

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

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THE ANSWERS TO BE USED  
IN THESE QUESTIONS ARE TO  
BE TAKEN FROM THE  
TEXTBOOK:  
WORLD HISTORY  
ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS  
FROM PAGES 218-244



## Geography and Indian Life

### Physical Geography of India

1. India is a \_\_\_\_\_ which is **a large landmass that is like a continent, only smaller.**



2. India has **two Major mountain ranges** these are the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ Mountains.

3. There are also **two major rivers in India.** These are the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ rivers.

4. **A third river** known in ancient times as the \_\_\_\_\_ was also home to ancient great cities. **It dried up** however, probably due to an earthquake.

5. The climate of India is generally warm. \_\_\_\_\_ **are the seasonal**

### Cities in the Indus Valley

6. **The earliest inhabitants of India settled along the banks of the \_\_\_\_\_ river.** The reason for settling there was primarily for \_\_\_\_\_ as was the case in Ancient Egypt and China.

7. By 2500 B.C. some of these early villages had grown to be great cities. **At least 35,000 people may have lived in the two largest and best known cities** named \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

8. A great accomplishment of the early Indian societies was the creation of \_\_\_\_\_ **which were cities that were built according to a design.**

# Harappan Culture

## A Widespread and Prosperous Culture

9. • **Harappan culture spread across a wide region.** cities with common

design spread across a \_\_\_\_\_ square-mile area.

- People used standard weights and measures
- Trade wealth allowed luxuries like bronze statues, clay toys
- Traded timber, ivory, and beads with Mesopotamians. Received silver, tin, woolen cloth in return



## Challenges to Harappan Life

- Earthquakes shook region around 2000 to 1500 B.C.
  - possibly caused Saraswati River to dry up
  - may also have caused Indus River to flood
- Disasters caused Harappan people to leave cities
  - Harappan civilization declined



## The Origins of Hinduism

### Changes to Indian Life

10. In about **1500 B.C.** the \_\_\_\_\_ traveled east into India

11. **Aryan society was organized into classes: warriors, priests, and commoners.** As Indian society grew more complex, these classes developed into what was later called the \_\_\_\_\_

12. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a social class whose members are identified by their job.

13. Because there are thousands of different jobs, thousands of groups exist. Broadly, those groups are organized into **four categories**.

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14. \_\_\_\_\_ a **fifth group** later formed **below** others that did the **unwanted jobs**

### **Aryan Beliefs and Brahmanism**

15. **The early religion of the Aryans** is now called \_\_\_\_\_, after the name of the Aryan priests, or Brahmins. The Aryans worshiped many nature deities. The Brahmins made sacrifices to those deities by offering animals to a sacred fire.

### **Hinduism: The Religion of India**

16. The \_\_\_\_\_ is an important **sacred text of Hinduism**.

17. \_\_\_\_\_ is the modern name for the **major religion of India**, which grew out of early Brahmanism.

Hindus worship many deities. Although they believe in many deities, Hindus also recognize one supreme God or life force. Hindus consider the other deities to be parts of the one universal God. The three most important of the other deities are Brahma, the creator; Vishnu, the protector; and Shiva, the destroyer. (Shiva destroys the world so that it can be created anew.) Shiva's wife, Kali, also has many worshipers.

18. Hindus believe in \_\_\_\_\_ which means that **each person has many lives**.

19. \_\_\_\_\_ is a doctrine that states what a person does in this life will determine what they come back as in the "next life".

Hindus believe that animals, like humans, have the supreme life force in them. For that reason, many Hindus are vegetarians. They will not eat animals

## Many Paths to God

Hindus believe they connect with God by following their own individual path. Part of that path concerns one's job, which is linked to the caste system. Devout Hindus must faithfully carry out their assigned duties in life.

Hindus have a choice of spiritual practices to grow closer to God. Two of these are also popular in Western countries.

