1. **What is Humanities ?**

* Humanities is a field of study that helps us understand and appreciate everything surrounding the human world, like the environment, history, culture, values, and beliefs, society, economy, and so on.
* A group Activity that we did in class : All students belonging to various regions of India defined Humanities, in their own native languages. Here is my definition of Humanities in Gujarati
* માનવતા એ અભ્યાસનું એક ક્ષેત્ર છે જે આપણને પર્યાવરણ, ઇતિહાસ, સંસ્કૃતિ, મૂલ્યો અને માન્યતાઓ, સમાજ, અર્થતંત્ર વગેરે જેવી માનવ વિશ્વની આસપાસની દરેક વસ્તુને સમજવા અને પ્રશંસા કરવામાં મદદ કરે છે.

1. **The History of Humanities**

* Humanities originated around the 5th century BCE, which was also known as the classical Greek Period, also coinciding with the Vedic Age in India.
* The term humanities derives from the Latin word humanitas, referring to those skill sets or capacities regarded as characteristic of human beings. The study of Humanities therefore, included the teaching and learning of the best aspects of human nature, mostly learnt by nobles and princes to become the best leaders, who could become capable and worthy of being best men( humans) among their civilisation.

1. **The Application of Humanities**

* The study of Humanities helps in developing critical thinking, creativity, and it also evokes empathy, thereby helping to develop a broad and deep understanding of the world that we inhabit.
* For Example, as Humanities students we tried a critical analysis of the picture of Heritage building at IIT ISM Dhanbad, which lead us to several interpretations

1. The building is a symbol of British Colonialism. It mimics the London School of Mines, and also denotes the colonial mindset of educating the masses with downward filtration theory of Lord Macauley.
2. It also denotes the exploitation of the laborers, who were natives of Dhanbad.
3. It is also the symbol of educational legacy,as it is about to mark its centenary year in 2 years( 2028)
4. The National flag hoisted above the building denoting different connotations of patriotism.

**4. What is Humanities in the Indian Context ?**

India is richly endowed with a history of cultures and traditions, art forms, festivals, religions, and a society with unity in diversity as its main stand. The ancient Universities like Nalanda, Taxila, boast of being the centers of Humanities, earning India the epithet of Vishva-guru.

**5. How Humanities has evolved in the present scenario :**

Humanities has always had an interdisciplinary approach, including under its ambit several fields of studies like philosophy, psychology, literature,and in the present times, it has outgrown its previous stature and has included many more areas of study, popularly known as Medical Humanities, Blue Humanities and Digital Humanities.

**6. What is Digital Humanities ?**

* Everything that can be an object of study in humanities such as Maps, paintings, arts, musics, drama, dance, languages are now digitally accessible, and the modes of studying them have also become digital, for instance by using digital tools and softwares.
* **'Digital Humanities' is what happens when you bring together digital content, tools and methods to address humanities research questions. lorna hughes**
* **The development, exploration, and evaluation of computer-based technologies and resources for enabling the pursuit of research questions in the humanities. Susan Brown**

**( Source : https://whatisdigitalhumanities.com/)**