

# Grade 6 History

## Chapter - 2

From Hunting- Gathering to growing  
food

### Questions & Answers

### (Solved Exercise)

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**Q1. Complete the sentences:**

- a) **Hunter-gatherers chose to live in caves and rock shelters because** they provided them with shelter from the rain, heat and wind.
- b) **Grasslands developed around 12,000 years ago.**
- c) **Early people painted on the walls of caves.**
- d) **In Hunsgi, tools were made of limestone.**

**Q2. Why do people who grows crops have to stay in same place for a long time?**

**Ans.** People who grows crops have to stay in same place for a long time because when people began growing plants, it meant that they had to stay in the same place for a long time looking after the plants, watering, weeding, driving away animals and birds- till the grain ripened.

**Q3. Why do archaeologists think that many people who lived in Mehrgarh were hunters to start with and that herding became more important later?**

**Ans.** Archaeologists have found many animal bones at this site. Bones of wild animals such as the deer and pig, and also bones of sheep and goat were found.

Mehrgarh was probably one of the places where people learnt to grow barley and wheat, and rear sheep and goats for the first time in this area.

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**Q4. Why did the hunter- gatherers travel from place to place? In what ways are these similar to/ different from the reasons for which we travel today?**

**Ans.** Hunter-gatherers travelled from place to place because: If they stayed in one place, they would have exhausted all the plant and animal resources that were available there. Animals moved in search of food and so those who hunted them down had to follow their movements. Both plants and trees bear fruit in different seasons so the hunter-gatherer's needed to move to find different fruits. Finally, they moved in search of water because of some lakes or rivers being seasonal. They may also have travelled to meet friends and relatives. Now-a-days, we do not travel in search of food and water but we do travel to meet our friends and relatives. We also travel to reach our schools, our places of work, people travel for trade, business, leisure and several other reasons.

**Q5. List three ways in which hunter- gatherers used fire. Would you use fire for any of these purposes today?**

**Ans.** The three ways in which the hunter - gatherers used fire were: As a source of light, to roast meat and cook food, to scare away animals and to warm themselves up during winters. Fire now-a-days is used to cook food and also to keep us warm. It is also used by many for religious purposes.

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**Q6. List three ways in which the lives of farmers and herders would have been different from that of hunter-gatherers?**

**Ans. Life of hunter-gatherers**

They hunted wild animals, caught fish and birds, gathered fruits, roots, nuts, seeds, leaves, stalks, and eggs.

Moved from place to place in search of food and water.

People made and used tools of stone, wood and bone, of which stone tools have survived best.

**Life of farmers and herders**

Grow crops and that's why had to stay in the same place for a long time looking after the plants, watering, weeding, driving away animals and birds- till the grain ripened.

Domesticated and protected the animals from other wild animals like sheep, goat, etc.

Lives in huts or houses, build pit- houses which were dug into the ground, with steps leading into them.

Make cooking hearths both inside and outside hearth to cook food indoor as well as outdoor.

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**Q7. List two tasks that are performed by both men and women at present. List another two that are performed only by women, and two that are performed only by men. Compare your list with that of any two of your classmates. Do you notice any similarities/differences in your lists?**

**Ans.** Two tasks that are performed by both men and women-

Doctors and engineers

Two tasks that are only done by men are-

Mining work and shipyard activities

Two tasks that are only done by women are-

Given birth to a child and breast feeding. (the comparison cannot be done here).

**Q8. List the cereals that you eat. Do you grow the cereals you eat? If yes, draw a chart to show the stages in growing them. If not, draw a chart to show how these cereals reach you from the farmers who grow them.**

**Ans.** Rice, wheat, jowar, ragi, millets.

The farmers grow the cereals. The various steps involve are as following:

- (i) First of all, ploughing the field and putting some manure as per requirement of the field.
- (ii) Sowing the seeds properly.
- (iii) At the proper time irrigating the fields.
- (iv) Harvesting the crop.
- (v) Lastly, storing them in the sheds.

The cereals reach the people from the farmers. The required chart is shown below:

The crops are purchased by middle man or the agent of merchant from the farmers.

The middle man or the agent bring it to the cities.

They sell them to the wholesale merchant.

The whole sale merchant supply this to the retailer.

We buy it from the shops, either from retailer or wholesale merchant.