

**ICSE Board**  
**Class VI History & Civics**  
**Sample Paper – 1 Solution**

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**Answer 1**

- a) Crete
- b) Siddhartha
- c) Tigris, Euphrates
- d) porcelain
- e) Brahmavarta
- f) Kalinga
- g) foreign, maritime
- h) 1500
- i) Dhana Nanda
- j) Coins

**Answer 2**

Column A	Column B
<b>(a)</b> Strata	<b>(5)</b> Different levels of society
<b>(b)</b> Granaries	<b>(8)</b> Storehouses
<b>(c)</b> Epigraphy	<b>(4)</b> Study of old inscriptions
<b>(d)</b> Asia Minor	<b>(1)</b> Anatolia
<b>(e)</b> Zhou Dynasty	<b>(7)</b> Exercised control over most of Central China
<b>(f)</b> Astrolabe	<b>(9)</b> Instrument used for astronomical measurements
<b>(g)</b> Plebeians	<b>(2)</b> Common people
<b>(h)</b> Bronze Age	<b>(10)</b> 4000 BCE—2000 BCE
<b>(i)</b> Janas	<b>(6)</b> Tribes of Early Vedic Period
<b>(j)</b> Si-Yu-Ki	<b>(3)</b> Hiuen Tsang

**Answer 3**

- a) (i) Self
- b) (ii) Periclean Age
- c) (iv) History
- d) (iii) Confucius
- e) (i) Grihapati
- f) (i) Agriculture
- g) (iv) 6<sup>th</sup> Century CE
- h) (iii) Mother Goddess
- i) (iv) Metal
- j) (ii) Tiber

**Answer 4**

- a) **Town Planning:** The discovery of the Sumerian city of Ur has shed light on the lives of the early Mesopotamians. The Mesopotamian cities fell short in terms of town planning as compared to the Harappan centres, but followed a uniform pattern nevertheless. The city was divided into three parts—the sacred area, the walled city on a mound and the outer town. The sacred area consisted of the temple tower or the *ziggurat* dedicated to the patron god of the city. There were also smaller temples of other gods. This area also had the storehouse as well as the offices. People resided in the walled city and the outer town areas. Houses were constructed along the streets, and each house had a central courtyard with rooms attached around it.
- b) The reasons behind the decline of the Mauryan Empire were:
- i. The successors of Ashoka were politically weak and inefficient.
  - ii. The empire was too large in terms of size and it was very difficult for the state to control the far flung territories.
  - iii. After Ashoka's death, there was no strong central authority. As a result, the viceroys of the provinces declared themselves independent.
- c) Inscriptions are engravings on solid objects such as metals and stone tablets, rocks, pillars etc. Such inscriptions provide historians and historiographers with invaluable data about past rulers, the extent of their empires, major events, political conditions, religious and cultural practices etc. The study of epigraphs or old inscriptions is called epigraphy. Epigraphic evidence is considered reliable since it is in its original form and is a formal source of information.

Edicts are royal commands issued by rulers and kings. Emperor Ashoka of the Mauryan Empire left behind many edicts engraved on rocks and pillars. These have been of great help to historians in reconstruction of the Mauryan period.

d) Following are five important features of the Old Stone Age:

- i. **Crude Stone Tools:** The humans of the Old Stone Age were the first to develop stone implements. Earlier, they would use them in their natural conditions and dispose them. Later, they started making crude unpolished stone tools. Large chunks of stone were made into hammers, scrapers and axe heads. These would be used for cutting trees, killing and skinning animals, chopping meat and digging up roots.
- ii. **Food:** Humans of this Age were hunters and gatherers. They did not know how to cultivate land. Their food included fruits, roots, nuts, eggs, raw flesh of animals and birds.
- iii. **Shelter:** Houses were not built, and caves and trees were used for shelter.
- iv. **Clothing:** The early humans did not wear clothes initially, but later began to use tree barks, leaves and animal skins to protect their bodies from the cold and rain. Later, clothes were made by stitching animal skins with bone needles.
- v. **Social Life:** During this epoch, humans began to live in small groups. Such groups were nomadic, moving from place to place in search of food.

e) Three important achievements of the Egyptian Civilisation:

- **Writing:** The people of the Egyptian Civilisation developed a script called the hieroglyphic script (sacred writing). In the initial stages, picture writing was used. Each picture represented a separate word. Almost 2000 picture signs have been found on different pyramids and temples of this age. Later, a simplified alphabet was developed which had 24 consonants and no vowels.
- **Paper:** In the initial stages of the civilisation's existence, the Egyptians wrote on stone, walls and clay tablets. Later, a type of paper made of papyrus was used. In fact, the word paper comes from the word papyrus.
- **Ink:** The Egyptians wrote from right to left using a reed sharpened at the end. The ink was made of soot, gum and water.

f) During the time of the Classical Civilisation, Greek art reached its zenith. Pottery was found to be richly carved and decorated with paintings. The statues created during this time are also of very high artistic value. The Greeks also constructed magnificent structures, some of which were adorned with sculptures. The Parthenon, a temple built in honour of Athena (the guardian goddess of Athens) on Acropolis (a hill in Athens) has had a profound influence on architecture all over the world.

