

CHAPTER – 12
BUILDING, PAINTING AND BOOKS
❖ LET’S RECALL

Q. 1 Match the following

Column I	Column II
Stupa	Place where the image of the deity is installed
Shikhara	Mound
Mandapa	Circular path around the stupa
Garbhagriha	Place in temples where people could assemble
Pradakshina-patha	Tower

Answer:

Column I	Column II	Explanation
Stupa	Mound	The word Stupas means mound. These structures are the sacred places of Buddhist monks.
Shikhara	Tower	The tower like structure on the top of the temple is called Shikhara.
Mandapa	Place in temples where people could assemble	People assemble in mandapa during any ritual in the temple.
Garbhagriha	Place where the image of the deity is installed	The garbhagriha are the special places in hindu temples where the idols of gods are installed.
Pradakshina- patha	Circular path around the stupa	Pradakhshina- patha are made around the stupa to allow monks to walk around them.

Q. 2

Fill in the blanks

- a) _____ was a great astronomer
- b) Stories about gods and goddesses are found in the _____
- c) _____ is recognised as the author of the Sanskrit Ramayana.
- d) _____ and _____ are two Tamil epics.

Answer:

- (a) **Aryabhatta** was a great astronomer.

Aryabhatta, an Indian mathematician and astronomer is known for his findings that earth revolved on its axis. He also invented the magic number Zero.

- (b) Stories about gods and goddesses are found in the **Puranas.**

Puranas means old. They contain stories of gods, goddesses, and kings.

- (c) **Valmiki** is recognized as the author of the Sanskrit Ramayana.

Ramayana, a story of Lord Ram was written by Valmiki. It is one of the most popular books of ancient India.

- (d) **Silappadikaram** and **Manimekalai** are two tamil epics.

Epic means long stories. Silappadikaram is about the love of a wife towards his husband. These epics remained lost for hundreds of years.

❖ LET'S DISCUSS

Q. 3 Make a list of the chapters in which you find mention of metal working. What are the metals objects mentioned or shown in those chapters?

Answer:

Chapter	Metal object mentioned
In the earliest cities	Copper tools, gold and silver ornaments
Kingdoms, kings and early republic	Copper and iron for making tools
Vital villages and thriving towns	Iron tools
Buildings, paintings and books	Iron pillar, gold ornaments
What books and burials tell us	Iron tools and weapons

Q. 4 Read the story on page 130 (NCERT Book). In what ways is the monkey king similar to or different from the kings you read about in Chapters 6 and 11?

Answer:

The followings points put forth the similarities and dissimilarities between monkey king and kings from chapter 6 and 11:

Similarities:

1. The monkey king had sympathy for his people.
2. He took care of his people.
3. He saved his people from attacking the army.

Dissimilarities:

1. The monkey king was not concerned about expanding his territory.
2. He didn't think about attacking his neighbors.

3. He didn't think about improving the living conditions of his people.

Q. 5 Find out more and tell a story from one of the epics.

Answer:

The following is excerpts from the famous epic Ramayana written by Valmiki:

Ravana, the king of Lanka disguised as a sage and abducted Sita. Rama who was the husband of Sita was infuriated and wished to bring back Sita by defeating Ravana. Sita was taken to Lanka, which was separated from mainland India by sea. Since, there were no boats at that time, it was very difficult to cross the sea. Lord Rama used his divine powers to enable the stones to float on water. The vanar sena laid down a bridge of floating stones near Rameshwaram which was used to cross the sea.

❖ LET'S DO

Q. 6 List some steps that can be taken to make buildings and monuments accessible to differently abled people.

Answer:

Following steps can be taken to make buildings and monuments accessible to differently-abled:

1. Ramps, hand rails, railings and wheel chairs should be provided at buildings.
2. At monuments and historical places, guides should help the differently-abled.
3. Handbooks printed in Braille should be made available.
4. Proper lightings must be arranged.

Q. 7 Try and list as many uses of paper as you can.

Answer:

Paper can be used for following purposes:

1. It is used as a material to write on.
2. Books, newspapers and magazines are printed on paper.
3. It can be used for wrapping objects.
4. It is used to make reusable and eco-friendly carry bags.

Q. 8 If you could visit any one of the places described in this chapter, which would you choose and why?

Answer:

I would choose to visit Mahabalipuram because of following reasons.

1. Most of the temples are still intact.
2. These temples exhibit the skills of people of monolithic era.
3. There are many temples in Mahabalipuram.
4. We must know about our cultural history.
5. It is a fascinating tourist spot.

NOTE: Mahabalipuram is in the state of Tamil Nadu. The temples were built during the reign of Pallava dynasty.