

ON THE TRAIL OF THE EARLIEST PEOPLE

MODULE-1 WORKSHEET

Q1. Answer the following questions.

1. Why did hunter-gatherers travel from place to place?

Ans: There were four reasons why hunter-gatherers moved from place to place.

First. If they (hunter-gatherers) had stayed at one particular place for a long time, they would have eaten up all the available plant and animal resources. Therefore, they would have had to go elsewhere in search of food.

Second. Animals moved from place to place-either in search of smaller prey or in the case of deer and wild cattle, in search of grass and leaves. That's is why, those who hunted them had to follow their (i.e animals) movements.

Third. Plants and trees bear fruits in different seasons. So, people may have moved from season to season in search of different types of plants.

Fourth. People, plants and animals need water to survive. Water is found in lakes, streams, and rivers. While many rivers and lakes are perennial (with water throughout the year) others are seasonal. People living on their banks would had to go in search of water during the dry seasons (winter and summer).

2. What tools would you use today for cutting fruit? What would they be made of?

Ans: We will use knife, dagger, spoon, fork, machine etc. for cutting fruits. They would be made of different metals like copper, bronze, iron, steel etc.

3. Who were the earliest people of the Indian subcontinent? Write a few lines about them.

Ans: * The earliest people who live in the Indian subcontinent as early as two million years ago. Today we describe them as hunter-gatherers. The name comes from the way in which they got their food.

- Generally hunter-gatherers hunted wild animals, caught fish and birds, gathered fruits, roots, nuts, seeds, leaves, stalks and eggs.

4. How do we know about hunter-gatherers? Write also about their tools.

Ans: * Archaeologists have found some of the things people made and used. It is likely that people made and used tools of stone and bone, of which stone tools have survived best.

- Some of stone tools were used for cutting wood, which was used as firewood. Wood was also used to make huts and tools.
- Other stone tools were used to cut meat and bone, scrape barks and hides, chop fruits and roots. Some may have been attached to handle bone or wood, to make spears and arrows for hunting.

5. What do you mean by “Factory Sites” and “Habitation-cum-factory”?

Ans: *As in Stone Age, stone tools and implements were important, therefore, the people (hunter-gatherers) tries to find places where good quality stone was easily available. Places where natural stone was found by hunter-gatherers and made tools are known as **factory sites**.

- Usually, we find blocks of stone, tools that were made and perhaps discarded because they were not perfect and chips of waste stone left behind at these sites (i.e factory sites). Sometimes, people lived here for longer spells of time. These sites are called **habitation-cum-factory sites**.

6. Discuss “Making Stone Tools” by the people of Stone Age.

Ans: Making Stone Tools. Stone tools were probably made using two different techniques:

- The first is called **stone on stone**. Here, the pebble from which the tools was to be made (also called the core) was held in one hand. Another stone, which was used as a hammer was held in the other hand. The second stone was used to strike off flakes from the first, till the required shape was obtained.
- The second is called **Pressure flaking**. Here the core was placed on a firm surface. The hammer stone was used on a piece of bone or stone that was placed on the core, to remove flakes that could be shaped into tools.

Q2. Explain the meaning of the following keywords:

1. **Hunter-gatherers:** They were early people of the Indian subcontinent. They lived in the Indian subcontinent as early as two million years ago. Today we describe them as hunter-gatherers. The name comes from the way in which they got their food. Generally, they hunted wild-animals, caught fish and birds, gathered fruits, roots, nuts, seeds, leaves, stalks and eggs.
2. **Sites:** In this lesson this word is used for those places from where archaeologists have found evidence of hunter-gatherers. Many sites are located near source of water.
3. **Habitation:** Some sites, known as habitation sites, are places where people lived. These include caves and rocks shelters.
4. **Factory:** Places where natural stone was found and where people made tools are known as factory sites.

ASSIGNMENT

Q1. Complete the sentences.

1. Hunter-gatherers choose to live in caves because_____.
2. Grasslands developed around _____years ago.
3. In Hunsgi tools were made of _____.
4. The trains were first used about _____years ago.
5. _____ are places where people lived.

Q2. Look at the present day political map of the subcontinent on page 14 (of your textbook). Find out the states where Bhinbetka, Hinsgi and Kurnool are located. Would Tushar's train have passed near any of these sites?