- g)** In the hierarchy of the Chinese society, the Emperor formed the highest level of the social pyramid. He was followed by the nobility, the merchants, the craftspeople, the farmers and the slaves. The soldiers were accorded a special place in the social structure. They were feared and respected by the common populace. People lived in groups or clans and respected their ancestors and family elders. The family itself was a very close knit unit of society.
- h)** Buddhism gradually declined in India because of the following reasons:
- i. Hinduism was gradually reformed by various reformers and through various initiatives.
  - ii. The Gupta kings patronised Hinduism and provided it state support.
  - iii. India was invaded by the Huns several times who destroyed the Buddhist viharas on a large scale.

### **Answer 5**

- i)** The archaeological site shown in the image is the Great Bath of the Harappan Civilisation.
- ii)** The Great Bath—a rectangular structure which resembled a swimming pool—was an important structure at Mohenjodaro. It was a large complex with six entrances, a central bathing pool, dressing rooms on all sides and an adjacent well. It had steps leading to the bottom of the pool from two sides. Water from an adjacent well was used to fill the pool with fresh water, and an outlet in the corner was used to drain the dirty water. It was made up of baked bricks and was made watertight with a layer of bitumen or natural tar. It is assumed that the Great Bath was used by important people on special occasions.
- iii)** The drainage system of the Harappan cities was very well planned and developed. Drains were built alongside the roads. The kitchens and bathrooms had drains which were connected to the street drains. The street drains were covered with brick slabs and may have been cleaned from time to time because they had manholes at regular intervals. This attention to detail is testimony to the fact that the people of the Harappan civilisation paid great attention to the matter of sanitation and cleanliness.

**PART II – Civics****Answer 1**

- a) Aldermen
- b) Harmonious
- c) Plato, Confucius
- d) Punishable
- e) Government

**Answer 2**

- a) (i) Social mobility
- b) (iv) Mahatma Gandhi
- c) (ii) Municipal Corporation
- d) (iii) Sunderban Delt
- e) (iii) Mayor

**Answer 3**

- a) In recent times, communities have undergone radical changes at every level as follows:
  - i. Advancement in transport and communication systems has been an integral part of our man-made environment. For example, in ancient times, there was a development of animal-drawn carts due to domestication of animals and invention of the wheel. This human quality to improve the environment has led to the development of advanced modes of transport such as railways, airways, waterways, roadways etc.
  - ii. Developments in information technology have changed the concept and modes of traditional communication. These developments have provided us with facilities for inter-personal and social interfacing which have resulted in cutting across the barriers of time and distance.
  - iii. There has been a boom in the IT sector. This has bought distant countries and continents closer to us. It has lead to the transformation of the world into a global village. Internet facilities, teleconferencing, webcam chats etc. have opened new communication doors in the world. Thus, connectivity is immediate and instantaneous.
- b) Diversity can be defined as a range of many people or things which are different from each other.

India is described as 'the land of diversity' because it consists of a variety of cultural differences with regards to the languages, religions, traditions, customs, dresses, art, foods, architecture, music and dances. Also, a variety of landscapes are visible in our country— from the hot deserts of Rajasthan to the cold deserts of Ladakh, from the

rugged mountainous terrain of the Himalayas to the gentle fertile plains of the Indo-Gangetic Valley, from the coastal areas of Odisha to the deltaic regions of the Sunderbans in Bengal, etc.

- c) The family is considered to be the smallest and the most important part of our civic life. It is the building block of society. Family takes care of all the needs of an individual and also gives love, affection, happiness and security. A good family upbringing helps in moulding an individual's personality and inculcates good values of honesty, discipline, tolerance, respect, patience, understanding, obedience, discipline and sharing. An individual also has some responsibilities as a part of a family. He/she needs to respect his/her parents and elders and share with their brothers and sisters. A family member is expected to help in household chores, thus learning the value of cooperation. Hence, in this manner family teaches individuals and prepares them for a bigger role in the community.