

## HISTORY VI

### Chapter 4 : River Valley Civilisations

#### A. Fill in the blanks:-

1. The Valley of the Kings is in **Egypt**.
2. The great sphinx has the head of a **male human** and the body of a **lion**.
3. The Egyptian script was known as **Hieroglyphic**.
4. **Mesopotamia** means the land between two rivers.
5. **Agriculture** was the chief occupation in Mesopotamia.
6. **Mesopotamian** were the first to make glassware.
7. **King Hammurabi** was the greatest ruler of Babylon.
8. **The Chinese** were the first to make a special kind of pottery called porcelain.

#### B. Match the following:

1. the first to study the human body = Egyptians
2. the first to issue receipts and bills = Mesopotamians
3. the River of Sorrow = Hwang-Ho
4. the first to grow tea = Chinese
5. Greek historian = Herodotus
6. Chinese dynasty = Shang

#### C. Write T for true and F for false.

1. Compass and gunpowder were invented by the Egyptians. (False)
2. Initially, the Chinese script had only 400 picture words. (False)
3. The Zhou dynasty overthrew the Shang dynasty in ancient China. (True)
4. Hammurabi's Code of Law has 282 articles engraved on a single stone column. (True)
5. Queen Nefertiti ruled with her husband- Ramses II. (False)

#### D. Answer the following questions.

1. Why was Egypt called 'the Gift of the Nile'?

Ans.1 The Greek historian, Herodotus, called Egypt 'The Gift of the Nile', because the annual flooding of the river left a rich deposit of fertile soil on its banks, which enabled Egyptian farmers to produce abundant crops.

2. Why were pyramids built?

Ans.2 The pyramids were served as tombs of the pharaohs. A pyramid is a four sided stone structure that symbolises a sacred mountain.

3. From which plant was writing material made by the Egyptians? What were the uses of writing system?

Ans.3 Egyptians made writing material from papyrus. The writing system was used mainly for formal inscriptions on the walls of temples and tombs.

4. Why do you think Sumerians built the ziggurats? What material did they use?

Ans.4 The Ziggurats or the temples, which were believed to act as ladders that helped the gods descend onto Earth. So the Sumerians built the Ziggurats. It was beautifully decorated with tiles and precious stones.

5. What was Hammurabi's Code of Law? Describe in brief.

Ans.5 King Hammurabi, the greatest ruler of the Babylonian Empire, codified all the existing earlier laws and carved a law code on an eight feet tall, stone column. The Code of Law has 282 articles covering all aspects of life. Punishments were severe and were based on the principle of an 'eye for an eye'. It had laws for fair treatment of women.

6. Mention some Chinese contributions which are useful for people even today.

Ans.6 China's four great contributions, namely, the compass, gunpowder, printing and paper making are still useful for people even today.

7. Who discovered silk? What was it made of?

Ans.7 The Chinese people discovered silk. It was made of by raising silkworms.

8. Write in brief about the Egyptian, Mesopotamian and the Chinese writing systems.

Ans.8 Egyptian writing systems: The Egyptian script used pictures to represent words and was known as Hieroglyphic. Papyrus was the writing material in Egypt.

Mesopotamian writing systems: By 3200 BCE, the Sumerians had invented the earliest form of writing called Cuneiform. The Sumerians employed a pointed instrument to inscribe wedge shaped characters on soft clay tablets, which were then hardened by baking.

The Chinese writing systems: The Chinese script is like picture writing, with each picture representing an idea.

9. Which two wonders of the world have you learnt about in this lesson?

Ans.9 The two wonders I learnt in this lesson are:

1. The Great Wall of China
2. The Pyramid at Giza

**E. Photo study questions :-**

1. Chinese civilization.
2. Qin Shi Huang, the first Emperor of China, built the terracotta Army.
3. It was supposed to protect the emperor in his afterlife.