CBSE CLASS 6 • SOCIAL SCIENCE • EXPLORING SOCIETY: INDIA AND BEYOND

Worksheet – Set B

Chapter 6: The Beginnings of Indian Civilisation

Name:	Class: VI	Date:

Q1. Multiple Choice Questions

Tick (✓) or write the letter of the correct option.

1. Which of the following is NOT listed as a characteristic of a civilisation in the chapter?

(a) Writing (b) Urbanism
(c) A large standing army (d) Productive agriculture

2. The largest reservoir at Dholavira measured

(a) 33 metres (b) 73 metres
(c) 217 metres (d) 12 metres

3. A Harappan ivory comb about 7 cm long was found on the coast of

(a) Oman (b) Egypt
(c) Iraq (d) Syria

4. Harappan carnelian beads were excavated at Susa in present-day

(a) Oman (b) Iraq
(c) Iran (d) Egypt

5. In Mohenjo-daro, people drew water from hundreds of wells made of

(a) stone (b) bricks
(c) clay (d) bronze

6. The first two cities of this civilisation to be discovered (identified in 1924) were

(a) Dholavira and Lothal (b) Harappa and Mohenjo-daro
(c) Rakhigarhi and Farmana (d) Kalibangan and Banawali

7. In Dholavira, the foundations of most buildings were made with

(a) mud (b) wood
(c) stones (d) shells

8. Harappan settlements were created along rivers mainly because rivers

(a) stopped floods
(b) gave water and enriched the soil
(c) protected from enemies
(d) were used for games

9. The bronze ‘Dancing Girl’ figurine is about ___ high.

(a) 10.8 cm (b) 25 cm
(c) 4 cm (d) 7 cm

10. The Harappan cities began to decline around

(a) 3500 BCE (b) 2600 BCE
(c) 1900 BCE (d) 1000 BCE

Q2. Fill in the Blanks

1. The Sarasvatī River is called ‘_____’ in Pakistan.

2. Scientific tests of Harappan cooking pots found turmeric, ginger and _____.

3. This development is also called the ‘First _____ of India’.

4. Lothal is a small settlement in the state of _____.

5. Harappan cities had wide streets oriented to the _____ directions.
6. Seals show animal figures with a few signs of a _____ system.
7. The Harappans probably imported _____, since this metal was not common back home.
8. Ancient _____ civilisation began a few centuries after the Mesopotamian civilisation.
9. Rakhigarhi is a major city located in the state of _____.
10. A gamesboard engraved on a stone was found at _____.

Q3. True or False

Write True or False. Do not change the statement.

1. Mesopotamia is in modern Iraq and Syria. (_____)
2. Harappan homes had separate areas for bathing. (_____)
3. The Lothal dockyard was smaller than one football ground. (_____)
4. Dholavira had two distinct zones, like other cities. (_____)
5. The Harappans traded only within their own city. (_____)
6. A terracotta whistle was found at Karanpura in Rajasthan. (_____)
7. In Mohenjo-daro, houses did not have bathrooms. (_____)
8. There is clear evidence that invaders destroyed the Harappan cities. (_____)
9. The Harappans domesticated animals and also fished. (_____)
10. Much of the Harappan culture and technology survived after the cities declined. (_____)

Q4. Match the Following

Match each item in Column A with the correct item in Column B. Write the letter in the bracket: 1 → ( )

Column A	Column B
1. Dancing Girl	(a) Excavated at Susa (Iran)
2. Gamesboard	(b) About 12 × 7 metres
3. Terracotta whistle	(c) Engraved on stone at Dholavira
4. Ivory comb	(d) Modern Iraq and Syria
5. Carnelian beads	(e) Bronze figurine from Mohenjo-daro
6. Ghaggar–Hakra	(f) Terracotta figure seated with folded hands
7. Mesopotamia	(g) Found on the coast of Oman
8. Thirsty crow story	(h) Design on a pot from Lothal
9. Great Bath	(i) Karanpura, Rajasthan
10. Namaste figurine	(j) Present name of the Sarasvatī

