

Prehistoric period Questions

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**Question 1:**[View this Question Online >](#)

The first Neolithic culture in Bihar was found at-

1. Chirand
2. Chechar
3. Maner
4. More than one of the above
5. None of the above

Answer (Detailed Solution Below)

Option 1 : Chirand

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Prehistoric period Question 1 Detailed Solution

The correct answer is **Chirand**.

Key Points

- The **neolithic culture is dated between 2500-1500 B.C.**
- The first Neolithic culture in the Ganga valley was found at **Chirand** on the left bank Ganga in the Saran district near the confluence of Ganga and Ghagra.
- Neolithic culture has also been found at Chechar (Vaishali), Senuwar (Rohtas), Maner (Patna) Taradih (Bodh Gaya) and Barudih (Singhbhum).
- They used, besides polished stone tools, a variety of antler bone tools, a speciality of Chirand.
- They manufactured various kinds of beads from semi-precious stones like **agate, jasper, and carnelian**.

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Question 2:

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Which of the followings was NOT a Harappan city?

1. Lothal

2. Dholavira
3. Mehrgarh
4. More than one of the above
5. None of the above

Answer (Detailed Solution Below)

Option 3 : Mehrgarh

Prehistoric period Question 2 Detailed Solution

The correct answer is Mehrgarh

- Mehrgarh is a neolithic site located near the Bolan pass on the Kacchi Plain of Balochistan, Pakistan, to the west of the Indus River Valley.
- It is the earliest known neolithic site in the Northwest Indian sub-continent, with early evidence of farming (wheat and barley), herding (cattle, sheep, and goats), and metallurgy.
- The oldest known example of the wax-lost techniques comes from a 6000-year-old wheel-shaped copper amulet found at Mehrgarh.

| Harappan sites | Major findings |
|-----------------------|---|
| Lothal (Gujarat) | Dockyard, graveyard, a port town, rice husk, etc |
| Dholavira (Gujarat) | Dams, embankments, giant water reservoirs, stadiums, etc. |
| Sokhta koh (Pakistan) | Remnants of settlements. |

Indus Valley Civilisation
- Mature Phase -
(c. 260-190 BCE)



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Question 3:

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Which of the following Harappan sites shows evidence of the presence of 'dockyard'?

1. Lothal
2. Kalibanga
3. Ropar
4. More than one of the above
5. None of the above

Answer (Detailed Solution Below)

Option 1 : Lothal

Prehistoric period Question 3 Detailed Solution

The correct answer is **Lothal**.

Key Points

Lothal:

- The city stood beside a tributary of the **Sabarmati**, in Gujarat, close to the **Gulf of Khambat**.
- It was situated near areas where raw materials such as **semi-precious stones** were easily available.
- This was an important centre for making objects out of stone, shell, and metal.
- There was also a storehouse in the city.
- Many **seals and sealings** (the impression of seals on clay) were found in this storehouse.
- A **dockyard** is found at Lothal.

Additional Information

• **Mohenjo-Daro:-**

- Mohenjo-Daro was one of the most important sites of **Harappan city**.
- Mohenjo Daro signified the “**Mound of the dead**” and Mohenjo Daro was referred best the known Indus site.
- It is situated in Sindh, Pakistan, next to the Indus River.

• **Banawali**

- Banawali site was excavated by **R.S.Bist in 1973 in Fatehabad**, Haryana.
- The **Replica of the plough** was a field found in the Banawali district.
- The clay figure of the mother goddess was also found there.

• **Mehrgarh**

- Mehrgarh site is one of the **Neolithic sites**.
- This site is now situated in **Pakistan**.
- The site of Mehrgarh has produced evidence of early Neolithic times, dating to **c. 7000 BCE**.

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& Quizzes[Download App](#)**Question 4:**[View this Question Online >](#)

Which of the followings was NOT a Harappan city?

1. Lothal
2. Dholavira
3. Mehrgarh
4. Sokhta koh
5. None of the above

Answer (Detailed Solution Below)

Option 3 : Mehrgarh

Prehistoric period Question 4 Detailed SolutionThe correct answer is **Mehrgarh****Key Points:**

- Mehrgarh is a **neolithic site** located near the Bolan pass on the Kacchi Plain of **Balochistan, Pakistan**, to the west of the Indus River Valley.
- It is the earliest known neolithic site in the Northwest Indian sub-continent, with **early evidence of farming (wheat and barley), herding (cattle, sheep, and goats), and metallurgy**.
- The **oldest known example of the wax-lost techniques** comes from a 6000-year-old wheel-shaped copper amulet found at Mehrgarh.

