

History & Sport - The Story of Cricket



"Within the colonies the game had a complex history. It was connected to the politics of caste and region, community and nation. The emergence of cricket as a national game was the result of many decades of historical development."

20.1 Introduction

Cricket grew out of the many stick and-ball games played in England 500 years ago, under a variety of different rules. The word 'bat' is an old English word that simply means stick or club. By the seventeenth century, cricket had evolved enough to be recognisable as a distinct game and it was popular enough for its fans to be fined for playing it on Sunday instead of going to church. Till the middle of the eighteenth century, bats were roughly the same shape as hockey sticks, curving outwards at the bottom. There was a simple reason for this: the ball was bowled underarm, along the ground and the curve at the end of the bat gave the batsman the best chance of making contact.

Our history of cricket will look first at the evolution of cricket as a game in England, and discuss the wider culture of physical training and athleticism of the time. It will then move to India, discuss the history of the adoption of cricket in this country, and trace the modern transformation of the game.

20.2 The importance of cricket in the modern times

Cricket as a sport has one of the largest followers in the world. Anyone who knows to speak the word 'Cricket' can assume himself to be an expert in the game.

- (a) It is the most widely played game, especially in the former Commonwealth countries. Its range includes from Gully-Mohalla cricket to international test matches.
- (b) It is the biggest source of entertainment, not only for thousands and thousands of the spectators at the playing grounds but also other millions who watch a ball-by-ball progress on TV sets, etc.
- (c) Every single ball generates passion.
- (d) It is one way in which people compete with each other, stay fit and express their social loyalties.



Fig.1 The oldest cricket bat in existence



Fig.2 The pavilion of the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) in 1874.

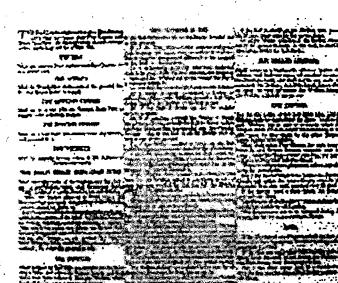


Fig.3 The laws of cricket drawn up and revised by the MCC were regularly published in this form. Note that norms of betting were also formalised.

- (e) Cricket matches are organized to establish friendship between Nations; cricketers are seen as ambassadors of the country.
- (f) Cricket has come to represent the unity of the country.
- (g) Cricket has emerged as the biggest commercial venture; it is a whole big industry which generates jobs and incomes on a large scale.

20.3 Invention of cricket and its spread

(a) Cricket was invented in Southeastern England in the 19th century. The Britishers took the game to all those places where they went, i.e., to their colonies in Asia and Africa. This is how cricket became a popular game in the former colonies of Great Britain.

(b) After these colonies gained independence from their former rulers, they were organized in what came to be known as the Commonwealth. The game of cricket, therefore, is limited to the members of the Commonwealth. Important cricket playing countries are India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Australia, New Zealand, England, West Indies, Zimbabwe, South Africa, and Kenya.

Cricket had been invented in England, it became intimately linked to the culture of the 19th century Victorian society. The game was expected to represent all that the Englishmen were supposed to value and respect, i.e., (i) fair play, (ii) discipline, and (iii) gentlemanliness.

It was in this spirit that the game was played till recent times, before commercialization took over the game. With commercialization, money has become the ruling deity of game.

CHECK YOUR LEARNING 20.1

1. Match of following

List-I

- (A) Adelaide Oval
- (B) Chepauk
- (C) Eden Gardens
- (D) Feroz Shah Kotla

List-II

- 1. Delhi
- 2. Kolkata
- 3. Chennai
- 4. Australia

20.4 The historical development of cricket

(a) The peculiarities of test cricket

Modern cricket has different varieties; among these the two important ones are:

Test matches, and One-day matches. Test matches are played over a longer period often (five days presently), whereas a one-day match is restricted to a limited number of overs that each side is to bowl to the other side. Originally, cricket developed in the form of test matches.

(b) There were certain features of this game that made it different than other games

- Test matches were open-ended games. There was no time limit defined. They would go on and on till the result was decided (presently a test match is a five day game, if no result is achieved in five days it is declared a drawn game). There is no other game with such a larger time span.
- In cricket, the length of the pitch is specified- 22 yards- but the size or shape of the ground is not defined. This is not so in any other game.
- In cricket, all important tools are made of natural materials, unlike golf and tennis where man-made materials are used.
- In cricket, a player is a member of a team. He plays for the team and not for individual laurels.

20.5 Laws of cricket

Cricket was the earliest modern team sport to be codified, it gave itself rules & regulation so that it could be played in a uniform and standardised way.

