

## Lesson at a Glance

- Places where people build their homes are called **settlements**. Early settlements grew near the river valleys because of easy availability of water and fertile land there.
- By and by human settlements became larger with the development of trade, commerce and manufacturing.
- Settlements are of two types—**permanent** and **temporary**. People make their temporary settlements in deep forests, hot and cold deserts and mountains and practise hunting, gathering, shifting cultivation, etc. Under permanent settlements, people build homes to live in.
- Human settlements may be **rural** and **urban**. The villages are rural settlement where people do farming, fishing, forestry, etc.
- Rural settlements can be **compact** or **scattered**. In a compact settlement, houses are built closely to each other. In a scattered settlement houses are spaced over an extensive area.
- Houses under rural settlements are built of mud, clay, stones, straw, etc.
- Urban settlements are found in towns and cities. People here are engaged in manufacturing, trading and services.
- **Transport** is essential to go from one place to another. In the early days, people travelled long distances on foot. They used animals to carry their goods. Gradually, several means of transport developed, although animals like donkeys, mules, bullocks and camels continued to be used even today.
- Aeroplane is the fastest mode of transport. It saves our precious time and energy.
- The four means of transport are—**roadways, railways, waterways and airways**.
- Roads can be **metalled** and **unmetalled**.
- Manali-Leh highway in the Himalayan Mountain is one of the highest roadways in the world.
- Roads built underground are called **subways/under paths**. **Flyovers** are built over raised structures.

- The railways carry people and heavy goods over long distances. The railway network is well developed over the plain areas.
- Indian railway network is well developed and is the largest in Asia.
- Waterways are the cheapest means of transport. They are used for carrying heavy and bulky goods over long distances. There are two types of waterways inland waterways and sea routes.
- Navigable rivers and lakes are used as inland waterways.
- Sea routes and oceanic routes are mostly used for transporting merchandise and goods from one country to another. These routes are connected with the ports.
- Some important ports of the world are—Singapore and Mumbai in Asia, New York, Los Angeles in North America, Rio de Janeiro in South America, Durban and Cape Town in Africa, Sydney in Australia, London and Rotterdam in Europe.
- Airways are the fastest means of transport. It is the only mode of transport to reach the most remote and distant areas especially where there are no roads and railways.
- Helicopters are useful in most inaccessible areas and in the time of calamities for rescuing people and other associated works.
- Some important airports are Delhi, Mumbai, New York, London, Paris, Frankfurt and Cairo.
- The process by which we convey messages to others is known as **communication**.
- Newspapers, radio and television are important means of communication. They are called mass media because we can communicate with a large number of people at the same time.
- The satellites have made communication even faster.
- Wireless telephonic communications through cellular phones have become very popular today.
- Internet provides us with worldwide information and interaction.

## TEXTBOOK QUESTIONS SOLVED

9. 1. Answer the following questions briefly.
- (a) What are the four means of transport?
  - (b) What do you understand by the term 'settlement'?
  - (c) Which are the activities practised by the rural people?
  - (d) Mention any two merits of railways.
  - (e) What do you understand by communication?
  - (f) What is mass media?

**Ans.** (a) The four means of transport are:

1. Roadways
2. Railways
3. Waterways
4. Airways.

(b) The term 'settlement' refers to a place where people build their homes to live in.

(c) The activities practised by the rural people are farming, fishing, forestry, trading and craftwork, etc.

(d) Two merits of railways are:

1. They carry people over long distances quickly and cheaply.
2. They carry heavy goods in bulk.

(e) Communication is a process by which we convey our messages to other.

(f) Newspapers, radio and television are called mass media because we can communicate with a large number of people through them.

**Q. 2.** Tick the correct answer:

(a) Which is not a means of communication?

- (i) telephone      (ii) books      (iii) table.

(b) Which type of road is constructed under the ground?

- (i) flyover      (ii) express ways  
(iii) subways.

(c) Which mode of transport is most suitable to reach an island?

- (i) ship      (ii) train      (iii) car.

(d) Which vehicle does not pollute the environment?

- (i) cycle      (ii) bus      (iii) aeroplane.

**Ans.** (a)—(iii), (b)—(iii), (c)—(i), (d)—(i).

**Q. 3.** Match the following:

(i) Internet

(a) areas where people are engaged in manufacturing, trade and services

(ii) Canal route

(b) closely built area of houses

(iii) Urban areas

(c) houses on stilts

(iv) Compact settlement

(d) inland waterways

(e) a means of communication

**Ans.** (i) — (e), (ii) — (d), (iii) — (a), (iv) — (b).

**Q. 4.** Give reasons:

*Today's world is shrinking.*

**Ans.** Modern technology has trapped the whole world in its fist. With the advancement of communication and information technology the world has contracted. We can get the news of a far off land just with a blink of our eyes. England or America or even Moon or Mars are not now far from us. Newspapers, radio and television have brought a revolution in communication. The satellites have made them even faster. Wireless telephonic communications through cellular phones have become more popular today. The use of internet has made everything available in our plates. So, it is not exaggerating to say that today's world is shrinking.

**Q. 5.** For Fun:

(i) Conduct a survey in your locality and find out how people commute to their respective workplaces using:

- (a) more than two modes of transport
- (b) more than three modes of transport
- (c) stay within walking distance.

(ii) Mention which mode of communication you will prefer most in the following situations:

- (a) your grandfather has suddenly fallen ill. How will you inform the doctor?
- (b) your mother wants to sell the old house. How will she spread this news?
- (c) you are going to attend the marriage of your cousin for which you will be absent from the school for the next two days. How will you inform the teacher?
- (d) your friend has moved out with his/her family to New York. How will you keep in touch on a daily basis?

**Ans.** (i) (a) on foot, metro and auto-rickshaw

(b) on foot, bus, metro and rickshaw

(c) on foot.

(ii) (a) I will inform the doctor through telephone.

(b) She will spread this news through newspapers.

(c) I will send a leave application to the teacher.

(d) I will keep in touch through telephone or internet.