



Class - VI - Social Science September Month Notes

4. What Books and Burials Tell Us

I. TECHNICAL WORDS :

1. Burial - The act or practice of burying a dead body.
2. Chariot - A horse-drawn on a wheel.
3. Hymns - A religious song or poem-typically in praise of god.
4. Language - The method of human communication-either spoken or written.
5. Skeletal - Related to skeleton.

II. SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS :

1. **Discuss how the wealth obtained from the battles was distributed.**
A major portion of the wealth obtained from the battles was kept by the leaders whereas a part was given to the priests. Some wealth was used for performance of Yajnas or Sacrifices in which offerings was made into the fire to please God and Goddesses. Rest of wealth was distributed amongst the general people.
2. **Who were the Aryans?**
Aryans were a semi-nomadic pastoral cultured race of people. They lived in Central Asia.
3. **Write a short note on megaliths.**
Megaliths were big stones or stone boulders used to mark burial sites in the northeast. They were buried with distinctive pots black and red ware
4. **Write down the common features of megalithic burials.**
They have a circle of stones boulders or a single large stone standing on the ground to indicate burial site under around.
5. **How do burials show social differences?**
The objects with the skeleton in burials suggest social differences among these who were buried. Rich and leaders have gold, copper beads while common people had some pots only.

III. LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS :

1. **Which is the oldest Veda? Who composed these Vedas and what are they about?**
Rig veda is one of the oldest books in the world in Sanskrit. These were composed by sages or rishis. There is collection of prayers in honour of the Hindu Gods and goddesses.

2. Describe what you know about the Vedas.

Vedas are the treasure house of knowledge and collective wisdom of the Aryans. There are four Vedas Rig veda, Sama veda, Yajur veda and Atharva Veda. These show honour to God and Goddesses.

3. In what ways the life of a raja was different from that of a dasa or dasi?

Rajas were the leaders of warriors. They protected general people from harm. While dasas were usually treated as the property of their masters. Owners could make them to do anything they like.

4. What were the occupations of the people at Inamgaon?

They were farmers and hunters they grow wheat, pulses, fruits etc. they hunted animals for flesh.

IV. PICTURE STUDY :

The Picture shows an event in which a woman can choose her own husband.



1. Name the event.

Swayambar.

2. During which period was this practice prevalent?

Rig Vedic Period.

3. What does this picture tell us about the position of women of this period?

Women held great respect in society.

4. Name the three Gods that were especially important during this period.

Indra, Agni and Soma.

5. Discuss the religious practices of this period. What part did women play in religious matters?

No religious ceremony could be performed unless wife was present. They also played important role in these events.

5. Kingdoms, Kings and an Early Republic

I. TECHNICAL WORDS :

- | | | |
|---------------------|---|--|
| 1. Aswamedha Yajana | - | Horse sacrifice performed by the King. |
| 2. Gana | - | A group that has many members. |
| 3. Kammakaras | - | Landless agricultural labourers. |
| 4. Sangha | - | An organization or association. |
| 5. Transplantation | - | Move or transfer something to another place. |

II. SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS :

1. **What do you mean by the Ashvamedha sacrifice?**

Ashvamedha Yajna was performed by a powerful Raja to expand and establish his undisputed control over territory. In this Yajna, the Raja allowed a horse with his emblem to roam freely in the neighbouring kingdoms. The region through which horse passes came under the rule of the king. If any other Raja stopped it, he had to fight; and the victorious king annexed the defeated king's territory.

2. **Name the taxes levied on different sections of the society.**

Raja imposed taxes on different sections to collect resources. The ways in which taxes collected were:

- Taxes from farmers included 1/6th of the crops produced
- Herders had to pay tax in the form of animals and their produce.
- Taxes from craft person included their labour. They had to work for king as a tax.
- Taxes were imposed on trader's goods
- Hunters and gatherers had to pay tax in the form of forest produce.

3. **What do you understand by Painted Grey Ware that has been found in the settlements of the Janapadas?**

Painted Grey ware means earthen pots made in Vedic period having grey Colours. These pots have painted designs usually of simple lines and on geometrical pattern. This is a special type of pottery.

4. **Who was involved in agricultural work in the Mahajanapadas?**

Slave men and women as well as landless agriculture labourers were involved in agriculture work in Mahajanapadas.

5. **List the changes that took place in agriculture during the Mahajanapada period.**

There were many changes in agriculture during the Mahajanapada period. They were:

- Increased use of iron ploughshare so that heavy clay-laden soil could be turned in better way.

- Transplantation of paddy began as people started planting saplings of paddy instead of scattering seeds.
- Increase in production due to adoption of transplantation, iron plough etc.
- Workers had to work hard for many hours.

III. LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS :

1. Describe how the Ashvamedha Yajna was performed.

Ashvamedha was performed by the powerful raja to expand his undisputed territory. The raja allowed his horse with his emblem to roam freely in his neighbouring kingdom. The raja's men guarded it. If any other raja stopped it, he had to fight; and victorious king would attach the territory of defeated king otherwise the region through which horse passes came under the rule of the king who had performed the Yajna.

2. How are present-day elections different from the ways in which rulers were chosen in the Janapadas?

Present Day Election and the ways in which rulers were chosen in Janapadas are different in the following ways.

- In present day elections, people choose their leaders by Universal Adult Franchise while for Janapada rulers' selection, this condition did not apply.
- Physical strength is not any criterion for becoming rulers in present age but in Janapada a person could become a king or ruler on the basis of the bravery shown in the war.
- Earlier, the rajas used sacrifices like Rajasuya and Ashvamedha Yajna to gain control over large areas and become powerful while in present age it is not required.

3. For what purposes did the Rajas of Mahajanapadas build forts?

These forts were built for the following purposes:

- To protect people: There was always fear of attacks from other kings, so people need protection.
- To show wealth and power: Some rulers to show how rich and powerful they were they built large, tall forts.
- To control the territory: Kings could easily control the land and the people living inside fortified area.

4. Describe the main features of Mahajanapadas.

Some main features of Mahajanapadas were:

- They had a capital city.
- Their capital cities were fortified or surrounded by huge walls.
- They began to maintain armies.
- There were punch-marked coins in operation.
- Some payments were made in coins
- They started collecting taxes in different ways.

5. Write a note on the Janapadas.

The word Janapada is combination of two words Jana and pada which means people and foot respectively. So, it means land where the people set their foot. During Later Vedic Period Aryans moved towards the Ganga, Yamuna and plains due to better iron tools. These tools helped them to clear forests and settle down. The population increased and the state or Janapada came into existence. These people lived in huts; and they were farmers and herders.

IV. PICTURE STUDY :

This is a picture of the Ashvamedha Yajna performed by Rajas in the Later Vedic period. Answer the following questions with respect to the picture.



1. What was the purpose of a horse in this Yajna?

The king allowed a horse with his emblem to roam freely in the neighbouring kingdoms. The king's men guarded the horse. If any other king stopped the horse, he had to fight; and the victorious king annexed the defeated king's territory. Otherwise, the regions through which the horse passed came under the rule of the king who had performed the Yajna.

2. Who was the central figure in this Yajna?

The king who performed the Ashvamedha Yajna.

**3. _____ chanted the glory of the Raja.
The Raja's charioteer**

**4. _____ were the spectators in this Yajna.
The other kings**

**5. _____ brought gifts for the king.
The Vaishyas**

4. Maps

I. Technical Words :

1. Map - Drawing of the world or a part of it in a piece of paper.
2. Atlas - A book that contains various maps.
3. Scale - A ratio between the distance shown on the map and the actual distance on the ground.
4. Sketch - Rough drawing based on memory without the use of scale.
5. Plan - A drawing of a small area on a large scale.

II. SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS :

1. Maps are more useful than a globe. Justify the statement.

Maps are more useful than a globe in the following ways:

- A map provides more information about the earth's surface in a simple and graphic manner which is very easy to understand.
- A flat map can show large areas on a single piece of paper.
- It is very easy to compare cities, countries and other places as they are visible at the same time.
- It is easy to carry maps to any place as it can be folded and stored conveniently.

2. Conventional signs make the map clear and easy to read. How?

It is true that the conventional signs make the map more clear and easier to read. The conventional signs are those that are used all over the world in various maps to show different features i.e., mountains, forests, valleys, roads etc. These signs are internationally approved. They provide a lot of information in a limited space. With these symbols, maps can be drawn easily and are simple to read.

3. Mention some uses of small scale maps and large scale maps.

Some uses of small scale maps and large scale maps are as follows:

- Small scale maps are used to show large areas of the earth
- Large scale maps are used to show smaller areas on a large size map.
- Map of India is a small scale map while village or city map is a large scale map.

4. What is the difference between a map and a sketch?

Map is the drawing of the world or a part of it on a piece of paper. Whereas a sketch is a drawing mainly based on memory and spot observation, not on a scale.

III. LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS :

1. Differentiate between physical and political maps.

Physical Maps:

- Physical maps show the natural features of the earth like mountains, plateaus, plains, rivers, etc
- These are also known as the relief maps.
- In physical maps, different colours are used to show the different layers or different types of physical features.
- A map of India showing Himalayan mountains, rivers, plateaus, etc. is a physical map.

Political Maps:

- Political maps show various countries, states, towns, villages, etc. with their political boundaries
- These maps provide accurate boundaries of various places.
- In political maps, international state and district boundaries are used to show states and districts.
- A map of India showing its states is a political map.