Q5. Answer in 2 lines

1. Why could Harappan cities survive only with villages?

2. What did Harappan cooking pots reveal about their diet?

3. Why did the Harappans settle along rivers?

4. How was the Great Bath emptied and refilled?

5. Name three crops grown by the Harappans.

6. What is meant by the ‘First Urbanisation of India’?

7. For what was the dockyard at Lothal used?

8. Why is the idea of the Great Bath as a public bath ruled out?

9. What happened to Harappan culture after the cities declined?

10. What did B.B. Lal say about Harappan society?

Q6. Write Short Notes

Write 4 or 5 valid points with examples in your notebook.

1. **Short note on:** The seven characteristics of a civilisation.
2. **Short note on:** The Great Bath of Mohenjo-daro.
3. **Short note on:** Crafts and ornaments of the Harappans.
4. **Short note on:** Harappan seals.
5. **Short note on:** Objects of daily use found at Dholavira.

Q7. Answer in One Word

Read the definition and write the correct term.

1. The region (modern Iraq and Syria) where civilisation began about 6,000 years ago is _____.
2. The natural tar used to waterproof the Great Bath is _____.

3. The reddish semiprecious stone used for Harappan beads is _____.
4. The first city of this civilisation to be excavated was _____.
5. The name of the Sarasvatī River in India today is _____.
6. The hard sea-shell material used to make bangles is _____.
7. The ancient collection of prayers that first mentions the Sarasvatī is the _____.
8. The part of a Harappan city where common people lived was the _____.
9. The channels that ran below the streets and took waste water away are _____.
10. The people who lived in this civilisation are called _____.

ANSWER KEY – SET B

Q1. Multiple Choice Questions

1. (c) A large standing army
2. (b) 73 metres
3. (a) Oman
4. (c) Iran
5. (b) bricks
6. (b) Harappa and Mohenjo-daro
7. (c) stones
8. (b) gave water and enriched the soil
9. (a) 10.8 cm
10. (c) 1900 BCE

Q2. Fill in the Blanks

1. **Hakra**
2. **banana**
3. **Urbanisation**
4. **Gujarat**
5. **cardinal**
6. **writing**
7. **copper**
8. **Egyptian**
9. **Haryana**
10. **Dholavira**

Q3. True or False

1. **True**
2. **True**
3. **False** – Its length was a little more than two football grounds.
4. **False** – Dholavira had three distinct zones.
5. **False** – They traded within and outside their civilisation, even with distant lands.
6. **True**
7. **False** – Most houses had individual bathrooms.
8. **False** – There is no trace of warfare or invasion.
9. **True**
10. **True**

Q4. Match the Following

1 → (e) 2 → (c) 3 → (i) 4 → (g) 5 → (a) 6 → (j) 7 → (d) 8 → (h) 9 → (b) 10 → (f)

Pairs: Dancing Girl – Bronze figurine from Mohenjo-daro; Gamesboard – Engraved on stone at Dholavira; Terracotta whistle – Karanpura, Rajasthan; Ivory comb – Found on the coast of Oman; Carnelian beads – Excavated at Susa (Iran); Ghaggar–Hakra – Present name of the Sarasvatī; Mesopotamia – Modern Iraq and Syria; Thirsty crow story – Design on a pot from Lothal; Great Bath – About 12 × 7 metres; Namaste figurine – Terracotta figure seated with folded hands

Q5. Answer in 2 lines

1. Cities needed enough farm produce to reach them daily. Hundreds of small villages managed this farming.
2. They contained dairy products and, surprisingly, remains of turmeric, ginger and banana. The diet was diverse.
3. Rivers gave easy access to water and enriched the soil, which helped agriculture.
4. A drain in one corner of the tank emptied it from time to time, and it was refilled with fresh water.
5. Any three: barley, wheat, millets, rice, pulses, vegetables, cotton.
6. It is the growth of villages into towns and cities in the Indus-Sarasvatī region (around 2600 BCE).
7. It received and sent boats for the further transport of goods.
8. Most houses in Mohenjo-daro had their own bathrooms, so people did not need a public bath.
9. Much of the culture and technology survived and was passed on to the next phase of Indian civilisation.
10. He said differences between rich and poor were not glaring, and society was based on mutual 'accommodation' rather than 'exploitation'.

