**Grade 4 Social Studies – Combined Notes (Chapters 1, 2 & 3)**

**✅ Chapter 1: The Story of the Past**

**✨ Word Meanings**

| **Word** | **Meaning** |
| --- | --- |
| **History** | The study of past events and people. |
| **Famous** | Known by many people. |
| **Ordinary** | Not special; common or regular. |
| **Historian** | A person who studies history. |
| **Period** | A particular length of time; historical periods can last for hundreds of years. |

**❓ Questions & Answers**

1. **What is history?**  
   ✅ *History tells us about the past. All people, places, cities and countries have a history.*
2. **Write three sentences about what we learn in history.**  
   ✅ In history we learn about:  
   A. The events that happened in the past.  
   B. Why the events of the past happened.  
   C. Famous people and the lives of ordinary people who lived in the past.
3. **What is a timeline?**  
   ✅ *A timeline tells us the order in which a particular event happened.*
4. **Why is a timeline important when studying history?**  
   ✅ *It helps us understand when things happened.*
5. **What are the three periods into which history is divided?**  
   ✅  
   A. Ancient History – very old period  
   B. Medieval History – middle period  
   C. Modern History – recent period

**✍ Fill in the Blanks**

1. When we look at old family photographs, we are looking at the **family’s history**.
2. **History** is the study of the past.
3. We learn about **famous** and **ordinary** people in history.
4. History tells us **why** things of the past happened.
5. Historians have divided the past into **different** periods.

**✅ True or False (with corrections)**

1. We learn about what is happening these days. – ❌ False  
   *Corrected:* We learn about the **past** in history.
2. History tells us when and why things happened. – ✅ True
3. Families do not have a history. – ❌ False  
   *Corrected:* **Families** also have a history.
4. Famous and non-famous people are part of history. – ✅ True
5. We learn history for many reasons. – ✅ True

**🔗 Match the Following**

| **A** | **B** |
| --- | --- |
| 1. Time and History | c. Are continuous |
| 2. Famous | d. Known by many people |
| 3. Ordinary | e. Not special |
| 4. Historian | a. A person who studies history |
| 5. Timelines | b. Help us to understand when things happened |

**✅ Chapter 2: Sources of History**

**✨ Word Meanings**

| **Word** | **Meaning** |
| --- | --- |
| **Clue** | Something that helps find the answer or truth. |
| **Artefact** | Tools or objects made by early people. |
| **Archaeology** | The study of the past through objects and remains. |
| **Court** | People who serve or follow a king or prince. |
| **Inscriptions** | Writing on coins, stones, or metal. |
| **Verbally** | Through spoken words. |
| **Preserve** | To keep something safe or in good condition. |

**❓ Questions & Answers**

1. **Why are sources of history important?**  
   ✅ *They help us learn about the past. Experts study these sources to understand old events and people.*
2. **Why are sources like clues?**  
   ✅ *They give us hints about what happened long ago, like a puzzle that historians solve.*
3. **Why do archaeologists use brushes for artefacts?**  
   ✅ *To avoid damaging the artefacts while uncovering them.*
4. **Where did Hiuen Tsang come from and why?**  
   ✅ *He came from China to India to study* ***Buddhism****.*
5. **How is oral information different from written records?**  
   ✅ *Oral sources are spoken stories or songs. Written records are written and sometimes hard to read today.*
6. **Why must we preserve sources of history?**  
   ✅ *Because they tell us about people and events from the past.*

**✍ Fill in the Blanks (Table format)**

| **Type** | **Examples** |
| --- | --- |
| Artefacts & Monuments | Tools, jewellery, coins, buildings |
| Written Records | Books, letters, inscriptions |
| Oral Sources | Songs, stories, poems, folk tales |

**✅ True or False (with corrections)**

1. Old coins are not useful. – ❌ False  
   *Corrected:* Old coins **help historians.**
2. Archaeological remains can be above or below ground. – ✅ True
3. Writings of Babur & Hiuen Tsang give us old info. – ✅ True
4. We can’t read Sanskrit. – ❌ False  
   *Corrected:* **Sanskrit can still be read.**
5. The Vedas help us understand Aryan life. – ✅ True
6. Only important sources should be cared for. – ❌ False  
   *Corrected:* **All historical sources should be preserved.**

**🔗 Match the Following**

| **A** | **B** |
| --- | --- |
| 1. Oral Sources | d. Stories, songs, poems |
| 2. Monuments | c. Old historical buildings |
| 3. Artefacts | b. Tools or dishes made by early people |
| 4. Archaeology | e. Study of artefacts and monuments |
| 5. Inscriptions | a. Writing on stone, rock, or metal |

**📝 MCQs**

1. The earliest coins were – **beautiful gold and silver coins** ✅
2. Buried artefacts must be – **removed carefully** ✅
3. Written records – **may be hard to read** ✅
4. Oral sources are – **only told verbally** ✅

**✅ Chapter 3: Timelines and Calendars**

**✨ Word Meanings**

| **Word** | **Meaning** |
| --- | --- |
| **Gregorian Calendar** | Calendar used all over the world, based on Jesus Christ's birth. |
| **Era** | A long period in history. |

**❓ Questions & Answers**

1. **What is the starting point of the Gregorian calendar?**  
   ✅ *The birth of Jesus Christ.*
2. **Which century are we in now?**  
   ✅ *The 21st century.*
3. **Difference in counting CE and BCE years?**  
   ✅ *CE years move forward from Year 1; BCE years move backward from Year 1.*
4. **Two events from CE years?**  
   ✅  
   A. *Mahatma Gandhi was born – 1869 CE*  
   B. *India got independence – 1947 CE*
5. **One similarity and difference between Gregorian & Saka calendars:**  
   ✅ *Similarity:* Both are based on Earth’s movement around the sun.  
   ✅ *Difference:* Gregorian starts with **January**, Saka starts with **Chaitra**.

**🔗 Match the Following**

| **A** | **B** |
| --- | --- |
| 1. CE | c. Common Era |
| 2. BCE | d. Before Common Era |
| 3. Year 1 | e. Years counted forward or backward from here |
| 4. Gregorian Calendar | a. Used all over the world |
| 5. 21st Century | b. Years start with 20 |

**✅ True or False (with corrections)**

1. Gregorian calendar was finalized in Europe. – ✅ True
2. Jesus Christ’s birth is important in this calendar. – ✅ True
3. CE years are counted **backward**. – ❌ False  
   *Corrected:* **BCE** years are counted backward.
4. Saka calendar is based on the **moon**. – ❌ False  
   *Corrected:* It is based on the **sun**.

**📅 Timeline Activity (Put in order)**

| **Date** | **Event** |
| --- | --- |
| 483 BCE | Buddha died. |
| 273 BCE | Ashoka became king. |
| 1628 CE | Shah Jahan became ruler (built the Taj Mahal). |
| 1947 CE | India became independent. |
| 2014 CE | Poorna Malavath climbed Mt. Everest at age 13. |