

## Grade VII

### Lesson. 6 Town, Traders and Crafts persons

#### Social

#### I Multiple choice questions

- Which of the following is an example of a temple town?  
a. Ajmer                      b. Thanjavur                      c. Berar                      d. Delhi
- The part of the town where artisans and merchants of Indian origin used to live was called:  
a. Administrative town                      b. Commercial town  
c. Port town                      d. Black town
- Hampi was the capital of which empire of the following:  
a. Mughal                      b. Vijayanagara                      c. Mewar                      d. None of these
- Which is a pilgrim centre?  
a. Bombay                      b. Calcutta                      c. Pushkar                      d. Madras
- Kabul and Qandahar were linked to the:  
a. Silk Route                      b. Cape Route  
c. Suez Canal Routed.                      d. Cotton Route
- Who was Domingo Paes?  
a. Portuguese                      b. Italian                      c. Arab                      d. Swedish
- The fort at Masulipatnam was built by the:  
a. Dutch                      b. English                      c. French                      d. Portuguese
- An important festival celebrated at Hampi was:  
a. Holi                      b. Deepawali  
c. Janamashtami                      d. Mahanavami

1. b	2. d	3. b	4. c	5. a	6. a	7. a	8. d
------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------

#### II Multiple choice questions

- Nicolo Conti was from.  
a) Spain                      b) Italy                      c) both of these                      d) None of the these
- Akbar's new capital was.  
a) Agra                      b) Fatehpur Sikri                      c) Delhi                      d) None of the these

3. Delhi under Shah Jahan was called.

- a) Shahjahanabad    b) Chandni Chowk    c) both of these    d) None of the these

4. Kasim Bazar was located in.

- a) Bengal    b) UP    c) Karnataka    d) None of the these

5. Somnatha temple is in

- a) UP    b) Gujarat    c) Tamilnadu    d) None of the these

1. b	2. b	3. a	4. a	5. b
------	------	------	------	------

### III Multiple choice questions

i) Vasco da Gama was a

- a) Chinese sailor    b) Portuguese sailor    c) American sailor    d) Italian sailor

ii) They were great Indian traders during the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries.

- a) Mir Jumla and Mulla Abdul Ghafur    b) Mulla Abdul Ghafur and Virji Vora  
c) Mir Zafer and Mir Jumla    d) None of the above

iii) Kabul and Qandahar were linked to the.

- a) Silk Route    b) Cape Route    c) Suez Canal Route    d) Cotton Route

iv) A name used collectively for Muslim merchants is

- a) Noors    b) Hoors    c) Moors    d) None of the above

v) The fort at Masulipatnam was built by the

- a) English    b) French    c) Dutch    d) Portuguese

vi) An important festival celebrated at Hampi was

- a) Holi    b) Janamastami    c) Mahanavami    d) Deepawali

i. b	ii. b	iii. a	iv. c	v. c	vi. c
------	-------	--------	-------	------	-------

### IV Multiple choice questions

1. What type of towns existed during Medieval period?

- a) Port    b) Administrative    c) Temple    d) All of these

2. Thanjavur is situated on the river.

- a) Kaveri    b) Krishna    c) Mahanadi    d) Godavari

3. Which of the following was also an example of a temple town (The capital of Cholas)?
  - a) Ajmer
  - b) Thanjavur
  - c) Berar
  - d) Golconda
4. The Rajarajeshvara Temple was constructed in
  - a) Ajmer
  - b) Bijapur
  - c) Vijayanagara
  - d) Thanjavur
5. Which of the following was a pilgrim centre?
  - a) Bombay
  - b) Calcutta
  - c) Surat
  - d) Pushkar
6. What was Mandapika?
  - a) Mamdap
  - b) Mandi
  - c) Mandal
  - d) None of these
7. Which of the following was /were NOT the kind of traders?
  - a) The Banjaras
  - b) The Marwari Oswal
  - c) Nenadesi
  - d) None of these
8. Associations or unions of persons of any particular craft was (were) termed as .
  - a) emporium
  - b) factor
  - c) guilds
  - d) sthapatis
9. Hampi was the capital of which empire of the following.
  - a) Vijayanagara
  - b) Mughal
  - c) Mewar
  - d) None of these
10. The people from distant land visited Surat because.
  - a) it was the Gateway to West Asia
  - b) it was a beautiful place
  - c) it was the pilgrim centre
  - d) None of the above
11. Important trade centre from western India was
  - a) Masulipatnam
  - b) Hampi
  - c) Surat
  - d) Madurai
12. Masulipatnam was famous for its
  - a) elephant trade
  - b) temples
  - c) crafts production of copper and silver
  - d) trading port
13. The part of the town where artisans merchants of Indian origin used to live was called.
  - a) administrative town
  - b) port town
  - c) commercial town
  - d) black town

1. d	2. a	3. b	4. d	5. d	6. b	7. d	8. c	9. a	10. a
11. c	12. d	13. d							

**I Fill in the Blanks**

1. Thanjavur is situated on the banks of river \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Pushkar was a \_\_\_\_\_ centre.
3. Hampi was the capital of \_\_\_\_\_ Empire.
4. Masulipatnam was famous for its \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Gujarati Baniyas were a kind of \_\_\_\_\_.

