Q1 India was exploited by British traders because the British always tried to make the Indian farmers grow Indigo crops. The indigo crops were to be grown on most of their land and they weren’t allowed to grow any other crops. This made their land poor and unyielding.

Q2 The Zamindari system was built to impose heavy taxes on poor peasants. If these peasants were unable to pay the taxes, their land would be transferred to moneylenders.

Q3 The Nawabs of Awadh had loyal supporters of the British Raj, because of which, the annexation was greatly resented. It was hurtful to the sentiments of the Company’s sepoys because most of them came from Awadh. Even then, the people of Awadh got no relief from oppression.

Q4 The immediate cause for the revolt was when Mangal Pandey of the Barackpore contonement in Meerut shot a British officer in Meerut. He was unhappy with the way the British had dealt with the famine in Bengal and decided to take action. Mangal Pandey was later executed by the British Raj but had started a revolt in the country. Both Hindus and Muslims were unhappy.