



CLASS - VIII SOCIAL SCIENCE NOTES

HISTORY - INTRODUCTION: HOW, WHEN AND WHERE?

I. Choose the Following Questions:

- History of British India was written by James Mill.
(a) Charles Darwin (b) James Mill (c) Albert Einstein (d) Thomas Hardy
- The First Governor General of India was Warren Hastings.
(a) Lord Dalhousie (b) Lord Mountbatten
(c) Lord William Bentinck (d) Warren Hastings

II. Answer the following Questions:

1. What is the problem with the periodisation of Indian history that James Mill offers?

James Mill divided Indian history into three periods - Hindu, Muslim and British. This periodisation has its own problem. It is difficult to refer to any period of history as 'Hindu' or 'Muslim' because a variety of faiths existed simultaneously in these periods. It is also not justified to characterise an age through the religion of the rulers of the time. What it suggests is that the lives and practices of others do not really matter. It is worth-mentioning that even rulers in ancient India did not all share the same faith.

2. Why did the British preserve official documents?

The British preserved documents because of the following reasons:

- Any information or proof of any decision can be read/used from the preserved documents.
- The preserved documents reveal the progress made by country in the past.
- One can study the notes and reports which were prepared in the past
- Their copies may be made and used in modern times.
- Documents were helpful in understanding social, economical and history of those times.

3. How will the information historians get from old newspapers be different from that found in police reports?

The information printed in newspaper are usually affected by the views and opinions of the reporters, news editors etc. But what historians find in police reports are usually true and realistic.

GEOGRAPHY - RESOURCES

1. Why are resources distributed unequally over the earth?

Resources are distributed unequally over the 'earth because of the different natural conditions, and physical factors like terrain, climate and altitude.

2. What is resource conservation?

Using resources carefully and giving them time to get renewed is called resource conservation.

3. Why are human resources important?

Human resources are important because the development of other resources solely depends upon this resource as humans have knowledge, skill, and technology to develop other resources.

4. What is sustainable development?

We should use resources in such a balanced way that we satisfy our needs as well as conserve them for the future. This concept is called sustainable development.