

ICSE Board
Class VI History & Civics
Sample Paper – 2 Solution

Answer 1

- a) Mauryan
- b) Pushyamitra Sunga
- c) Afghanistan
- d) Upanishads
- e) Gladiators
- f) Persians
- g) Charles Darwin
- h) 'Four great sights'
- i) Edicts
- j) Sphinx

Answer 2

Column A	Column B
(a) BCE	(7) Before Common Era
(b) Valley of Tomb of Kings	(5) World Heritage Site
(c) Iron Age	(9) Developed cities and states
(d) Citadel	(10) Harappan cities
(e) Gilgamesh	(1) Regarded as two-thirds god and one-third human
(f) Pagodas	(2) Chinese architecture
(g) Kanchipuram	(4) Golden City
(h) Kalidasa	(6) Shakuntalam
(i) Trojan War	(3) Mycenaeans
(j) Bimbisara	(8) Magadha

Answer 3

- a) (ii) Sacred writing
- b) (iv) Harisena
- c) (iii) 16
- d) (iv) Palaeolithic Age
- e) (iv) Civilisation
- f) (ii) Epics
- g) (ii) Shi Huangdi
- h) (iii) Delhi
- i) (i) R.C. Majumdar
- j) (iii) Democratic republics

Answer 4

- a) Agriculture was the main occupation of the people of the Chinese Civilisation. Crops grown included rice, wheat, millet, barley and soya bean. Tea was also grown for the first time by the Chinese. In the beginning, tea was cultivated for exclusively medicinal purposes. It was only later that it was grown as a beverage. An elaborate irrigation system was put in place in order to ensure surplus food production. This reinforced the growth of the Chinese Civilisation.
- b) The word 'Veda' means knowledge. The Vedas are the religious literature of the Aryans and the chief source of information about the early Aryans. In all, there are four Vedas—Rig Veda, Atharva Veda, Sama Veda and Yajur Veda. These were originally composed and passed on from generation to generation verbally. It was only centuries later that they were recorded in books. The Brahmanas, the Upanishads, the Puranas and the epics of Ramayana and Mahabharata are the other important works of the Vedic literature. All of these collectively tell us a great deal about the social, religious, economic and political life of the Aryans.
- c) The Gupta period saw the revival of Hinduism and the Sanskrit language. The Guptas made Sanskrit the court language and patronised Sanskrit playwrights, poets, philosophers and grammarians. Kalidasa, who emerged during this period wrote two of his most definitive works—Abhijnanasakuntalam and Meghaduta. This period also saw the compilation of the Panchatantra, rewriting of the Puranas and the revision and rewriting of the Mahabharata. Shudraka's Mrichchhakatika was also written during this time.

- d)** The following theories have been put forth by historians as possible reasons for the decline of the Harappan civilisation:
- i. There is a possibility that natural calamities such as earthquakes, floods or epidemics might have destroyed the Harappan sites.
 - ii. Invasions by foreign tribes such as the Aryans may have been the reason behind the collapse of the Harappan Civilisation.
 - iii. A natural change in the course of the River Indus might have made the land infertile, hence causing a collapse of the Harappan economy and society.
- e)** Monuments and objects are important archaeological sources. Monuments are old buildings and structures such as temples, palaces and forts. These relics can be very useful in learning about the life and times of the historic societies. Objects such as tools, weapons, pottery, statues, ornaments, seals, toys, paintings and coins assist historians in arriving to a better understanding of the times which have no written records. Human or animal skulls and human, animal or plant fossils also help in reconstructing the unwritten past. In the case of the Harappan civilisation, such archeological sources remain the singular source of information.
- f)** Augustus Caesar was the first Roman emperor who reigned for 40 long years. He established peace and stability in his territories (Pax Romana), strengthened the boundaries, organised an efficient government and promoted economic prosperity. He provided the Roman citizens with the conditions necessary for trade, industry, art, architecture and literature. The Romans liberally borrowed ideas and skills from other nations, especially the Greeks, and patronised various professionals such as architects, craftsmen, writers and artists. As a result, the Romans slowly developed a classical civilisation which has had a lasting impact even in modern times.
- g)** The pastoral Aryan tribes of the Early Vedic period were always on the lookout for new pastures for their animals. In the Later Vedic period, they began to settle down and cultivate land. These tribes used iron tools and implements in order to clear jungles and bring more land under cultivation. The surplus production achieved, thus resulted in increased prosperity and the instinct to expand the territories further. This led to wars and conquests and the emergence of large states called janapadas.
- h)** In the Mauryan structure of power, the king was the supreme authority. A council of ministers called the mantri parishad advised the king on important matters. The government was divided into several departments such as the treasury, industry, revenue and security departments. Every department was looked after by several officials appointed by the monarch. Officials such as the mahamatras took care of the everyday administration of the state.
- The territories of the empire were divided into several provinces. The most important provinces were put under the control of princes from the royal family. They were called 'kumaras'. They looked after the administration of the provinces in