The first written 'Laws of Cricket'

The first written 'Laws of Cricket' were drawn up in 1744. They stated, 'the principles shall choose from amongst the gentlemen present, two umpires who shall absolutely decide all disputes. The stumps must be 22 inches high and the bail across them six inches. The ball must be between 5 and 6 ounces, and the two sets of stumps 22 yards apart. There were no limits on the shape, or size of the bat.

20.6 Marylebone Cricket Club

The world's first cricket club was formed in Hambledon in the 1760s and the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) was founded in 1787. In 1788, the MCC published its first revision of the laws and became the guardian of cricket's regulations.

Major changes that took place by MCC in the game of cricket during the 1760s and 1770s.

During the 1760s and 1770s many changes took place in the game of cricket.

- (i) It became common to pitch the ball through the air, rather than roll it along the ground. This change gave bowlers the options of length, deception through the air, plus increased pace.
- (ii) It also opened new possibilities for spin and swing.
- (iii) The batsmen had to master timing and shot selection.
- (iv) The replacement of the curved bat with the straight one.
- (v) The weight of the ball was limited to between $5\frac{1}{2}$ to $5\frac{3}{4}$ ounces, and the width of the bat to four inches. The latter ruling followed an innings by a batsman who appeared with a bat as wide as the wicket.
- (vi) In 1774, the first leg-before law was published.
- (vii) A third stump became common.
- (viii) By 1780, three days had become the length of a major match, and this year also saw the creation of the first six-seam cricket ball.

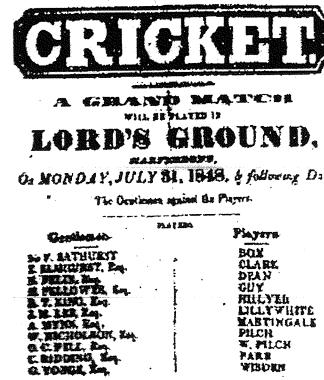
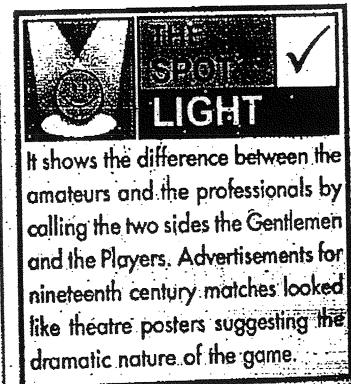


Fig.4 This poster announces a match at Lord.s in 1848.



CHECK YOUR ANSWERS 20.1

1. (a) 4 3 2 1

20.7 Cricket's connection with rural past



Fig.5 W.G. Grace

(i) Cricket matches had no time limits it can be seen in the length of a test match. Cricket's connection with a rural past can be seen in the length of a Test match. Originally, cricket matches had no time limit. The game went on for as long as it took to bowl out a side twice. The rhythms of village life were slower and cricket's rules were made before the Industrial Revolution. Modern factory work meant that people were paid by the hour or the day or the week: games that were codified after the industrial revolution, like football and hockey, were strictly time-limited to fit the routines of industrial city life.

(ii) Cricket was originally played on common lands in the countryside. The size of the common lands varied from village to village, and region to region. Therefore, it was left open to decide the boundaries of the ground in the area in which the match was being played.

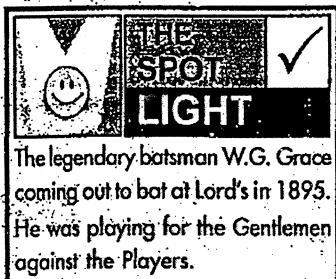
(iii) Cricket's most important tools are all made of natural, pre-industrial materials. The bat is made of wood as are the stumps and the bails. The ball is made with leather, twine and cork. Even today both bat and ball are handmade, not industrially manufactured. The material of the bat changed slightly over time: Once it was cut out of a single piece of wood. Now it consists of two pieces, the blade which is made out of the wood of the willow tree and the handle which is made out of cane that became available as European colonialists and trading companies established themselves in Asia.

(iv) Unlike golf and tennis, cricket has refused to remake its tools with industrial or man-made materials: plastic, fibre glass and metal have been firmly rejected. **Australian cricketer Dennis Lillee** tried to play an innings with an aluminium bat, only to have it outlawed by the umpires.

In the matter of protective equipment, cricket has been influenced by technological change. The invention of vulcanized rubber led to the introduction of pads in 1848. Protective gloves were introduced soon thereafter. Helmets made out of metal and synthetic lightweight materials became an important part of protective equipment.

(v) But technological change did not materially alter the essence of the basic tools of the game, viz.,

(i) bat, (ii) stumps, (iii) bails, and (iv) ball. These continue to be made out of natural materials.



