

Topic - "Chapter - 2"

The Stone Age

Good Morning students,

Today we are going to set our focus on the topic - "The Stone Age", Chapter 2 starting on page number - 12 of your text book titled - Time Trek- 5.

All the students may kindly "open page number - 12 of your text books and be ready with your History and Civics Notebooks for writing the questions which will be asked during the short breaks. So, Dear students kindly pay attention as I am going to explain the topic.

The Stone Age :- The time period in history when early human used stone to make their tools, is known as the Stone Age. It lasted for more than 3 million years. It is divided into the following broad categories based on the types of stone tools used.

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|---|---|
| • Palaeolithic Age or Old Stone Age | • Neolithic Age or New Stone Age |
| • Mesolithic Age or Middle Stone Age | • Chalcolithic Age or Copper and Stone Age |

Let us discuss -

PALAEOLITHIC AGE

(500,000 BC - 10,000 BC)

It is also called Old Stone Age.

The Palaeolithic Age is the earliest stage of human development. The term Palaeolithic is derived from two Greek words, namely, 'Palaeo' meaning Old and 'Lithos' meaning stone. These humans used their enlarged brains and flexible hands so that their lives become better and secure.

Main features of the Palaeolithic Age :-

1) Stone Tools :- The Palaeolithic humans were the first to make stone tools. They shaped large stones into different gears such as hammers, scrapers and axe-head. They used these tools for cutting trees, digging up roots, killing and skinning animals and even chopping meat.



Fig. 2.1: The Palaeolithic tools

2) Food :- The Palaeolithic humans were hunter-gatherers. This means that they hunted wild animals, caught fish and birds and gathered fruits, roots, nuts, eggs etc.

3. Shelter :- The Palaeolithic humans did not build houses. For shelter, they lived either on treetops or in caves to protect themselves from wild animals, elements of nature and severe weather conditions.

4. Clothing :- They wore barks of trees, leaves and animal skin to guard themselves against heat, cold and rain. Gradually, they used bone needles to stitch animal skins and made clothes.

5. Social life :- They led a nomadic life. They did not settle in one particular place. They moved from one place to another in search of food and shelter. They lived in small groups to protect themselves from wild animals.



Early men

6. Economic life :- Hunting and food gathering were the main occupations of the Palaeolithic humans.

7. Cave Paintings :- Another ^{unique} feature of the Palaeolithic Age was cave paintings. They created paintings on the walls of the caves depicting wild animals and hunting scenes. These paintings were drawn with great accuracy and skills.



: Hunting scene painted on the cave wall

8. Discovery of Fire :- The most significant finding

by the Palaeolithic humans and use of fire. At seemed to have natural fire caused or forest fire. Later, found that rubbing



was the discovery first, they experienced by lightning they two day

stones together produced fire. The use of fire provided light and kept warm. It also helped them in cooking their food. They kept a fire burning at the entrance of the caves to scare away the wild animals.

So, now students as we have read a small part of this chapter, so we will recount the topic by means of a short test. I will read out the questions and you may pause the lesson for three minutes and try to write the answers in your History and Civics Notebooks.

Ques-1. Which Age is the earliest period of human development?

Ques-2. Write the four periods of Stone Age.

Ques-3. What was the most significant finding of the Palaeolithic humans?

Let us discuss the answers now :-

Ans-1. Stone Age.

Ans-2. 1) Palaeolithic Period 2) Mesolithic Period
3) Neolithic Period 4) Chalcolithic Period

Ans-3. Discovery of fire.

With this, I conclude today's interactive session.

Thank you.