1. Kaveri	2. Pilgrim	3. Vijayanagar	4. trading port	5. traders
-----------	------------	----------------	-----------------	------------

**II Fill in the Blanks**

1. The Rajarajeshvara temple was built in \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Ajmer is associated with the Sufi saint \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Hampi was the capital of the \_\_\_\_\_ Empire.
4. The Dutch established a settlement at \_\_\_\_\_ in Andhra Pradesh.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ wrote about Vijayanagara.
6. Chola rulers used \_\_\_\_\_ to make statues.
7. Devadasis performed in \_\_\_\_\_ temple.

1. 1010	2. Khwaja Muinuddin Chishti	3. Vijayanagara	4. Masulipattanam
	5. Domingo Paes	6. Lost wax	7. Virupaksha

**III Fill in the Blanks**

- i. \_\_\_\_\_ is an example of an administrative centre as well as a temple town.
- ii. The Chola bronze statues were made using the \_\_\_\_\_ technique.
- iii. Near Ajmer is a lake called \_\_\_\_\_ which has historical importance.
- iv. Masulipatnam was a centre of instance activity during the \_\_\_\_\_ century.
- v. The English , \_\_\_\_\_ and French formed East India Companies in order to expand their commercial activities in the east.

i. Thanjavur	iii. 'lost wax'	iii. Pushkar	iv. Seventeenth	v) Dutch
--------------	-----------------	--------------	-----------------	----------



**IV Fill in the Blanks**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ was the capital of Vijayanagar empire.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ in Rajasthan was the capital of Chauhans.
3. Bronze is an alloy of copper and \_\_\_\_\_.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ performed before the deity, royalty in Verupaksha temple.
5. The textiles of \_\_\_\_\_ were famous for Zari/gold lace.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ discovered the sea route to India.

1. Hampi	2. Ajmer	3. tin	4. Devadasi	5. Surat	6. Vasco De Gama
----------	----------	--------	-------------	----------	------------------

**I Match the following**

Column A	Column B
a. Sufi saint	i. Kunjarmallan
b. Mandi	ii. Hatta
c. Rajarajeshwara temple	iii. Muinuddin Chishti
d. Muslim merchants	iv. Moors
e. Market merchants	v. Mandapika

a. iii	b. v	c. i	d. iv	e. ii
--------	------	------	-------	-------

**II Match the following**

Column A	Column B
1. Zari	a. Thomas Roe
2. Special platform	b. Masulipatnam
3. Fish town	c. Mahanavami Dibba
4. Foreign traveller	d. Surat

1) d	2) c	3) b	4) a
------	------	------	------

**III Match the following**

Column A	Column B
i. Kanchipuram	a. Portuguese traveller
ii. Banjaras	b. Temple dancers
iii. Manigramam and Nanadeshi	c. temple town
iv. Saliyars or kaikkolars	d. white rulers lived here
v. Domingo Paes	e. Famous guilds
vi. Devadasis	f. Weaver communities
vii. Fort William in Calcutta	g. Traders
viii. Virupaksha	h. form of Shiva

i) c	ii) g	iii) e	iv) f	v) a	vi) b	vii) d	viii) h
------	-------	--------	-------	------	-------	--------	---------

**IV Match the following**

Column A	Column B
1. Kunjaramallan	a. Mandi / markets
2. Muinuddin Chishti	b. Portuguese traveller
3. Hatta	c. Muslim merchants
4. Mandapika	d) Market streets
5. Domingo Paes	e) Sufi saints
6. Moors	f) Rajarajeshvara Temple

1. f	2. e	3. d	4. a	5. b	6. c
------	------	------	------	------	------

**I True or False**

1. Craftspersons of Bidar were famous for their inlay work.
2. Mullah Abdul Ghaffur and Virji Vora owned number of ships.
3. Cloth bags in Thanjavur were produced by Saliya weavers.
4. Murshidabad on the banks of Ravi became capital of Bengal in 1704.
5. Uraiyur made bronze idols, ornamental bell and metal lamps.