**Additional Information**

| Harappan sites | Major findings |
|-----------------------|---|
| Lothal (Gujarat) | Dockyard, graveyard, a port town, rice husk, etc |
| Dholavira (Gujarat) | Dams, embankments, giant water reservoirs, stadiums, etc. |
| Sokhta koh (Pakistan) | Remnants of settlements. |

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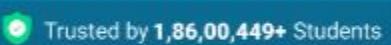
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Question 5:

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At which of the following ancient Indian sites was the first astronomical observatory of the Harappan civilisation found?

1. Dholavira
2. Lothal
3. Dabarkot
4. More than one of the above
5. None of the above

Answer (Detailed Solution Below)

Option 1 : Dholavira

Prehistoric period Question 5 Detailed Solution

The correct answer is **Dholavira**.

Key Points

- The **first astronomical observatory** related to the Harappan civilization was **found at Dholavira in the Kutch district of Gujarat**.
- Scientists identified two circular structures used for observational astronomy during the Harappan Civilisation.
- **Dholavira is the larger of the two most remarkable excavations of the Indus Valley Civilization or Harappan culture.**



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Question 6

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Which of the following Harappan sites is in Haryana?

1. Rakhigarhi

2. Dholavira

3. Lothal

4. Kalibangan

Answer (Detailed Solution Below)

Option 1 : Rakhigarhi

Prehistoric period Question 6 Detailed Solution

The correct answer is **Rakhigarhi**.

Key Points

- **Rakhigarhi site** of Indus valley civilisation situated at Rakhigarhi village in **Hisar district**.
- The site is located in the **Sarasvati river plain**, some 27 km from the seasonal **Ghaggar river**.
- The Global Heritage Fund declared Rakhigarhi one of the 10 most endangered heritage sites in Asia.
- A team of **Indian and South Korean researchers** carried out excavations in Rakhigarhi.
- The team unearthed a **fire altar, parts of a city wall, drainage structures** as well as a hoard of semi-precious beads.

Additional Information

Important Sites of Harappan Civilization:

| Site | Location | River |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|---------|
| Harappa | Sahiwal, Punjab (Pakistan) | Ravi |
| Mohenjodaro | Larkana, Sindh (Pakistan) | Indus |
| Chanhudaro | Nawabshah, Sindh (Pakistan) | Indus |
| Lothal | Ahmedabad, Gujrat (India) | Bhogava |
| Kalibangan | Hanumangarh, Rajasthan | Ghaggar |
| Banawali | Fatehabad, Haryana | Ghaggar |
| Dholavira | Kutchh, Gujarat | Luni |

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The dockyard was found in which of the following sites of Indus valley civilization?

1. Chanhudaro

2. Lothal

3. Kalibangan

4. Banawali

Answer (Detailed Solution Below)

Option 2 : Lothal

Prehistoric period Question 7 Detailed Solution

The correct answer is **Lothal**.

Key Points

- In Lothal Dockyard was found.
- **List of Important sites with their features:**

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Harappa (Pakistan) Located on the bank of the Ravi river. Discovered by Daya Ram Sahini in 1921.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1st discovered site• 2 rows of 6 granaries• Sandstone statues of Human anatomy• Bullock carts• Coffin burials |
| <p>Mohenjodaro (Pakistan) Located on the bank of the Indus river. Discovered in Larkana District Of Sind by R. D Banerjee in 1922.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Great Bath (Largest Brick Work)• Great Granary (Largest Building)• Impressive drainage system• The bronze image of a dancing girl• Image of steatite |

| | |
|---|--|
| Mohenjodaro means "Mount of the dead". Also called an oasis of Sindh. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> bearded man Piece of woven cotton Seal of Pashupati Skeletons on stairs of well |
|---|--|

| | |
|--|--|
| Chanhudaro (Pakistan) Located on the bank of the Indus river. Discovered by NG Majumdar. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lancashire of India The only city without a citadel Bangles Factory Beads Factory |
|--|--|

| | |
|---|---|
| Dholavira (Gujarat) Located on the bank of Luni river. In Rann of Kutch. Discovered by JP Joshi. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exclusive water management. |
|---|---|

| | |
|---|---|
| Banawali (Fatehabad) Located on the bank of the Ghaggar river Discovered by RS Bisht. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beads Barley |
|---|---|

| | |
|--|---|
| Rakhigarhi (Hissar) Located on the bank of the Ghaggar river. Discovered By Vasant Shinde. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biggest site of Indus valley civilization |
|--|---|

| | |
|---|---|
| Sutkagendor (Pakistan) Baluchistan on Dast river. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Between Harappa and Babylon |
|---|---|

| | |
|---|--|
| Lothal (Gujarat) Located on the bank of the Bhogwa river . | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It has an artificial Brick dockyard. It has evidence of the earliest cultivation of Rice. It served as a seaport for Indus Valley People. |
|---|--|



