

What, Where, How and When?

Lesson at a Glance

- People have lived on the banks of the Narmada for several thousand years. The earliest of them were **skilled gatherers**—people who gathered their food.
- Near Sulaiman and Kirthar hills in the present-day Pakistan, crops like wheat and barley were first grown 8000 years ago. People also began **rearing animals** like sheep, goat, and cattle. They lived in villages. Rice was first grown in the north of the Vindhya.
- **Agriculture** developed near the Garo hills and near the Vindhya.
- Some of the earliest cities flourished about 4700 years ago on the banks of the Indus and its tributaries. Cities also developed on the banks of the Ganga.
- People travelled from one place to another and interacted with each other, thus sharing ideas. This has enriched our culture.
- Old books, called **manuscripts**, were usually written on palm leaf or the bark of the birch tree. They are helpful in revealing our past.
- Archaeologists have also found **inscriptions**, which are an engraved form of writing on hard surfaces, such as stone or metal. They were used for various purposes.
- The people who study objects made and used in the past are called **archaeologists**. They explore and excavate to find old objects. They also look for bones of living beings to find what people ate.
- The people who study the past are the **historians**. They look for information found from manuscripts and inscriptions, which they call **source**.

TEXTBOOK QUESTIONS SOLVED

Let's Recall

Q. 1. Match the following:

Narmada Valley
Magadha

The first big Kingdom
Hunting and gathering

- | | | | |
|------|---------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| | Garo hills | — | Cities about 2500 years ago |
| | Indus and its tributaries | — | Early agriculture |
| | Ganga Valley | — | The first cities |
| Ans. | Narmada Valley | — | Hunting and gathering |
| | Magadha | — | The first big Kingdom |
| | Garo hills | — | Early agriculture |
| | Indus and its tributaries | — | The first cities |
| | Ganga Valley | — | Cities about 2500 years ago. |
- Q. 2. List one major difference between manuscripts and inscriptions.

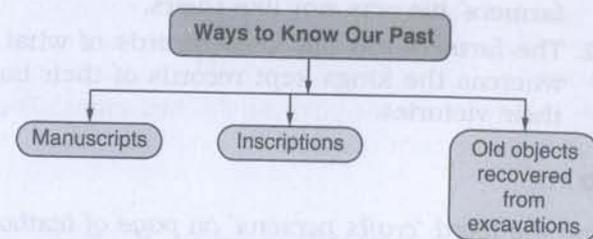
Ans.

Manuscripts	Inscriptions
1. Manuscripts are the old books that give handwritten accounts.	1. Inscriptions are engraved form of writing used for various purposes.
2. These were written on leaves and barks of trees.	2. These were written on hard surfaces, e.g. stones.

Let's Discuss

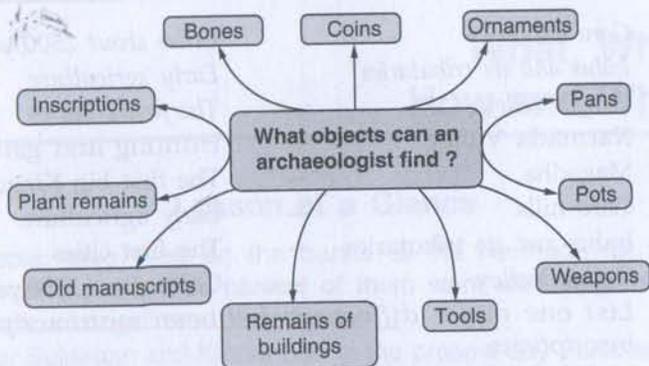
Q. 3. Return to Rasheeda's question. Can you think of some answers to it?

Ans. One can know what had happened so many years ago through these ways:



Q. 4. Make a list of all the objects that archaeologists may find. Which of these could be made of stone?

Ans. The answer can be summarized through this flow diagram:



The ones that could be made of stone are

- Surface used for writing inscriptions
- Remains of buildings
- Objects like tools, weapons, etc.

Q. 5. Why do you think ordinary men and women did not generally keep records of what they did?

Ans. Ordinary men and women did not feel the need of recording what they did. Also, they lacked proper writing methods.

Q. 6. Describe at least two ways in which you think the lives of kings would have been different from those of farmers.

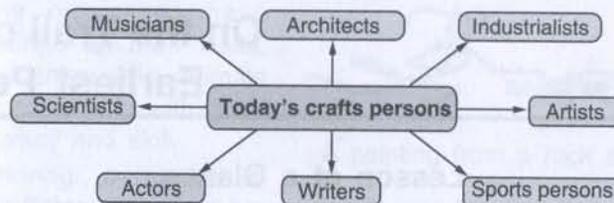
Ans. The lives of kings would have been different from those of farmers in some ways like these:

1. The kings set up large kingdoms whereas the farmers' life was not like theirs.
2. The farmers did not keep records of what they did whereas the kings kept records of their battles and their victories.

Let's Do

Q. 7. Find the word 'crafts persons' on page of textbook. In list at least five different crafts that you know about today. Are the crafts persons—(a) men (b) women (c) both men and women.

Ans. The various crafts that dominate the present life are listed here:



These crafts persons are both men and women.

Q. 8. What were the subjects on which books were written in the past? Which of these would you like to read?

Ans. Ancient books covered subjects like:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| (i) Religious beliefs and practices | (ii) Lives of kings |
| (iii) Medicine | (iv) Science |
| (v) Poetry | (vi) Drama |
| (vii) Epics | |

It would be really interesting to read the epics of the past. The Ramayana, The Mahabharata and the Upanishadas are some of the religious epics of the past.