1. True	2. True	3. True	4. False	5. False
---------	---------	---------	----------	----------

**II True or False**

1. We know the name of the architect of the Rajarajeshvara temple from an inscription.
2. Merchants preferred to travel individually rather than in caravans.
3. Kabul was a major centre for trade in elephants.
4. Surat was an important trading port on the Bay of Bengal.

5. Demand for luxury goods gives rise to handicrafts.

6. Salim Chisti lives in Ajmer. In Ajmer it was Khwaja Chisti. Salim Chisti lived in Agra.

1. True	2. False	3. False	4. False	5. True	6. False
---------	----------	----------	----------	---------	----------

### III True or False

i) Rulers built temples to show their devotion to various deities.

ii) Ajmer (Rajasthan) provides an excellent examples of religious co-existence.

iii) The craftspersons of Bidar could not earn name and fame.

iv. Surat was at the height of popularity at the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

v. The Dutch built a fort at Masulipatnam.

i. True	ii. False	iii. False	iv. False	v. True	vi. False
---------	-----------	------------	-----------	---------	-----------

### IV True or False

1. Cloth bags in Thanjavur were produced by Saliya weavers.

2. Uraiyur made bronze idols and ornamental bell metal lamps.

3. Craftspersons of Bidar were famous for their inlay work.

4. Baniyas and Bohras traded with the ports of Red Sea, Persian Gulf, East Africa etc.

5. Murshidabad on the banks of Ravi became capital of Bengal in 1704.

6. Mulla Abdul Ghaffur and Virji Vora owned number of ships.

i. True	ii. False	iii. True	iv. True	v. False	vi. True
---------	-----------	-----------	----------	----------	----------

## Very Short Answer Questions

**1. Name three important centres of trade.**

Three important centres of trade were - Surat, Hampi and Masulipatnam.

**2. Why was Surat so famous?**

Surat was the gateway for trade with West Asia via the Gulf of Ormuz. It has also been called the gateway to Mecca because many pilgrim ships set sail from here. The textiles of Surat were famous for their gold lace borders.

**3. Who were Devadasis?**

Devadasis were the temple dancers who performed in front of the deity, royalty and messes in the pillared hall of Virupaksha temple.

**4. Mention some articles of trades on which temple authorities collected taxes.**

The temple authorities collected taxes on sugar and jaggery, dyes, thread and cotton, coconut, salt, areca nuts, butter, sesame oil and cloth.

**5. Why did the English and the Dutch decide to establish settlements in Masulipatnam?**

The English and the Dutch decided to establish settlements in Masulipatnam because it was the most important port on the Andhra Coast.

**6. Who lived in the 'Black towns' in cities such as Madras?**

Merchants, artisans such as, weavers, native traders and crafts persons lived in the 'Black town'.

**7. In what ways was craft production in cities like Calcutta different from that in cities like Thanjavur?**

The craft production in Thanjavur was in form of inlay work in copper and silver while, in Calcutta (Kolkata) it was in the form of cotton textiles and jute textiles.

## Short Answer Questions

### 1. What is 'Lost Wax' technique?

- (i) In this technique, first an image was made of wax which was covered with clay and allowed to dry.
- (ii) Then it was heated, and a tiny hole was made in the clay cover. The molten was drained out through this hole and molten metal was poured into the clay mould through the hole.
- (iii) When the metal cooled and solidified, the clay cover was removed and the image was cleaned and polished.

### 2. Describe the architecture of Hampi.

- (i) Hampi was a well-fortified city. There was no use of mortar nor cementing done in the construction of walls and the technique followed was to wedge them together by interlocking.
- (ii) The building in the royal complex had splendid arches, domes and pillared halls with niches for holding sculptures.
- (iii) They also had well-planned orchards and pleasure gardens with sculptural motifs such as the lotus and corbels.

### 3. What brought European traders to India?

In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, European countries were searching for spices and textiles, which had become popular both in Europe and West Asia. The East India Companies were formed by English, Dutch and French in order to expand their commercial activities in the East.

Indian traders like Mullah Abdul Ghaffur and Virji Vora who were the owner of large number of ships competed with them but by using the naval power, European Companies gain control on the sea trade and force Indian traders to work as their agents. In the end, the English emerged as the most successful commercial and political power in the subcontinent.

#### 4. How did William Methwold describe Masulipatnam?

William Methwold described Masulipatnam as the major port of Golconda. He described it as a small, but populous, unwallled, ill built town. According to him, it was a poor fisher town with brackish springs. The convenience of road made it a residence for merchants who came to this coast.