the capacity of viceroys or royal representatives. The provinces were further divided into districts. Each district contained many nagaras (or towns) and gramas (or villages). At each level, designated officials looked after the day-to-day governance.

Answer 5

- i)** The philosopher in the picture is Confucius.
- ii)** The people of the Chinese Civilisation worshipped forces of nature. They also worshipped their family ancestors. Astrologers and oracles commanded genuine respect. The oracles or holy priests were believed to have a connection with the gods. The Chinese emperor was considered to be the son of Shangdi, the god of heaven. Later, people began to follow Confucianism, Taoism and Buddhism
- iii)** Confucianism was a religious movement named after its founder, Confucius. It was primarily based on a practical code of moral conduct. It was more a way of life than a religion. Confucius advised his followers to appreciate the temporal world and develop the virtues of hard work, modesty, sobriety, gravity and thoughtfulness towards others. He laid much emphasis on loyalty and obligations. There were a lot of followers of this school of philosophy in China. Later, it even became the state religion.

PART II – Civics**Answer 1**

- a)** human
- b)** linguistic
- c)** government
- d)** Local Self-government
- e)** General Board or Council

Answer 2

- a)** (ii) Family
- b)** (iii) All citizens of the country
- c)** (iv) Cherrapunji
- d)** (iii) Cities having population between 20,000 to 5,00,000
- e)** (i) 1652

Answer 3

- a) The Gram Panchayat is the basic unit of the Panchayati Raj system and has many functions. These functions include compulsory functions as well as optional functions.

The various compulsory functions of the Gram Panchayat are:

1. Providing health facilities by setting up dispensaries and health centres.
2. Looking after the welfare of the weaker sections of the society.
3. Construction and repair of roads bridges, drains, wells and tanks.
4. Supplying clean drinking water.
5. Keeping roads and streets clean.
6. Providing primary education.
7. Construction of buildings and maintenance of cremation and burials grounds.
8. Helping the farmer develop and improve the farm output and cattle.
9. Checking on the spread of disease and providing vaccination and inoculation to cure it.
10. Recording births and deaths

The optional functions are:

1. Organising fairs and village markets.
2. Construction of playgrounds and rest houses
3. Organising educational and awareness programmes.
4. Installation of television and radio sets in the community sets.

- b) The municipal corporation consists of four organs:

- i. **General Council:** It comprises of members which are elected from different wards. These members are known as councillors and are directly elected by the adult citizens of that city. It also consists of members known as aldermen who are respected and popular citizens of the city.
- ii. **Mayor:** The Municipal Corporation is headed by the mayor. He and the deputy mayor are elected by the members of the municipal corporation from amongst themselves. The mayor presides over the meetings of the corporation. She/he holds the office for a period which varies between 1 – 5 years.
- iii. **Municipal Commissioner:** The Municipal Commissioner is also known as the Chief Executive Officer and is in charge of the municipal's entire administration and also supervises the working of the officers. He/She is appointed by the State Government and his term of office varies between 1 and 5 years.
- iv. **Standing Committees:** Several committees which help the Corporation to perform many functions are known as standing committees.

- c) In recent times, communities have undergone radical changes at every level as follows:
- i. Advancement in transport and communication system which has been an integral part of our man-made environment. For example, in ancient times, there has been a development of animal-drawn cart due to domestication of animals and invention of the wheels. This human quality to improve the environment has led to development of advanced modes of transport such as railways, airways, waterways, roadways etc.
 - ii. Developments in information and technological revolution 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 boon in the IT sector. This has brought distant countries and continents closer to us. It has led to a transformation of a wide world into a global village. Internet facilities, teleconferencing, webcam chats, etc. have opened our windows to the world. Thus, connectivity is immediate and instantaneous.