

Grade - VIII Social Science Specimen Copy Year 2021-22



Index

Sr.no	Month	Name Of The Chapters
1.	April/May	History ch1. How, When and Where Geography ch1. Resources Social and political life ch1. The Indian Constitution



Sr.no	Name Of The Chapters	Value
1	How, When and Where	Patriotism
2	Resources	Sense of conservation of resources
3	The Indian Constitution	Respect of constitution

History



Chapter No- 1. Chapter Name- How, When and Where



- History is not about dates, but dates are important because they tell us how people and societies change over time. And which dates are recorded and remembered as important depends on the records kept by governments and people.
- ❖ For ease of understanding, people divide the past in periods or eras, which are basically long periods of time many years or generations considered as one. For example, the British divided Indian history into three periods Hindu, Muslim, and British but we now know that this was a very narrow way of looking at history.
- ❖ But this also means that many important events and changes are not recorded at all, and there are many things about the past that we will never really know. So we must also look at old books, diaries, works of art and architecture, and things of daily use to learn more about the past.

New Words

- **Historian:** One who writes about the events of the past, i.e. how things were and how they changed.
- **Debate:** Discussion on an important topic of public interest.
- **Periodisation:** Ponding any event into periods.
- **Ancient:** Very old.
- ❖ Medieval: It refers to the period in which features of modem society did not exist.
- ❖ Colonization: Colonization is a process in which one country subjugates another and thus brings political, economic, social and cultural changes.
- **Subjugation:** Gaining control over a country.
- **Calligrapher:** One who is specialised in the art of beautiful writing.

Answer in one/ two sentence

1. Who was James Mill?

Ans. He was a Scottish economist and political philosopher and is known for his book A History of British India.

2. What evil practices, according to James Mill, dominated the Indian social life before the British came to India?

Ans. According to James Mill, the evil practices that dominated to the Indian social life were religious intolerance, caste taboos and superstitious practices.

3. How did paintings project Governor- General?

Ans. Paintings projected Governor-Generals as powerful figures.

4. Why do many historians refer to modem period as colonial?

Ans. It is because, under British rule people did not have equality, freedom or liberty—the symbols of modernity.

Long Answers Questions

1. How did James Mill view India?

Ans. James Mill did not cherish any positive idea about India. He was of the opinion that all Asian societies were at a lower level of civilisation than Europe. According to his telling of history, before the British came to India, the Hindu and the Muslim despots ruled the country. Religious intolerance, caste taboos and superstitious practices dominated social life. He felt that only British rule could civilise India. He suggested that the British should conquer all the territories of India to ensure the enlightenment and happiness of the Indian people. For India was not capable of progress without the help of the British.

2. Historians divide Indian history into ancient, medieval and modem. But this division too has its problems. What are these problems?

Ans. This periodisation has been borrowed from the West where the modem period was associated with the growth of dll the forces of modernity such as science, reason, democracy, liberty and equality. Medieval was a term used to describe a society where these features of modem society did not exist.

It is difficult for us to accept this characterisation of the modem period. Here, it is worth-mentioning that Indians did not have equality, freedom or liberty under the British rule. The country also lacked economic growth and progress in that period. It is therefore many historians refer to modem period as colonial period.

3. What did the British do to preserve important official documents and letters?

Ans. The British felt the need to preserve all the important official documents and letters. For this, they set up record rooms attached to all administrative institutions. The village tahsildar's office, the collectorate, the commissioner's office, the provincial secretariats, the lawcourts – all had their record rooms. The British also established specialised institutions such as archives and museums to preserve important records.

Comics

A picture story of how , when and where

A picture story depict the important incidents from past.

How Important are Dates?

In the past, people believed that history was about dates. Many still believe so. You may have heard your friends say, "I hate history because what's the use of memorising dates?" But History is so much more than that!

The first locomotive used by the East Indian Railway Company in 1854



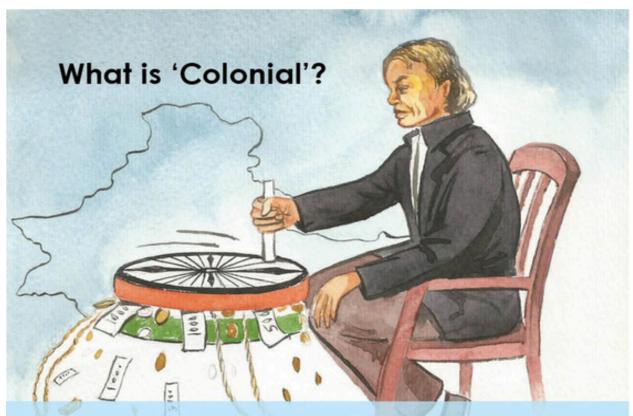
We see that the world around us is changing all the time. And History shows us how things change over many hundreds or thousands of years. When we use words like "in the past" or "nowadays", we're really only comparing the past with the present. And this power to compare the past and plan the future is History's gift to us.

