

D. Answer the following questions in 10-20 words.

Q1. What is civilization?

Answer: (select the definition easy for you)

A Civilization is **a group of people** with their **own languages** and **way of life**.

Civilization means that a society has **a division of labour**, **a surplus of food**, an **organized government** and **religion**, and **a writing system**.

Human society with its **well-developed social organizations**, or **the culture** and **way of life** of a **society or country** at a **particular period in time**.

Q2. What is the first civilization of India? Why it is called so?

Answer: *Harappan civilisation* was *India's first civilisation*.

The Indus civilisation is also known as the Harappan Civilisation, after its type site, Harappa, which was the first of its sites to be excavated in what was then British India's Punjab province and is now Pakistan, early in the twentieth century.

Q3. Name the few cities of the Indus Valley Civilization.

Answer: These cities include **Harappa**, **Ganeriwala**, and **Mohenjo-daro** in modern-day Pakistan, and **Dholavira**, **Kalibangan**, **Rakhigarhi**, **Rupar**, and **Lothal** in modern-day India. In total, more than 1,052 cities and settlements have been found, mainly in the general region of the Indus River and its tributaries.

Q4. Name the few occupations of the people of the Indus Valley Civilization.

Answer: Occupations- agriculture and domestication of animals, art and craft and trade were the main occupations of Harappan people.

Q5. List a three features of the Indus Valley Civilization.

Answer: The significant features of Indus Valley civilization are **personal cleanliness**, **town planning**, **construction of burnt-brick houses**, **ceramics**, **casting**, **forging of metals**, manufacturing of cotton and woollen textiles.

E. Answer the following questions in 50-70 words:

Q1. Describe the town planning of Harappan cities.

Answer: The main features of town planning of Indus civilisation are the **drainage system, the grid pattern, lower and upper town, the great bath, and the residential buildings**. One of the most striking characteristics of Indus Valley culture is its town planning. **Harappan society was known for its mastery of urban planning.**

Each city was divided into the "lower town" and the "citadel," an elevated region. The principal streets' grid-like layout ran from north to south or east to west. To make it easier for carts to pass, the residences at street corners were rounded.

Harappa and Mohenjodaro each had their **own citadel or acropolis**, which was possibly **occupied by members of the ruling class**. Below the citadel in each city lay a **lower town containing brick houses, which were inhabited by the common people**.

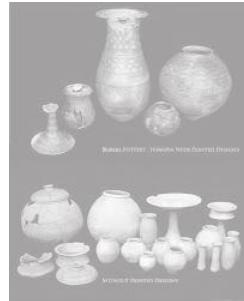


Q2. Explain how art and craft was an important industry in Indus valley civilization.

Answer: Art and craft was an **important industry in the Indus valley civilization** suggest the presence of **specialised groups of artisans** such as **bronze smiths, gold-smiths, brick-makers, stone-cutters, weavers** etc. Objects of gold are reasonably common

The artists and craftsmen of the Indus Valley were extremely skilled in a variety of crafts—**metal casting, stone carving, making and painting pottery and making terracotta images** using simplified motifs of **animals, plants and birds**.

The Indus Valley Civilization had excellent painters, sculptors, potters and craftsmen. Glazed pottery, the dancing girl statue, the Pashupati Seal are a few items which showcase the artistic excellence of the Harappans.



Line 1- Read as left to right – Dancing girl, beard men, pottery, terracotta figures

Line 2 – Read as left to right - Seals and ornaments

Q3. Give one distinguishing feature each of Mohenjodaro, Harappa, Lothal and Kalibangan.



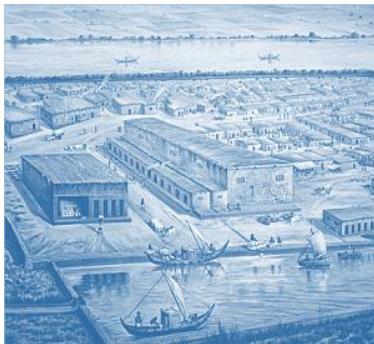
Answer: *Mohenjo-Daro* was famous for **great granary, great pathways, great bath** etc. It was the largest city in Indus valley civilisation.



Great Bath and Granary



The Harappan culture was distinguished by its **system of town planning**. One of the most distinctive features of Harappan cities was the **carefully planned drainage system**. Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro each had their citadel or acropolis, which was possibly occupied by members of the ruling class.



Lothal was one of the **seaports of the Indus Valley Civilisation**, **Lothal** was a **vital** and **thriving trade centre** in ancient times, with its **trade of beads, gems and valuable ornaments**.

Kalibangan is distinguished by its unique **fire altars for ritualistic purposes** and world's earliest **attested ploughed field**.



An image of the ploughed agricultural fields at Kalibangan



The fire altars at the site

Q4. Write short note on the religious practices of the Harappan people.

Answer: The study of seals, inscription and other antiques help to reconstruct the religious practices of the Harappan people. Worshiping the goddess, Lord Shiva, animals, nature, half-humans, and natural trees are among the main features of the Harappan religion.



