



1. Read the story on page 130. In what ways is the monkey king similar to or different from the kings you read about in Chapters 6 and 11?

Ans: The monkey king in the story on page 130 is similar to the kings mentioned in chapters 6 and 11. The monkey king like the other kings has a huge army. He himself is wise, diplomatic and brave. He has the virtue of taking the right moment. When he observes the situation of the attack on his community by the king's men, he makes a quick plan to save his army. First, he let all of them cross the river. As he is the last, he gets tired and exhausted, he falls down and is dead. In this way, he sacrifices his life for the safety of his kingdom. This is the supreme virtue of a king. So, he is in no way different from the other human kings.

2. Find out more and tell a story from one of the epics.

Ans: We have a number of stories in our epics which inspire us in many ways. They guide us and teach us the ideals of life. Such epics are the Mahabharata and Ramayana. In the Mahabharata, we have one such story. The battle was finalised between Kauravas and Pandavas. Both the parties were making efforts to win the favour of their relatives and other king. Krishna who was related to both was considered as a super man, possessing the qualities of gods. So, Duryodhana, the eldest of the Kauravas approached him. On the same day Arjuna, one of the five Pandavas, also went to Krishna. Duryodhana was a proud fellow. He sat on the head-side of Krishna who was sleeping at that time. Arjuna, a humble fellow, reached there after Duryodhana. But he sat at the feet side of Krishna and began pressing his feet. As Krishna opened his eyes, he saw Arjuna. Krishna had already promised them that he would be from the side of the man who would reach him first. As Krishna saw Arjuna first he said that he would be in favour of Arjuna. Duryodhana opposed it because he had reached there first. Krishna said that those who want to get something from anyone then should be humble and courteous. Here, Duryodhana lost Krishna. We learn from this story that we should not show our arrogance to those from whom we ask for something.

I. MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

Choose the correct option to complete the statements given below:

(i) The Iron Pillar is situated at.....

- (a) Junagarh
- (b) Mehrauli
- (c) Aihole
- (d) Ahmedabad.

(ii) The height of the Iron Pillar is

- (a) 7.2 m
- (b) 8.2 m
- (c) 9.2 m
- (d) 10.2 m.

(iii) The small box placed at the centre or heart of the stupa is known as a.....

- (a) Relic casket
- (b) Sacred box
- (c) Trunk

(d) None of the above.

(iv) The puranas contained stories about

- (a) Kings and queens
- (b) Gautam Buddha
- (c) Mahatma Gandhi
- (d) Gods and goddesses.

(v) Sanskrit Ramayana is written by

- (a) Valmiki
- (b) Vyasa
- (c) Tulsidas
- (d) Vishnu Sharma.

Ans:

(i)–(b), (ii)–(a), (iii)–(a), (iv)–(d), (v)–(a).

II. FILL IN THE BLANKS

Fill in the blanks with appropriate words to complete each sentence.

- (i) The at Aihole was built about 1400 years ago
- (ii) The small box placed at the centre of the stupa contains bodily remains of the and his followers.
- (iii) The..... were recited in temples by priests and people came to listen to them.
- (iv) Both the..... and the..... are supposed to have been composed by Vyasa.
- (v) developed a scientific explanation for eclipses.

Ans:

- (i) Durga temple
- (ii) Buddha
- (iii) Vedas
- (iv) Puranas, Mahabharata
- (v) Aryabhatta

III. TRUE/FALSE

State whether these sentences are true (T) or false (F).

- (i) Most temples of this period had a hall like structure known as the mandapa.
- (ii) Mahabalipuram and Aihole are known for the finest stone temples.
- (iii) Merchant and farmers usually decided to build stupas and temples during this period.
- (iv) The Tamil epic the Silappadikaram was composed by a poet named Ilango.
- (v) Meghaduta is a famous poem composed by Tulsidas.
- (vi) Women and Shudras could hear the stories of the Puranas.
- (vii) It was Ravana who abducted Rama's wife Sita.
- (viii) The Jatakas and the Panchatantra are collections of stories told by birds and animals.
- (ix) Aryabhatta was a famous story-teller.
- (x) The Bhagavad Gita is a part of the Ramayana.

Ans:

- (i) True
- (ii) True
- (iii) False
- (iv) True
- (v) False
- (vi) True
- (vii) True
- (viii) False
- (ix) False
- (x) False.

IV. MATCHING SKILL

Match the items in column A correctly with those given in column B.

Column A

- (i) It was the capital of Kosala
- (ii) It is about the war fought between Kauravas and Pandavas
- (iii) They are of several kinds, round and tall, big and small
- (iv) Priest performed religious rituals here
- (v) There are several monasteries here

Column B

- (a) Stupas
- (b) Ayodhya
- (c) Ajanta
- (d) Mahabharata
- (e) Garbhagriha

Ans:

(i)—(b), (ii)—(d), (iii)—(a), (iv)—(e), (v)—(c).

V. VERY SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. When was the Iron Pillar made?

Ans: It was made about 1500 years ago.

2. Mention the most striking feature of the Iron Pillar.

Ans: The Pillar has not rusted in all these years.

3. What do you mean by the word 'Stupa'? [V. Imp.]

Ans: The word Stupa means a mound. It is a Buddhist religious building.

4. Why did devotees walk around the stupa in a clockwise direction?

Ans: They did so to show their devotion.

5. Why was Amaravati famous?

Ans: Amaravati was a place where a magnificent stupa once existed.

6. Name the deities worshipped in the earliest Hindu temples.

Ans: Vishnu, Shiva and Durga.

7. What was the garbhagriha?

Ans: It was a room in the temple during this period.

8. Why was the garbhagriha so important? [V. Imp.]

Ans: The image of the chief deity was placed in the garbhagriha. Also, the priests performed religious rituals here.

9. What was the shikhara?

Ans: It was a tower built on the top of the garbhagriha to mark this out as a sacred place.

10. What do you know about the monolithic temples at Mahabalipuram?

Ans: Each of these temples was carved out of a huge, single piece of stone.

11. Why did only Kings or queens decide to build stupas and temples?

Ans: Building stupas and temples was an expensive affair. Ordinary people could not think about it.

12. How were the gifts brought by the devotees used?

Ans: The gifts brought by the devotees were used to decorate stupas and temples.

13. How were paintings done in the dark caves?

Ans: The caves were dark. Therefore paintings were done there in the torch light.

14. What are epics? Give examples. [V. Imp.]

Ans: Epics are grand, long compositions about the heroic deeds of men and women. They include stories about gods as well. Example—the Mahabharata, the Ramayana.

15. Which gods and goddesses were mentioned in the stories of the Puranas?

Ans: Vishnu, Shiva, Durga or Parvati were mentioned in the stories of the Puranas.

16. How were the Puranas different from the Vedas?

Ans: Women and Shudras were not allowed to study the Vedas but these people could read and hear the verses of the Puranas.

17. Where are the stories told by ordinary people preserved? [V. Imp.]

Ans: The stories told by ordinary people are preserved in the Jatakas and the Panchatantra.

18. Name the book written by Aryabhatta In which language is it written?

Ans: This book is Aryabhatiyam. It is written in Sanskrit.

***** END *****