Look at the things around you. Do you know how they started? Who invented the electric fan, and when, and why? When did people start using furniture made of wood, and where, and why? And when and why did people start drinking tea and coffee, and who were the first people to do so! When you're travelling, you might want to ask – how did people travel long distances before there were trains and aeroplanes? We also sometimes wonder how the people who make newspapers know the news before us, or who invented printing.

Brahmans offering the Shastras to Britannia (a frontispiece to the first map produced by James Rennel, 1782



Rennel was asked by Robert Clive to produce maps of Hindoostan. An enthusiastic supporter of British conquest of India, Rennel saw preparation of maps as essential to the process of domination. The picture here tries to suggest that Indians willingly gave over their ancient texts to Britannia – the symbol of British power – as if Indians were asking the British people to become the protectors and care-takers of Indian culture.



Let's now see how the British came to conquer India and establish their rule by subjugating local nawabs and rajas. We'll also see how they established control over the economy and society of India, collected revenue to meet their expenses, bought things they wanted at low prices, and produced crops they needed for export. We'll also look at the changes that happened in India as a result of the British Raj, such as changes in values, tastes, customs, and practices of Indians. When the subjugation or ruling of one country by another leads to political, economic, social,

and cultural changes, this process is called colonisation, and India under British rule is known as colonial India.

You will also learn that all classes and groups in India did not experience the effects of colonisation in the same way. That is why the book is called Our Pasts, in the plural, because different Indians experienced different pasts and have different histories.



Geography

Chapter No- 1. Chapter Name-Resources



Key Points To Remember

- ❖ Any living or non-living thing that has some value is a resource.
- ❖ We must respect and use our resources wisely so that we and our planet can be healthy and happy for long.

New Words

- **Resources:** Anything that has some utility to satisfy our needs is known as a resource.
- ❖ Natural Resources: The resources which are drawn from nature and used without much modification are known as natural resources.
- ❖ Abiotic and Biotic Resources: Abiotic resources are non-living while biotic resources are living. Soils, rocks and minerals are abiotic, while plants and animals are biotic resources.

Answer in one/ two sentence

1. What are the natural resources?

Ans. Resources that are drawn directly from nature are called natural resources.

2. What is human resource development?

Ans. Improving the quality of human skills in order to make them more useful is called human resource development.

3. What do you understand by the word "utility"?

Ans. If a substance can be used in any way, it is said to have a utility.

4. What is the condition for a substance to be called a resource?

Ans. A substance needs to have some utility to be called a resource.

Long Answers Questions

1. Why are human beings resources?

Ans. Human beings are intelligent living beings. They can use their intelligence to realise the utility of substances. Had there been no humans, the resources would not have been resources. Human beings are interdependent on each other, and they prove useful to each other. For example, a postman renders us an important service, so he is a resource.

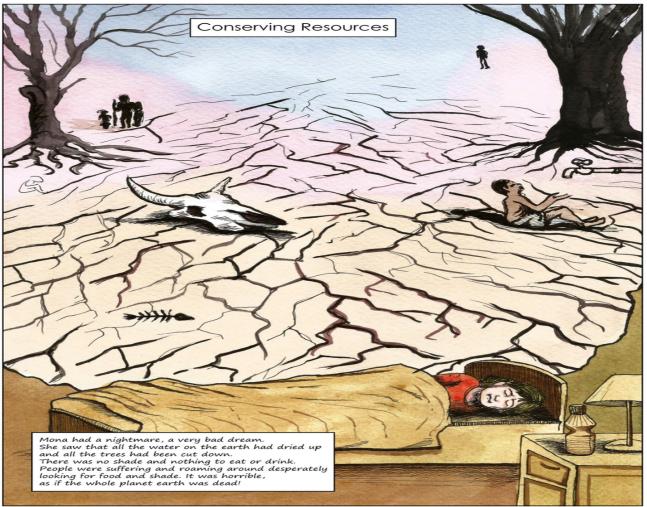
2. Explain how resources are classified broadly.

Ans.Resources are broadly classified into natural, human-made and human. Natural resources are those that are taken from nature. They are used without modifying them, i.e. in the same form as they exist in. Rivers, lakes, air, soils, minerals, trees, mountains, etc. are natural resources. Human-made resources have not been provided to us by nature. Human beings have used their intelligence to manufacture them for their own use. Examples include vehicles, buildings, roads, telephones, etc.

