent
2. ancient
3. Rig Veda
4. kings
5. jambul
6. snowy
7. Kanyakumari
8. Indus
9. Hindustān
10. Tianzhu

Section C: True or False

1. True
2. True
3. True
4. False
5. True
6. True
7. False
8. True
9. False
10. False

Section D: Answer in Two Lines

1. Figure 5.1 shows a scene from rural India from about 2,300 years ago, carved on the north gate of the Great Sanchi Stupa.
2. The two Big Questions are: 'How do we define India?' and 'What were the ancient names for India?'

3. It is difficult to date many ancient Indian texts precisely, which makes it hard to say exactly when a name for the entire Subcontinent first appeared.
4. 'Bharata' first referred to a Vedic group of people in the R̥ig Veda; later, the term 'Bhāratavar̥sha' ('country of the Bharatas') came to mean the whole Subcontinent.
5. It suggests that ancient Indians in different regions, even far from each other, had a fairly accurate and shared understanding of the geography of the Subcontinent.
6. Ashoka's 'Jambudvīpa' covered what is today India, along with parts of Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan.
7. Xuanzang is also known by the older spellings 'Hiuen Tsang' and 'Hsuan Tsang'.
8. 'Sindhu' became 'Hindhu' (a Persian-influenced form), which became 'Indu', and finally 'Yindu' in Chinese.
9. The chapter defines a Constitution as a document that spells out the basic principles and laws of a nation.
10. Any two of: trade, religion (pilgrimage/spreading or learning about Buddhism), scholarship/learning, seeking wealth, exploration, or military conquest.

Section E: Short Notes

1. The name 'India' has a long history that begins with the Sanskrit word 'Sindhu', the name of the Indus River. When the Persians gained control of this region in the 6th century BCE, they adapted the word into 'Hind', 'Hidu' or 'Hindu'. The ancient Greeks, whose language had no 'h' sound, dropped it and called the land 'Indoi' or 'Indike'. Over time, through Latin ('India') and later European languages, this became the modern English word 'India'. This word-chain shows how a single river's name travelled across cultures and centuries to become the country's name.
2. Ancient texts describe India using natural boundaries rather than fixed political borders. The Vishnu Purāṇa says Bhārata lies north of the ocean and south of the snowy mountains, that is, the Himalayas. A Tamil poem from about 2,000 years ago similarly describes a king's fame reaching from Cape Kumari in the south to the great mountain in the north, and to the oceans in the east and west. This shows that ancient Indians thought of their land as naturally bounded by mountains on one side and seas on the others, a description that closely matches the actual physical map of the Subcontinent.
3. The R̥ig Veda, India's oldest text, names only the northwest region as 'Sapta Sindhava' ('land of the seven rivers'). The Mahābhārata goes further, listing many regions across the Subcontinent and using the terms 'Bhāratavar̥sha' and 'Jambudvīpa' for the whole land. The Vishnu Purāṇa clearly defines 'Bhārata' as the land between the ocean and the snowy mountains. Together, these three texts show how the idea of 'India' as one complete land grew gradually — from naming a small region, to listing many regions, to finally describing the whole Subcontinent with clear boundaries.
4. Foreign travellers and invaders played an important part in naming India, mostly using words based on the river 'Sindhu'. The Persians called it 'Hind'/'Hindu' after gaining control of the Indus region; the Greeks changed this to 'Indoi'; the Chinese used 'Yindu' and 'Tianzhu'; and later invaders used the term 'Hindustān', first found in a Persian inscription about 1,800 years ago. Eventually, through Latin and other European languages, the name 'India' became widely used internationally, even though 'Bhārata', the name from India's own ancient texts, remained common within the country.
5. As Xuanzang, I set out from China in the 7th century CE on a long and difficult journey to India, the land of the Buddha. I travelled across many regions, meeting scholars and visiting places of learning, and I carefully collected Buddhist texts wherever I went. I spent seventeen years in this vast land before finally returning home to China. There, I dedicated myself to translating the Sanskrit manuscripts I had carried back into Chinese, so that others in my country could also learn from India's wisdom.