(a) Worship of the Mother Goddess: *The Harappan People worshiped the female deity* (Mother Goddess). *It was generally believed that Mother Goddess had been the source of female energy as the source of all creation.*



(b) Worship of Shiva Pashupati: *The remarkable figure of a male deity, depicted on a particular seal is identified as Lord Shiva. It is a three-faced figure, with horns on either side of his headdress, is seated in a yogic posture on a throne surrounded by animals. A large number of conical and cylindrical stones, which resemble to the Shiva-Linga, affirms that the Harappan people worshiped Lord Shiva.*



(c) Worship of Trees and Animals: A *certain religious seals* depict the designs, which *show* that the *people had faith in the doctrine of animism i.e., they worshiped trees and animals*. They worshiped the *Pipal tree* believing it to be *source of wisdom*. The bull, the rhinoceros, the tiger and the crocodile were worshiped. The figure of the deity with a hooded-cobra over its head and a worshiper on either side, signifies that some form of Naga-worship was practiced.

Q5. Mention briefly the suggested cause behind the decline of Indus Valley Civilization.

Answer: Reason for decline of Indus valley Civilization

Environmental Factors:

- 1. Climate Change:** The *region experienced a long period of drought* that lasted for several decades, which *led to a shortage of water and food*.
- 2. Flooding:** The Harappan civilization *was located along the Indus River*, which frequently flooded. The *floods destroyed the cities and infrastructure*, causing much damage to the civilization.
- 3. Deforestation:** The civilization *heavily relied on timber for construction and fuel*. *Deforestation led to soil erosion and loss of fertility*, which *affected agriculture*, thus causing *food shortages*.

Economic Factors:

- 1. Trade Disruption:** The Harappan civilization was a major center of trade, connecting the Indian subcontinent with other regions like Mesopotamia and Central Asia. However, the *trade routes were disrupted due to political instability, conflicts, and raids by invading tribes*.
2. Decline in Agricultural Productivity: The *shortage of food led to a decline in the population*, which *further affected the economy*.

Social Factors:

- 1. Internal Conflicts:** The Harappan civilization was not a homogeneous society, and there were *conflicts between different social groups*. The conflicts led to a decline in social cohesion and stability.
- 2. Decline in Civic and Religious Institutions:** *The Harappan civilization had a sophisticated system of civic and religious institutions* that played a significant role in maintaining social order and stability. However, the *decline in these institutions led to a decline in social cohesion and stability*.

Conclusion: In conclusion, the decline of the Harappan civilization was a result of various environmental, economic, and social factors. The civilization faced challenges and could not cope with the changing circumstances, leading to its eventual decline

F. Answer the following questions in 80 – 100 words:

Q1. Explain in your own words about the class differences and life of the people of Indus valley Civilization.

Answer: Class Differences The people of the civilization were divided into four classes: the *learned class*, the *warriors, traders and artisans*, and *manual labourers* or the *working class*.

Life of the people in Indus valley Civilization:

- ***Agriculture was the main occupation of the people.*** Cattle were domesticated.
- The people of Indus Valley Civilization were ***very fond of ornaments.***
- There ***were groups of specialised potters and copper and bronze workers*** in the Indus Valley Civilization.
- The people were ***well educated***, and the dominant population of the Indus people are assumed to be literate. ***People were well versed in literature, art and music.***

Most of the cities like Harappa and Mohenjodaro were divided into two parts. The part that was ***built on a raised height is called the citadel or 'acropolis'.*** The ***residents*** of this area were ***probably the ruler or the members of ruling class, the merchants and the priests. The part with a low height but a larger area is called the lower town.***

(For reference) Rulers were the people who planned the construction of special buildings in the city. Rulers sent people to distant lands to get metal, precious stones, and other things that they wanted. Many items such as copper, tin, gold, silver and precious stones were brought from distant places. The merchants of the Indus Valley carried their trade far beyond the frontiers of the empire and established contacts with other people of other civilizations.)

Q2. What are the main features of Indus Valley Civilization?

Answer: Main Features of Indus Valley Civilisation –

The Indus Valley Civilisation was known for its well-planned cities .They had advanced drainage systems, underground sewage systems, and public baths.

Large and Well-Organised Cities: The civilisation consisted of several large cities, including ***Harappa and Mohenjo-daro.*** ***These cities had well-defined residential and commercial areas, with houses made of baked bricks.*** The cities were also equipped with public buildings, such as granaries, citadels, and assembly halls.

Trade and Commerce: The Indus Valley Civilisation was a ***major center for trade and commerce.*** The people ***engaged in long-distance trade*** with regions like ***Mesopotamia, Oman, and Bahrain.***

Agricultural Practices: The people ***practiced various agricultural techniques***, including ***irrigation, use of ploughs, and domestication of animals.***

Writing System: The Indus Valley Civilisation had a unique script that suggest ***their ability to keep records.***

Art and Craftsmanship: The people of the Indus Valley Civilisation **were skilled artisans and craftsmen.** They produced **pottery, terracotta figurines, jewelry, and metalwork.**

Religion and Worship: The people of the Indus Valley Civilisation had a **religious belief** system, as evident from the presence of **terracotta figurines** and **stone sculptures representing deities.** **The Great Bath at Mohenjo-daro is believed to have had a religious significance.**