- The Indus Valley Civilization was spread from present-day North-East Afghanistan to Pakistan and North-West India.
- The civilization flourished in the river basins of the Ghaggar-Hakra river and the Indus.
- Indus valley civilization is one of the four oldest civilizations in the world.
- It is also known as Harappan Civilization and is well-known for its organized planning based on the grid system.

Important facts to be remembered.

• Social features:-

- Indus valley civilization is the first urbanization in India.
- It has a well-planned drainage system, grid pattern, and town planning.
- They have possessed equality in society.

• Religious Facts:-

- Matrudevi or Shakti is the Mother goddess.
- Yoni worship and Nature worship existed.
- They worshipped trees like Peepal.
- They also worshipped Fire worship called Havan Kund.
- Pashupati Mahadeva is known as the lord of Animals.
- The people of the Indus Valley Civilization worshipped Animal worship like unicorns and ox.

• Economic facts:-

- Indus valley civilization is based on agriculture.
- Trade and commerce flourished in this period.
- A dockyard has been found at Lothal.
- There were export and import.
- Production of cotton was there.
- At Lothal, weights and measures of truth existed in Harappan culture was seen.
- The weights and were usually cubical in shape and were made of limestone, steatite, etc

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Question 8

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Which of the followings was NOT a Harappan city?

1. Lothal

2. Dholavira

3. Mehrgarh

4. Sokhta koh

Answer (Detailed Solution Below)

Option 3 : Mehrgarh

Prehistoric period Question 8 Detailed Solution

The correct answer is **Mehrgarh**

Key Points:

- **Mehrgarh** is a **neolithic site** located near the Bolan pass on the Kacchi Plain of **Balochistan, Pakistan**, to the west of the Indus River Valley.
- It is the earliest known neolithic site in the Northwest Indian sub-continent, with **early evidence of farming (wheat and barley), herding (cattle, sheep, and goats), and metallurgy**.
- The **oldest known example of the wax-lost techniques** comes from a 6000-year-old wheel-shaped copper amulet found at Mehrgarh.

Additional Information

| Harappan sites | Major findings |
|-----------------------|---|
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| Dholavira (Gujarat) | Dams, embankments, giant water reservoirs, stadiums, etc. |
| Sokhta koh (Pakistan) | Remnants of settlements. |

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Which of the following sites of Indus valley civilization is not on the bank of river Indus ?

1. Chanhudaro
2. Mohenjodaro
3. Ropar
4. Kot-Diji

Answer (Detailed Solution Below)

Option 3 : Ropar

Prehistoric period Question 9 Detailed Solution

The correct answer is **Ropar**.

Key Points

Given below is the list of Important Indus Valley civilization sites, year of excavation and River associated-

| SITE | YEAR | RIVER |
|--------------|------|--------------------------------|
| Harappa | 1921 | Ravi |
| Mohenjo-Daro | 1922 | Indus |
| Sutkagendor | 1929 | Dast |
| Chanhudaro | 1931 | Indus |
| Kalibangan | 1953 | Ghaggar |
| Lothal | 1953 | Bhogva |
| Dholavira | 1985 | Rivers of Kutch and Luni Basin |
| Surkotada | 1972 | Sabarmati and Bhogavo |
| Banawali | 1973 | Saraswati |

| | | |
|----------|------|-------------|
| Ropar | 1953 | Sutlej |
| Kot Diji | 1955 | Indus River |

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Question 10

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In which year was the Harappan civilization first discovered?

1. 1905

2. 1921

3. 1926

4. 1932

Answer (Detailed Solution Below)

Option 2 : 1921

Prehistoric period Question 10 Detailed Solution

The Correct Answer is 1921.

Key Points

- Harappa was an Indus civilization urban centre.
- It lies in Punjab Province, Pakistan, on an old bank/bed of the River Ravi.
- Harappa was the first site of the civilization to be excavated in 1921.

- The excavation team was led by Daya Ram Sahni.

Important Points

- Mohenjo-Daro was discovered in 1922 by R. D. Banerji.

