History and Prehistory

Model questions and answers

1. What is history?

Ans- History is a a written account of people, places and events of the past. It tells us how and where people lived, what they did, and what their customs and beliefs were. It also tells us the way they traded, the war they fought and the rulers who governed them.

2. What is prehistory?

Ans- Prehistory, is an account of events that happened or may have happened, before people invented writing.

3. Into how many parts is history divided? Mention them.

Ans- History is divided into three main periods- ancient, medieval and modern.

4. Why do the archaeologists study artefacts and fossils?

Ans- Archaeologists study artefacts and fossils to determine their dates and tell us about the different groups of people that lived in the past and about their lives.

5. What is called artefacts?

Ans- Tools, weapons, pottery, toys, ornaments and other things used in ancient times have been uncovered at archaeological sites all over the world. These are called artefacts.

6. What do you mean by fossils?

Ans- Sometimes, when animals die, their bodies or parts of them get fixed in rocks or ice. These remains, or the Impressions this dead bodies is leave, are called fossils.

7. What is carbon dating?

Ans- Objects, carefully dug out by archaeologists are first sent to the laboratories. Here, tests are carried out to find out how ancient they are. An important method used by archaeologists is known as carbon dating.

8. What are the oral sources of information of Indian history?

Ans- The Vedas, the Ramayana, the Mahabharata and the Puranas are the oral sources of information of Indian history.

9. What is called manuscripts?

Ans- Handwritten records are called manuscripts .

10. Who visited India during Chandragupta's time?

Ans- Megasthenes visited India during Chandragupta's time.

11. Write the names of two Chinese travellers who visited India.

Ans- The names of two Chinese travellers who visited India are Faxian and Xuanzang.

12. What is called numismatics?

Ans- The study of o is known as numisomatics.

13. Write three examples of monuments.

Ans-The three examples of monuments are the Sanchi Stupa, the Taj Mahal and the Charminar.

14. Define: decade, century, millennium.

Ans- Decade: A period of 10 years.

Century: A period of 100 years.

Millennium: A period of 1000 years.

15.Define circa.

Ans- Circa is a Latin word that means 'around' or 'approximately'. It is used when the exact date of an event is not known but it is thought to be around the stated date.