

CHAPTER – 4

IN THE EARLIEST CITIES

❖ IMAGINE

Q. 1 You are travelling with your parents, about 4000 years ago, from Lothal to Mohenjodaro. Describe how you would travel, what your parents might carry with them, and what you would see in Mohenjodaro.

Answer:

We would cover most of journey on foot or by buffalo cart as there were no cars or other vehicles 4000 years ago.

My parents would carry precious stones, food and clothing. Precious stones were important part of trade at that time.

We would have seen beautiful bathing tanks, big storage houses and well planned drainage system, houses and streets.

❖ LET'S RECALL

Q. 1 How do archaeologists know that cloth was used in the Harappan civilization?

Answer:

Archeologists know that cloth was used in Harappan civilization because they have found actual pieces of clothes, attached to a silver vase and some copper objects in Mohenjodaro.

Fact: Mohenjodaro is an important place of Harrapan civilization. It is located in present day Pakistan.

Q. 2 Match the columns

Copper	Gujarat
Gold	Afghanistan
Tin	Rajasthan
Precious stones	Karnataka

Answer:

Objects	Places	Explanation
Copper	Rajasthan	Rajasthan is a state in western India. The people of Harappan civilization brought copper from Rajasthan. Copper was used for making weapons, tools, ornaments and Vessels.
Gold	Karnataka	Karnataka is located in southern India. It is famous for its Gold reserves. Harappans used gold for making ornaments.
Tin	Afghanistan	Afghanistan is a neighboring country of India. Harappans mixed Tin with copper to produce bronze, which was used to make tools, weapons and vessels.
Precious stones	Gujarat	Gujarat is a state in western India. People in Harappan culture brought precious stones from Gujarat and used it to make ornament.

Q. 3 Why were metals, writing, the wheel, and the plough important for the Harappans?

Answer:

The importance of metals, writing, wheel and the plough is given below:

Metals: The archeologists have found metals such as copper, bronze, gold and silver.

1. Copper was used for making tools, ornament, weapons and vessels.
2. Bronze as produced by mixing Tin with Copper. It was a strong metal used for making tools, weapons, statues and ornament.
3. Gold and silver were considered precious metals and used for making ornaments and vessels.

Writings: The seals found in Harappan civilization had the earliest known writings. These writings were generally found on seals. Writings are important in order to learn about this civilization.

Wheels: People of Harappan civilizations travelled great distances to fetch raw materials and precious metals. Carts with wheels helped them in transporting goods and materials to their location.

Plough: Plough is a device which is used to turn soils in the fields for planting. Plough helped the farmers to prepare their fields easily. Hence plough helped in agriculture.

❖ LET'S DISCUSS

Q. 4 Make a list of all the terracotta toys shown in the lesson. Which do you think children would have enjoyed playing with the most?

Answer:

The list of terracotta toys shown in the lesson is given below:

1. Figures of animals
2. Buffalo cart

NOTE: Terracotta means baked clay. Terracotta was used to make toys.

Q. 5 Make a list of what the Harappans ate and put a tick mark against the things you eat today.

Answer:

List of food eaten by people of Harppan civilization:

Food Item	Do we eat it
Wheat	Yes
Barley	No
Pulses	Yes
Peas	No
Rice	Yes
Sesame	No
Linseed	No
Mustard	No

Q. 6 Do you think that the life of farmers and herders who supplied food to the Harappan cities was different from that of the farmers and herders you read about in Chapter 3? Give reasons for your answer.

Answer:

The life of farmers and herders in Harappan culture was different that those of mentioned in chapter, the reasons are as follows:

1. Farmers of Harappan culture cultivated lands near the banks of rivers.
2. Harappan farmers had developed better methods of cultivating crops.
3. Harappan farmers used flood water to irrigate their crops.
4. Special rooms were used to store food grains in Harappan culture.

❖ LET'S DO

Q. 7 Describe three important buildings in your city or village. Are they located in a special part of the settlement (e.g. the centre)? What are the activities that take place in these buildings?

Answer:

I live in New Delhi. The three important buildings in my city are the Parliament, the Supreme Court and the Rashtrapati Bhawan.

These settlements are located in the central part of New Delhi.

The Parliament is a building where all the important decisions regarding the development of our country are made. The Supreme Court is the upper most judicial body of our country. Rashtrapati Bhawan is the residence of the president of our country.

Q. 8 Are there any old buildings in your locality? Find out how old they are and who looks after them.

Answer:

Red Fort is located near my locality. It was the resident of many Mughal emperors.

It is approximately 369 years old. Its construction started in 1639 and it took almost 9 years to complete.

The Archaeological survey of India which is a department of Govt. of India looks after Red Fort.