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Question 11

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Which is the only Harappan site city without a Citadel?

- Lothal
- Ropar
- Chanhudaro
- Alamgirpur

Answer ([Detailed Solution Below](#))

Option 3 : Chanhudaro

Prehistoric period Question 11 Detailed Solution

The correct answer is Chanhudaro.

Key Points

- The Harappan site of Chanhudaro was excavated by N.G. Mazumdar in 1931.
- Chanhudaro is located near the banks of the river Indus.
- Chanhudaro is located near Mohenjodaro in present-day Sindh, Pakistan.

- Chanhudaro was the only Harappan city without a citadel.
- Beads factory was found.
- Evidence of human sacrifice was found here.
- Chanhudaro didn't have any fortified structure.

Additional Information

| | |
|------------|--|
| Lothal | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discovered by S. R. Rao in 1954 • Located on the Bhogava and Sabarmati river Confluence. • Presence of Dockyard. • Houses with entrances on the main street. • Evidence of double burial was found. |
| Ropar | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discovered by Y. D. Sharma • Modern-day Punjab, India • On the banks of the river Sutlej • Evidence of dog burial below human burial is found. • Houses were made of stone and mud. |
| Alamgirpur | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discovered by Y. D. Sharma in 1958. • Modern-day Meerut, Uttar Pradesh. • On the banks of river Hindon. • Evidence of Late Harappan Culture. • It is the easternmost point of the Harappan Civilization. |

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Who among the following was the first to use the term 'Indus Civilization'?

1. Rakhaldas Bandopadhyay



2. Dayaram Sahni

3. R. S. Bisht

4. John Marshall

Answer (Detailed Solution Below)

Option 4 : John Marshall

Prehistoric period Question 12 Detailed Solution

- **John Marshall** was the first scholar who used the term '**Indus Civilization**' for the Harappa Civilization.
- The time period of this civilization was 2500 BC - 1750 BC.
- This civilization was mainly known for its great urban planning and sewage system.
- Rakhaldas Bandopadhyay was known for discovering the site of Mohenjodaro whereas Dayaram Sahni was known for his discovery of Harappa.
- RS Bisht discovered the Indus Valley Civilization site Banawali in 1973.

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Question 13

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Couple burial was found in which of the following Harappan sites?

1. Mohenjodaro

2. Harappa

3. Chanhudado

4. Lothal

Answer (Detailed Solution Below)

Option 4 : Lothal

Prehistoric period Question 13 Detailed Solution

The correct answer is **Lothal**.

Key Points

- **Couple burial** was found from **Lothal** at the Harappan sites.
- Lothal was one of the southernmost city of the ancient Indus valley civilisation located in the **Bhal region of Gujarat**.
- Burial or interment is the ritual act of placing a dead person or animals, sometimes with objects, into the ground.

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Question 14

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Match the following Pairs:

| | Findings | Harappan Site |
|----|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. | Plough Field | A Mohanjodaro |
| 2. | No Citadel | B Chahundaro |
| 3. | Bones of horse | C Kalibangan |
| 4. | Lower town fortified | D Surkotda |

1. 1-C, 2-B, 3-A, 4-D

2. 1-B, 2-C, 3-D, 4-A

3. 1-C, 2-B, 3-D, 4-A

4. 1-B, 2-C, 3-A, 4-D

Answer (Detailed Solution Below)

Option 3 : 1-C, 2-B, 3-D, 4-A

Prehistoric period Question 14 Detailed Solution

The correct answer is **1-C, 2-B, 3-D, 4-A.**

Key Points

• Kalibangan:

- Kalibangan is an archaeological site at **Hanumangarh** in **Rajasthan** near the **Ghaggar** river.
- **Plough field, fire altars, bones of camel, burial in the circular and rectangular grave** is found here.

• Chahundaro:

- Chahundaro is an archaeological site at Sindh in Pakistan near the **Indus** river.
- we can find a **bead factory and ornaments** here which points towards good craftsmen in this area.
- **No fortified structure in this place.**
- It is the **only Harappan city without a Citadel and evidence of human sacrifice** is available here.

