

Chapter 1 - What, Where, How and When?

Imagine

1. You have to interview an archaeologist. Prepare a list of five questions that you would like to ask her/him.

Solution:

1. What is Archaeology?
2. What does an Archaeologist do?
3. What is the process involved in excavation?
4. How does Archaeologist determine the age of any of the objects discovered from excavations?
5. Why are symbols important in the field of Archaeology?

Let's Recall

1. Match the following

Narmada Valley	The first big kingdom
Magadha	Hunting and gathering
Garo Hills	Cities about 2500 years ago
Indus and its tributaries	Early agriculture
Ganga valley	The first cities

Solution 1:

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

2. List one major difference between manuscripts and inscriptions.

Solution 2:

Manuscripts – They were written by hand, these were usually written on palm leaves or on the specially prepared bark of a tree known as the birch, which grows in the Himalayas.	Inscriptions – These are writings engraved relatively on hard surfaces such as stone or metal.
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3. Return to Rasheeda's question. Can you think of some answers to it?

Solution 3:

One can think of 4 different ways

1. Inscriptions
2. Manuscripts
3. Tools and weapons
4. Reading the books written in the past.

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

Solution 4:

The findings of Archaeologists could be of 9 different types.

1. Buildings made of stone and brick
2. Paintings
3. Sculpture
4. Tools
5. Weapons
6. Pots
7. Pans
8. Ornaments
9. Coins

The objects that could be made up of stones are given below

1. Buildings
2. Tools
3. Weapons
4. Ornaments

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

Solution 5:

Unlike the present day, record keeping was not easy in the past. Records were usually maintained by Kings to describe their victories in battles. Those were maintained by inscribing on stones, which were not an easy task that could be carried out by ordinary men and women.

6. Describe at least 2 ways in which you think the lives of kings would have been different from those of farmers.**Solution 6:**

1. Kings had absolute power over all his subjects, irrespective of their profession, farmers had no such powers.
2. Kings lived in palaces. Farmers had no such opportunities.
3. The King was responsible for protecting his kingdom by waging battles, whereas the farmers' responsibilities were to grow crops.