2. Write a short note on the components of a map.

Components of a map are very significant features of a map. To study any type of map, it is very important to understand the basic components of a map. Following are the main components of a map:

Title:

Title of a map informs the reader what the map is about. If the title of a map is the “political map of India”. It implies that the map of India is showing its various states

Scale:

On a map, distance is represented by a scale. A scale is a ratio between the actual distance on the ground and the distance shown on the map. For example, the scale of a map is 1 cm : 10 km. This means that a distance of 1 cm between two points on the map corresponds to a distance of 10 km between the same two places on the ground. On the basis of the size of the scale, maps are classified into small scale maps and large scale maps.

Directions:

Directions are very significant component of the map. On a map, you will find an arrow printed on the right-hand corner of the map. The alphabet ‘N’ is written above the arrow. This arrow is called the north line. It shows north direction in the map.

Conventional Signs:

Internationally approved signs or symbols that are used in various maps to show different features are known as the conventional signs. These signs provide a lot of information in a limited space.

Map Legend:

It explains the symbols used on a map. It is called legend because it tells the story of the map. It is also known as the key to map, as it unlocks the meanings of various symbols used in a map.

3. What is the difference between a plan and a map?

Map:

A map is drawing of the world or a part of it on a piece of paper is called the map. Map is derived from the Latin word “Mappa mundi” which means ‘sheet of the world’. It is called so because all the earlier maps were mostly either made or drawn on cloths, skins and parchments. Maps can be of different types i.e., physical/relief map, political maps, thematic maps, etc. Maps can also be based on a small scale or a large scale.

Plan: A plan is a drawing of a small area on a large scale. For example, the length and breadth of a room, that cannot be shown in a map. In a map, only important features may be drawn with conventional signs. These signs represent the important building, roads, railway lines, etc. At the same time, if we want to know the details of a particular building interiors, etc. In this case only plans are useful. A plan is a small drawing showing details of a site.

4. How is a plan different from a sketch?

A plan is a drawing of a small area on a large scale. For example, the length and breadth of a room that cannot be shown on a map. Whereas a sketch is a drawing mainly based on memory and spot observations with the help of a sketch any person can reach an unknown place. In a plan we can draw the details of a particular building interiors, etc. But we cannot draw all the buildings structures in sketch.

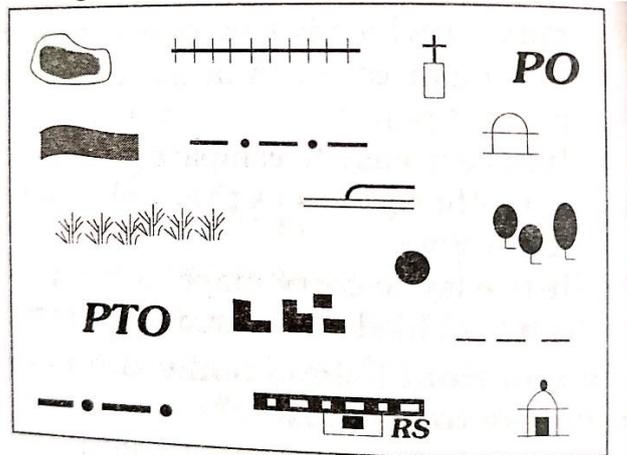
5. List any four advantages of maps.

Following are the main advantages of a map (any four):

- A map gives more information about the earth surface in a simple and graphic manner which is very easy to understand.
- A flat map can show large areas on a single piece of paper.
- It is very easy to compare cities, countries and other places as they are visible at the same time.
- It is easy to carry maps to any places as it can be folded and stored conveniently.
- Maps generally use signs and symbols in different colours. This makes it more understandable.
- Maps may be drawn for specific purposes. For example, a weather map shows only the weather conditions of a particular time and place.

IV. PICTURE STUDY :

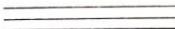
The picture given below shows some of the conventional symbols.



1. Identify these symbols and make a list of them. Write the names of places/features along with the symbols for which these are used.

Railway Line : Metre Gauge		
Railway Station		
Boundary :		
International		
State		
District		
River		Well
Tank		Canal
Temple		Church
Chhatri		
Post Office		<i>PO</i>
Post & Telegraph Office		<i>PTO</i>
Settlement		
Tree		
Grass		

- Are these symbols accepted internationally for using in a map?
Yes, these symbols accepted internationally for using in a map.
- Find out some other conventional symbols that are used in a map.

Some other conventional symbols that are used in a map.	
Railway Line: Broad Gauge	
Roads: Metalled	
Roads: Unmetalled	
Bridge	
Mosque	
Police Station	PS
Graveyard	

4. List two advantages of using symbols in maps.

The two advantages of using symbols in maps are as follows:

- With the help of these symbols, maps can be drawn easily.
- Maps can be more understandable with the help of these symbols.