Q6. Short Notes (model answers)

1. The seven characteristics of a civilisation.

- Some form of **government and administration** to manage a complex society.
- **Urbanism**: town-planning, water management and drainage.
- A variety of **crafts** (ornaments, tools) and **trade**, internal and external.
- Some form of **writing** to keep records and communicate; **cultural ideas** shown through art and architecture.
- A **productive agriculture** that feeds both villages and cities. Example: the Harappan civilisation had all of these.

2. The Great Bath of Mohenjo-daro.



Fig. 6.6: Mohenjo-daro's Great Bath

- It was a small but elaborate **tank** of about **12 × 7 metres**.
- It was built of carefully laid **bricks** with **natural bitumen** for waterproofing.
- It was surrounded by **small rooms**, one of which had a **well**.
- A **drain** in one corner emptied the tank so it could be refilled with fresh water.
- Its purpose is debated: a bath for the royal family or a tank for **religious rituals**; a public bath is ruled out.

3. Crafts and ornaments of the Harappans.



Fig. 6.11: Harappan ivory comb (about 7 cm long) found in Oman

- Harappans made **beads of carnelian**, drilled with special techniques so a string could pass.
- Craftspeople made **shell bangles** from hard **conch shell**, needing great skill.
- They worked **copper** and made **bronze** (copper + tin) tools, pots, pans and figurines.
- They made **terracotta** objects and an **ivory comb**.
- Many ornaments and objects were **exported** to far lands such as Oman and Iran.

4. Harappan seals.

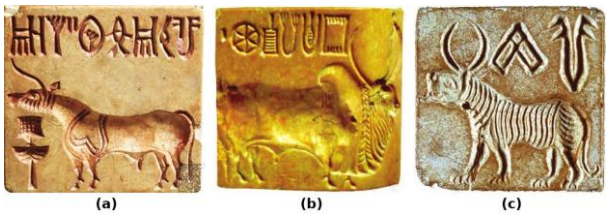

Fig. 6.13: Seals showing (a) unicorn, (b) bull, (c) horned tiger

- Thousands of small **seals** have been found in many settlements.
- They were generally made of **steatite**, a soft stone hardened by heating, and measure only a few centimetres.
- They show **animal figures** (unicorn, bull, horned tiger) with signs of a **writing system** above.
- The script and the meaning of the animal figures are **yet to be understood**.
- They were used mainly in **trade**, to identify goods and traders.

5. Objects of daily use found at Dholavira.

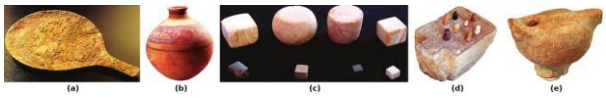

Fig. 6.14: (a) mirror, (b) pot, (c) weights, (d) gamesboard, (e) whistle

- A **bronze mirror** and a **terracotta pot**.
- A few **stone weights** and a **bronze chisel**.
- A **gamesboard** engraved on stone, about 25 cm long.
- Games and toys (like a terracotta **whistle**) show that Harappans **amused** both adults and children.
- These objects show the skills and daily life of the people.

Q7. Answer in One Word

1. **Mesopotamia**
2. **Bitumen**
3. **Carnelian**
4. **Harappa**
5. **Ghaggar**
6. **Conch**

7. **Ṛig Veda**
8. **Lower town**
9. **Drains**
10. **Harappans**

Check your score: MCQ __/10 Fill __/10 T/F __/10 Match __/10 2-line __/20 Notes __/20 One word __/10 Total __/90

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