• Surkotda:

- Surkotda is an Indus Valley Civilisation archaeological site located in Rapar Taluka of Kutch district, Gujarat.
- It is a smaller fortified Indus Valley Civilisation site with 1.4 hectares (3.5 acres) in area.
- **Bones of horse and graveyard** are found at **Surkotda in Gujarat.**

• Mohenjodaro:

- It is a **planned settlement that is divided** into **two sections**, one smaller but **higher (Citadel)** and the other much larger but lower (**Lower Town**).
- The **Citadel** owes its **height** to the fact that **buildings were constructed on mud-brick platforms.**
 - It was **walled**, which meant that it was **physically separated from the Lower Town.**
 - It had **structures** that were probably used for **special public purposes.**
- The **Lower Town was also walled**. Several buildings were **built on platforms**, which served as **foundations**

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Question 15

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Indus valley Civilization is a:

1. Copper Age Civilization
2. Iron Age Civilization
3. Axial Age Civilization
4. Bronze Age Civilization

Answer (Detailed Solution Below)

Option 4 : Bronze Age Civilization

Prehistoric period Question 15 Detailed Solution

The correct answer is **Bronze Age Civilization**.

Key Points

- John Marshall was the first researcher to use the term, 'Indus Valley Civilization'.
- Indus Valley Civilization spread from the year **2500 – 1750 BC** according to radio-carbon dating.
- Indus Valley Civilization is **Bronze Age Civilization**.
- The most distinctive feature of the Harappan Civilization was its urbanization.
- Moreover, sheep and goats, dogs, humped cattle buffalo, and elephants were domesticated in the Indus Valley Civilization.

Additional Information

Some important features of architectures in the Indus Valley Civilization :

- **Urban Cities** - Remarkable town planning, and an excellent system of drainage and sanitation.
- **Large cities divided into two parts-The 'Citadel' mound built on the high podium of mud-brick to the west. The town to the east was the main hub of the residential area, which was also surrounded by a massive brick wall.**
- **Streets**-Fine drainage system, Well-arranged water supply system, The street lights system, Watch and ward arrangement during the night to oust the lawbreakers, Particular places to throw thrash and waste material, Public wells in every street, Well in every house, Main streets varying for 9 feet to as wide as 30-34 feet and were divided into networks of narrow lanes with great skills of dividing the cities.
- **Building Materials**-No stone-built house in the Indus cities and the staircases of big buildings were solid; the roofs were flat and were made of wood.
- **Material used**-Burnt bricks and Sun-dried bricks
- **Drainage System**-Advanced drainage and sanitation system. Each house had horizontal and vertical drains and the house drains were connected with road drains. There were underground drains for the streets and there drains were shielded by stone slabs. Bricks were used to make the soak pits.
- **Great Granary**-Great granary at Harappa measuring 169 fit x 135 fits. Attached to the granary were two-roomed tenements with a common courtyard.
- **Great Bath**-The overall dimension of the Great Public Bath is 180 feet by 108 feet. The bathing pool measured about 39 feet by 23 feet with 8 feet depth. There is a device to fill and empty the water of the bathing pool and the bathing pools were encircled with galleries and rooms.
- **The urban planning of the Harappan has become a landmark for contemporary civilization** and we can get a hint of the modern-day swimming pools and storehouses from their concept of bathing pools and granaries.
- Overall the Harappa town **planning was very scientific and clearly indicates that the Harappan were chiefly urban people.**

Important Points

Name of the major cities are given below:

- Mohenjodaro (Sind)-It is located on the right bank of the Indus.
- Kalibangan (Rajasthan)-It was on the banks of the river Ghaggar river.
- Chanhudaro - It lies on the left bank of the Indus in the south of Mohenjodaro.
- Lothal(Gujarat) - It is located at the head of the Gulf of Cambay.
- Surkotada (Gujarat) - It is at the head of the Rann of Kutch.
- Banawali (Haryana) - It was situated on the banks of the now-extinct Sarasvati.
- Dholavira (Gujarat) - It excavated is in the Kutch district.

Social features-

- Indus valley civilization is the first urbanization in India.
- It has a well-planned drainage system, grid pattern, and town planning.
- They have possessed equality in society.

Religious Facts-

- Matri Devi or Shakti is the Mother goddess.
- Yoni worship and Nature worship existed.
- They worshipped trees like Peepal.
- People also worshipped Fire worship called Havan Kund.
- Pashupati Mahadeva is known as the lord of Animals.
- The people of Indus Valley Civilization worshipped Animal worship like Unicorn and ox.

Economic facts-

- Indus valley civilization is based on agriculture.
- Trade and commerce flourished in this period.
- A dockyard has been found at Lothal.
- There were export and import.
- Production of cotton was there.
- There was also the unit of measurement.
- Weights and measures of truth existed in Harappan culture was seen at Lothal.
- The weights were made of limestone, steatite, etc. and were usually cubical in shape.