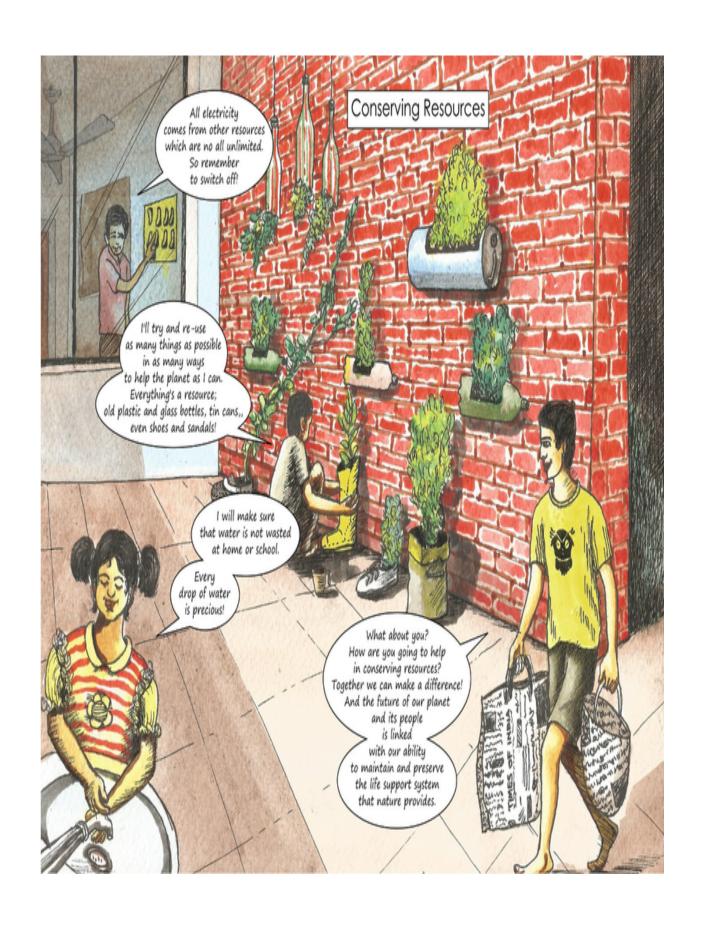
Human resources include people who serve us in any way. A teacher, doctor, carpenter, cobbler, etc. are human resources

Comic

Conserving Resources-We should conserve natural resources because it is necessary for the ecological balance. Greenhouse effect is the effect occur in nature by cutting trees.







Social and Political Life

Chapter No- 1. Chapter Name- The Indian Constitution



- ❖ A Constitution consists of a set of rules and principles to govern the country.
- ❖ The Indian Constitution was drafted by the Constituent Assembly which was formed in December 1946.
- ❖ The Constituent Assembly consisted of 300 members in 1946. It was headed by Dr. Rajendra Prasad.
- ❖ The Constituent Assembly completed the work in two years, eleven months and eighteen days.
- ❖ The Constitution of India was adopted on 26th November 1949 and came into force on 26th January 1950.
- ❖ The main features of the Indian Constitution are Federalism, parliamentary form of government, separation of powers, fundamental rights, an independent judiciary, and secularism

New Words

- **Constitution:** Usually a written document which contains the rules of governing a sovereign state.
- **Consensus:** Agreement of all the people on an issue.
- ❖ **Democracy:** A form of government in which people at large hold the ultimate power of governance. The representatives of people constitute the government and undertake the Constitutional responsibilities in order to achieve the ideals of the Constitution.
- ❖ Fundamental Rights: The set of Rights which ensures the life of dignity and honor to all who live in its jurisdiction.

Equality: State of being equal in all respects.

Answer in three/four sentence

1. Mention the key features of the Indian Constitution

Ans. The key features of the Indian constitution are:-

- i. Federalism
- ii. Parliamentary Form of Government
- iii. Separation of Powers
- iv. Fundamental Rights
- v. Secularism

2. State the six fundamentals rights in the Indian constitution.

Ans. The Fundamental Rights in the Indian Constitution include:

- i. Right to Equality
- ii. Right to Freedom
- iii. Right against Exploitation
- iv. Right to Freedom of Religion
- v. Cultural and Educational Rights
- vi. Right to Constitutional Remedies

3. What are the three organs of government?

Ans. According to the Constitution, there are three organs of government. These are the legislature, the executive and the judiciary.

- i. The legislature refers to our elected representatives.
- ii. The executive is a smaller group of people who are responsible for implementing laws and running the government.
- iii. The judiciary refers to the system of courts in this country.

Long Answers Questions

1. Why does a democratic country need a Constitution?

Ans. A democratic country needs a constitution because

- In a democracy people choose their representatives and the leaders might misuse their powers. Constitution provides safeguards against this.
- In a democracy, the constitution ensures that the dominant group does not use power against less powerful groups.
- The constitution guarantees fundamental rights to the citizens for their social, economic, and political welfare.

2. What would happen if there were no restrictions on the power of elected representatives?

Ans. If there were no restrictions on the power of elected representatives then:

- These leaders (representatives) might misuse their authority.
- This misuse of authority can result in gross injustice and mismanagement.

3. How does the Constitution define the nature of a country's political system?

Ans. The Constitution defines the nature of a country's political system. As in countries that have adopted a democratic form of government or polity, the Constitution plays a crucial role in laying out certain important guidelines that govern decision making within societies. Nepal's earliest Constitution stated that the country was to be ruled by the king and his Council of Minister. This shows how the Constitution defines the political nature of a country.

Comics-Here are some stories based on the constitution in a form of comic.

Introduction to Constitution

The Constitution of India is the supreme law of India. It lays down the framework defining fundamental political principles, establishes the structure, procedures, powers and duties of government institutions and sets out fundamental rights, directive principles and the duties of citizens.