#### 5. What attracted European traders towards India?

West coast of India was the home to Arab, Persian, Chinese, Jewish and Syrian Christian traders. Indian spices and cloth were sold in the Red Sea ports. This reached European markets through Italian traders.

This trade was very profitable. Spices like cinnamon, pepper, etc., became an important part of European cooking. This, along with attractive cotton cloth, drew attention of the European traders to India.

#### 6. What types of taxes were collected by the temple authorities?

As per 10<sup>th</sup> century inscription from, Rajasthan the temple authorities collected the following taxes sugar, jaggery, dyes, thread, cotton, coconut, salt, nuts, butter, sesame oil and cloth.

Taxes were collected from traders of gold, distillers, oil, cattle fodder and grain. Only some of the taxes were taken in cash.

#### 7. Describe big and small traders of the medieval period.

Traders Big and Small

- (i) There were many kinds of traders.
- (ii) They included the Banjaras.
- (iii) Several traders, especially horse traders, formed associations, with headmen who negotiated on their behalf with warriors who bought horses.

#### 8. Describe the temple towns in the form of commercial centres.

- (i) Rulers built temples to exhibit their devotion to deities.
- (ii) These temples became central to the economy and society.
- (iii) Rulers endowed these temples with grants of land, money to carry out rituals, feed pilgrims, celebrate festivals.
- (iv) Temple authorities got donations from pilgrims also. This wealth was used to finance trade and banking.

## Long Answer Questions

**Describe Surat as a gateway to the West.**

1. Describe Surat as a gateway to the west.

- (i) Surat in Gujarat was the emporium of western trade during the Mughal period. Surat was the gateway for trade with West Asia via the Gulf of Ormuz. Surat has also been called the 'Gate to Mecca' because many pilgrim ships set sail from here.
- (ii) The city was cosmopolitan and people of all castes and creeds lived there. In the seventeenth century the Portuguese, Dutch and English had their factories and warehouses at Surat.
- (iii) There were also several retailers and wholesalers of cotton textiles. The textiles of Surat were famous for their gold lace borders (zari) and had a market in West Asia, Africa, and Europe.
- (iv) The state built numbers rest-houses to take care of the needs of people from all over the world who came to the city. There were magnificent buildings and innumerable pleasure parks.
- (v) The Kathiawad seths or mahajans (money changers) had huge banking houses at Surat. It is remarkable that the Surat hundis were honoured in the far-off markets of Cairo in Egypt, Basra in Iraq and Antwerp in Belgium.

**2. Give an account of Masulipatnam.**

The town of Masulipatnam or Masulipatnam (literally, fish port town) lay on the delta of the Krishna river. As Masulipatnam became the most important port on the Andhra coast so both the Dutch and English East India Companies attempted to control it. The fort at Masulipatnam was built by the Dutch.

To prevent the trade passing completely into the hands of the various East India Companies, the Outb Shahi ruler of Golconda imposed royal monopolies on the sale of textiles, spices and other items.



Fierce competition among various trading groups – the Golconda nobles, Persian merchants, Telugu Komati Chettis, and European traders made the city popular and prosperous.

In 1686-1687 Mughal Emperor Aurungzeb annexed Golconda. This caused the European Companies to look for alternatives.

As the Company traders moved to Bombay, Calcutta (present – day Kolkata) and Madras (Present-day-Chennai), Masulipatnam lost both its merchants and prosperity and finally declined in the eighteenth century. Now it is not more than a dilapidated little town.

### **3. How did Kabul become commercially and politically important from 16<sup>th</sup> century onwards?**

i) Kabul became commercially and politically important from 16<sup>th</sup> century onwards because along with Kandahar it was linked to the “Silk Route”.

ii) Trade in horses was mainly carried through this route.

iii) Camels carried dry fruits, carpets, Silk, dates and fruits from Kabul to the subcontinent.

iv) Slaves were also brought over here for sale.

### **4. How did the English traders emerge as most successful commercial and political power of the subcontinent?**

i) In the sixteenth and seventeenth century, European countries were in search of spices and textiles.

ii) These commodities had become very popular both in Europe and West Asia.

iii) The English, Dutch and French formed East India Companies to expand their commercial activities in the east.

iv) Great Indian traders like Mullah Abdul Ghaffur and Virji Vora owned a large number of ships

v) In the beginning they completed rigidly with them.

vi) The European companies used their naval power to gain control of the sea trade and forced the Indian traders to work as their agents.

vii) Eventually, the English emerged as the most successful commercial and political power in the subcontinent.