20. \_\_\_\_\_ is the **practice of making the mind calm.**

\_\_\_\_\_ is a **complex practice that includes exercise, breathing techniques, and diet.**



## Buddhism and India's Golden Age

21. Hinduism is the modern name for the major religion that is practiced in India. **Other religions also had their beginnings in India. One of these is the religion of \_\_\_\_\_**

22. Jains practice \_\_\_\_\_ **which means "nonviolence."** They believe that every living thing has a soul and should not be hurt.

## The Rise of Buddhism

22. Jains practice \_\_\_\_\_ **which means "nonviolence."** They believe that every living thing has a soul and should not be hurt.

23. Another religion called Buddhism also began in India. **Buddhism is based on the teachings of \_\_\_\_\_**

24. The \_\_\_\_\_ involved having the **right opinions, desires, speech, actions, job, effort, concentration, and meditation.**

25. Reaching \_\_\_\_\_ (an end of suffering) broke the cycle of reincarnation that Buddhists, as well as Hindus, believed in.

26. After the Buddha died, his followers gathered his teachings to pass on to others. **These collected teachings are called the \_\_\_\_\_** which means the true nature of things. Dharma is often shown symbolically as a wheel.

Over time, Buddhism split into many branches. Some branches stressed the importance of being a monk and studying the Buddha's life. Others stressed meditation. Some Buddhists taught that ordinary people could become Buddhas. Such holy people could work to save others through acts of mercy and love. Most Buddhists worshiped the Buddha as a divine being.

## The Maurya Empire

27. Around 550 B.C., Magadha (MAH•guh•duh), a northeastern kingdom, began to gain strength. **About 321B.C. \_\_\_\_\_ became king of Magadha.** He conquered much territory. His Empire soon covered much of the subcontinent.
28. **The greatest Maurya king was Chandragupta's grandson \_\_\_\_\_,** who began to rule in 269 B.C.

## Changes to Hinduism

The popularity of Buddhism meant that fewer people were worshiping Hindu deities.

30. Hindu thought began to change. Poets began to write hymns of praise to the deities Vishnu and Shiva. **These poems were written in languages that common people spoke, instead of in \_\_\_\_\_.**

The poems became popular across India. As a result, many Indians felt a renewed love for their Hindu deities. This renewal of interest in Hinduism occurred at the same time as a decline in Buddhism. Eventually, Buddhism lost most of its followers in India. By that time, however, it had spread to many other countries in Asia.

## The Golden Age of the Guptas

31. Like the Mauryas, the Guptas began as leaders in Magadha. \_\_\_\_\_ **was the greatest ruler of the family.** During his reign (A.D. 375 to 415), India had a golden age—a time of great accomplishment.

## Mathematics, Science, and Metallurgy

Indian scholars invented the numeral system we use today. They developed the decimal system and the symbol for zero.

One mathematician figured out the length of a year. He also estimated the value of pi. Pi is the number that is used to calculate the length of a circle's boundary.

Doctors added new techniques to the ancient practice of Ayurvedic (EYE•yuh•VAY•dihk) medicine. It is one of the oldest systems of medicine in the world. It promotes health by using diet, exercise, and other methods to maintain energy in the body.

Indian artisans developed advanced methods of metallurgy (metal working)



## The Legacy of India

### India's Religious Legacy

32. Four out of five people living in India today are \_\_\_\_\_

Buddhism did not remain strong in India. Not even 1 percent of Indians today are Buddhists.

### Hindu and Buddhist Influences

33. In the mid-1900s, Indian leader \_\_\_\_\_ used ahimsa (nonviolence) in his fight against British rule. His life inspired U.S. civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. In the 1950s and 1960s, King led nonviolent protests to gain rights for African Americans.

## The Legacy of Indian Mathematics

34. The \_\_\_\_\_ we use originated in India. People in India have been using the numerals for 1 to 9 for more than 2,000 years.
35. The number system first developed in India and used today is called the \_\_\_\_\_