20.8 Important changes that occurred in the game of cricket during the 19th century

During the 19th century the important changes that occurred in the game of cricket can be briefly stated as follows :

- The rule about wide ball was applied.
- The exact circumference of the ball was specified.
- Protective equipment like pads and gloves became available.
- Boundaries were introduced; earlier all runs were scored by running between the stumps. Over arm bowling became legal.

20.9 Cricket and victorian England

The organization of cricket in England reflected the nature of English society. The players were divided into two groups : (A) Professionals and (B) Amateurs.

- Those persons who played cricket for a living were called professionals. The wages of professionals were paid by patronage or subscription or gate money. The game was seasonal and did not offer employment the year round. Most professionals worked as miners or in other forms of working class employment in winter, the offseason.
- The rich who could afford to play it for pleasure were called amateurs and the poor who played it for a living were called professionals.

20.10 The rich were amateurs for two reasons

The amateurs considered sport a kind of leisure. To play for the pleasure of playing and not for money was an aristocratic value. There was not enough money in the game for the rich to be interested.

- The social superiority of amateurs was built into the customs of cricket. Amateurs were called Gentlemen while professionals had to be content with being described as Players.
- They entered the ground from different entrances.
- Amateurs tended to be batsmen, leaving the energetic, hardworking aspects of the game, like fast bowling, to the professionals. That is partly why the rules of the game always give the benefit of the doubt to the batsman.

20.11 Cricket a batsman's game

Cricket is a batsman's game because its rules were made to favour 'Gentlemen', who did most of the batting. The social superiority of the amateur was also the reason the captain of a cricket team was traditionally a batsman: not because batsmen were naturally better captains but because they were generally Gentlemen. Captains of teams, whether club teams or national sides, were always amateurs. It was not till the 1930s that the English Test team was led by a professional, the Yorkshire batsman, Len Hutton.

THE ILLUSTRATED
LONDON NEWS



Fig.6 A cricket match at Lord's between the famous public schools Eton and Harrow.



While the game itself would look similar wherever it is played, the crowd does not. Notice how the upper-class social character of the game is brought out by the focus on gentlemen in bowler hats and ladies with their parasols shading them from the sun. From Illustrated London News, July 20 1872.



Fig.7 Croquet, not cricket, for women.

"Battle of Waterloo was won on the playing fields of Eton"

- (i) This means that Britain's military success was based on the values taught to schoolboys in its public schools. Eton was the most famous of these schools.
- (ii) The English boarding school was the institution that trained English boys for careers in the military, the civil service and the church, the three great institutions of imperial England.
- (iii) By the beginning of the nineteenth century, men like Thomas Arnold, headmaster of the famous Rugby School and founder of the modern public school system, saw team sport like cricket and rugby not just as outdoor play, but as an organised way of teaching English boys the discipline, the importance of hierarchy, the skills, the codes of honour and the leadership qualities that helped them build and run the British empire.
- (iv) In actual fact the Napoleonic wars were won because of the economic contribution of the iron works of Scotland and Wales, the mills of Lancashire and the financial houses of the City of London. It was the English lead in trade and industry that made Britain the world's greatest power, but it suited the English ruling class to believe that it was the superior character of its young men, built in boarding schools, playing gentlemanly games like cricket, that tipped the balance.

20.12 The spread of Cricket

- In colonies, cricket was established as a popular sport either by white settlers (as in South Africa, Zimbabwe, Australia, New Zealand, the West Indies and Kenya) or by local elites who wanted to copy the habits of their colonial masters, as in India.
- While British imperial officials brought the game to the colonies, they made little effort to spread the game, especially in colonial territories.
- Playing cricket became a sign of superior social and racial status, and the Afro-Caribbean population was discouraged from participating in organised club cricket, which remained dominated by white plantation owners and their servants.

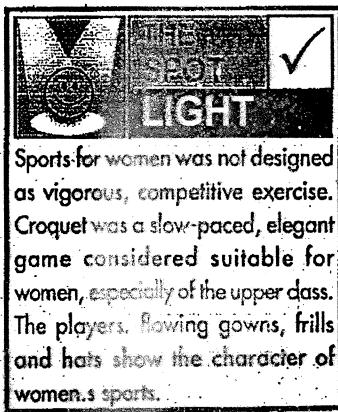


Fig.8 A leisurely game for recreation, being played against the backdrop of the Himalayas. The only Indians in the picture seem to be the servants seen near the pavilion.

