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<b>CLASS: VI</b>	<b>SUB: SOCIAL SCIENCE</b>	<b>TOPIC: HISTORY</b>	<b>CH-4</b>
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**2026-27**

**THEME B: TAPEST OF THE PAST**

**TIMELINE AND SOURCES OF HISTORY**

**Tick (✓) the correct option:**

1. Which of the following includes the study of the structure, components and history of the Earth? **Geology**
2. Which of the following is the period consisting of 100 years? **Century**
3. The period that does not have any written records is known as: **Prehistory**
4. Which of the following types of coins were issued by the Kushana kings?  
**Gold coins**
5. Which of the following is a Sutra? **Bharma**

**B. Write 'T' for true and 'F' for false statements:**

1. In the beginning, humans lived as nomads. **True**
2. The most common language used in Ancient India was Hindi. **False**
3. The era of the Puranas came after the end of the Vedic period and provides information about the Vedic age. **True**
4. Artefacts are human-made objects that help us understand the lives and occupations of the people in historical periods. **True**
5. The oldest inscriptions date back to the reign of the ruler, Chandragupta.  
**False**

**C. Answer the following questions in brief:**

1. **Define the following:**

- a) **Archaeology-** Archaeology is the study of past human life through analysing the material remains, such as artefacts, monuments, inscriptions, etc.
- b) **Era-** It is a specific period in history marked by the beginning of a significant event, the rule of a notable person or development.

2. **Discuss the importance of coins as a source of history.**

Coins hold great significance in retrieving information about the economy, trade and commerce and political history during historical periods. Historians study the material, shape, composition, content and technology involved in the making of the coins to understand the economic and technical development of a specific period.

3. **What are monuments? Name the different architectural styles found in India.**

Monuments are ancient buildings and structures are also a great source of historical information.

In India, three major types of ancient temple architecture are seen:

- Nagara Style: In north India
- Dravida Style: In south India
- Vasara Style: In central India and Deccan

4. **What is secular literature? Give any two examples.**

Secular literature, also known as non-religious literature, encompasses writings on themes such as politics, language, medicine, science, administration, etc. Two examples of secular literature are as follows:

- Arthaśāstra
- Indica

**D. Answer the following questions in detail:**

1. **Discuss the importance of history.**

The following points explain the importance of studying history:

- By studying history, we learn to understand and analyse the facts critically before accepting them as truth.

- The evidence provided by history can be evaluated to gain a clearer understanding of the past.
- The study of history gives us insight into people's traditions, beliefs and cultural values. We can develop a deeper connection with our past and culture by studying history.
- It allows us to learn from the successes and failures of the past, and can bring inspiration to deal with challenges in our lives.

## **2. Name and explain the different periods of history.**

History is categorised into three main periods for study purposes: Prehistory, Protohistory and History.

- Prehistory- Prehistory, also known as pre-literary history, is the period before the invention of writing. Due to the absence of any written records, we rely on the study of archaeological sources to learn about this period.
- Protohistory- Protohistory is the period that has some written records, which cannot be read easily. They are either not fully deciphered or are limited in number. Thus, to gather information about this period, we rely on both archaeological sources and the few available deciphered records.
- History- History is the period that begins with the invention of writing. People of this period recorded information about their lives, events, and cultures. Thus, we have many written records to reveal information about this period.

## **3. What are archaeological sources? Name any two sources and explain their relevance.**

Archaeological sources are regarded as the most valuable tools for gathering historical information as they offer direct and tangible evidence from the past. Some important archaeological sources include coins, inscriptions, monuments and artefacts.

- Inscriptions- The writings carved on walls, stones, clay tablets, caves, artefacts and monuments of historical importance are called

inscriptions. They are one of the most reliable sources of history because they provide direct records from the past.

- Artefacts- Artefacts include human-made objects, like pottery, seals, tools, toys, jewels, etc. Archaeologists discover various artefacts at different excavation sites and places to understand the lives and occupation of people from specific historical periods

**4. What do understand by religious literature? Explain.**

Religious literature consists of written records that mainly deal with religious themes, practices and ideas. The most significant religious literature in India includes the Vedas, Sūtras, Smrtis, Epics, Purānas, Jain Agamas and Buddhist Tripitakas.