

1. Fill in the blank.
  - a. The Aryans were originally a nomadic tribe of central Asia.
  - b. The Aryans first settled down in India in the saptasindhu region.
  - c. The senani was the commander in chief, who assisted the rajan.
  - d. A vis was group of village, headed by the vispati.
  - e. The Varna system was the Aryan system of dividing the members of society on the basis of occupation.
2. Answer the following questions in brief.
  - a. Name the four parts of Vedas.  
Ans. **Rigeda, Samaveda, Yajurveda, Atharvaveda.**
  - b. Who was kulapa?  
Ans. The oldest man in the family was the head of the family and was known as kulapa.
  - c. What do you understand by the patriarchal family?  
Ans. In patriarchal society system, the head of the family is always a male member.
  - d. Name two forms of recreation in early Vedic age.  
Ans. Chariot racing and hunting were popular recreation during early Vedic age.
  - e. What was the importance of Agni in the early Vedic religious beliefs?  
Ans. Agni is the god of fire, he was considered to the messenger who carried the prayers of humans to gods in the form of sacrificial smoke.
3. Answer the following questions in detail.
  - a. What was the position of the king in the early Vedic period?  
Ans. The kings were called Kshatriyas. They were warriors. They were responsible for the protection of the tribe from the attack of outsiders. The king belonged to this category. The kshatriyas also had a powerful position in society, though there was a lower status than the Brahmans.
  - b. In the early Vedic society, women had a respectable position. Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer.  
Ans. In the Vedic society, a girl child was not neglected, but the desire to be blessed with a male child was always strong. They were provided with education. We come across the names of some important female scholars who composed Vedic hymns and received the position of rishis. They were members of sabha and samiti. Wives used to take part in the religious ceremonies with their husbands. They could choose their husbands.
  - c. Write short note on Varna system in the early Vedic period.  
Ans. in the early Vedic society was divided on the basis of occupations of the people. They were grouped as Brahmans, Kshatriyas, Vishays, and Shudras. The Brahmans were the scholars and priests. They performed religious ceremonies and imparted education. The Kshatriyas were warriors. They were responsible for the protection of the tribe from the attack of outsiders. The vaishyas were farmers, artisans, and traders. The shudras served the other three upper classes.

d. The early Vedic civilization was a rural civilization. Justify.

Ans. The early Vedic civilization was a rural civilization. People lived in villages. They used to live in huts made of timber, bamboo, and thatch. Their main occupation was agriculture and animal rearing. They used to live in tribes. Their economic life was mostly depending on cattle rearing. For trade barter was the mode of exchange. This all proves that early Vedic age was rural civilization.

e. Write a note on the religious lives of the early Aryans.

Ans. the Aryans worshipped many gods and goddesses who were considered to be the many forms of lone Supreme Being. These gods and goddesses were associated with various natural phenomena. Most of the deities were male, though some female deities were also worshipped. Indra, the god of rain. Agni, the god of fire. Varuna, the god who upholder of cosmic order. There were no temples or idols. The yajnas were performed for long life, good health, cattle and the birth of a son.

Assignment: page 51 section B and C.

1. Write short note on food and dress code of early Vedic age.