- The first non-white club in the West Indies was established towards the end of the nineteenth century, and even in this case its members were light-skinned mulattos.
- Despite the exclusiveness of the white cricket elite in the West Indies, the game became hugely popular in the Caribbean.
- At the time of their independence many of the political leaders of Caribbean countries like Forbes Burnham and Eric Williams saw in the game a chance for self-respect and international standing.
- When the West Indies won its first Test series against England in 1950s, it was celebrated as a national achievement, as a way of demonstrating that West Indians were the equals of white Englishmen.
- There were two ironies to the victory of West Indies. One, the West Indies team that won was captained by a white player. The first time a black player led the West Indies Test team was in 1960 when Frank Worrell was named captain. Two, the West Indies cricket team represented not one nation but several dominions that later became independent countries.
- Through the early history of Indian first class cricket, teams were not organized on geographical principles and it was not till 1932 that a national team was given the right to represent India in a Test match.

(a) Cricket, Race and Religion

- Cricket in colonial India was organised on the principle of race and religion. The first record we have of cricket being played in India is from 1721. The first Indian club, the Calcutta Cricket Club was established in 1792. Through the eighteenth century, cricket in India was almost wholly a sport played-by British military men and civil servants in all-white clubs and Gymkhana. Indians were considered to have no talent for the game and certainly not meant to play it. But they did.
- The origins of India cricket, that is, cricket played by Indians are to be found in Bombay and the first Indian community to start playing the game was the small community of Zoroastrians, the Parsis. The Parsis founded the first Indian cricket club, the Oriental Cricket Club in Bombay in 1848. The white cricket elite in India offered no help to the enthusiastic Parsis. In fact, there was a quarrel between the Bombay Gymkhana, a white-only club, and Parsi cricketers over the use of a public park. The Parsis complained that the park was left unfit for cricket because the polo ponies of the Bombay Gymkhana dug up the surface. When it became clear that the colonial authorities were prejudiced in favour of their white companions, the Parsis built their own gymkhana to play cricket in. A Parsi team beat the Bombay Gymkhana at cricket in 1889, just four years after the foundation of the Indian National Congress in 1885.



Fig.9 A rough-and-ready cricket game being played by Indians in a village in the Himalayas (1894).



Fig.10 Léarie Constantine. One of the best-known cricketers of the West Indies.



Fig. 12 Palwankar Baloo (1904).



Fig. 11 The Parsi team, the first Indian cricket team to tour England in 1886. Note that along with the traditional cricket flannels, they wear Parsi caps.

By the 1890s, Hindus and Muslims were busy gathering funds and support for a Hindu Gymkhana and an Islam Gymkhana. In the late nineteenth century, many Indian institutions and movements were organised around the idea of religious community because the colonial state encouraged these divisions and was quick to recognise communal institutions. Applications that used the communal categories favoured by the colonial state were more likely to be approved.

This history of Gymkhana cricket led to first-class cricket being organised on communal and racial lines. The teams that played colonial India's greatest and most famous first-class cricket tournament did not represent regions, as teams in today's Ranji Trophy currently do, but religious communities. The tournament was initially called Quadrangular, because it was played by four teams: the Europeans, the Parsis, the Hindus and the Muslims. Later became the Pentangular when a fifth team was added, namely, the Rest, which comprised all the communities left over, such as the Indian Christians. For e.g. Vijay Hazare, a Christian, played for the Rest.

By the late 1930s and early 1940s, journalists, cricketers and political leaders had begun to criticize the racial and communal foundations of the Pentangular tournament. The distinguished editor of the newspaper the Bombay Chronicle, S.A. Brelvi, the famous radio commentator A.F.S. Talyarkhan and India's most respected political figure, Mahatma Gandhi, condemned the Pentangular as a communally divisive competition that was out of place in a time when nationalist were trying to unite India's diverse population. A rival first-class tournament on regional lines, the National Cricket Championship (later named the Ranji Trophy), was established but not until Independence did it properly replace the Pentangular. The colonial state and its divisive conception of India was the rock on which the Pentangular was built. It was a colonial tournament and it died with the Raj.

THE SPOT
LIGHT

A Dalit, Baloo's enormous cricketing talent made sure that he could not be kept out of the team, but he was never allowed to take over as captain.

(b) Palwankar Baloo (1904)

Palwankar Baloo was born in Poona in 1875. Born at a time when Indians weren't allowed to play Test cricket, he was the greatest Indian slow bowler of his time. He played for the Hindus in the Quadrangular, the major cricket tournament of the colonial period. Despite being their greatest player he was never made captain of the Hindus because he was born a Dalit and upper-caste selectors discriminated against him. But his younger brother, Vithal, a batsman did become captain of the Hindus in 1923 and led the team to a famous victory against the Europeans.

(c) Mahatma Gandhi's views on cricket :

Mahatma Gandhi believed that sport was essential for creating a balance between the body and the mind. However, he often emphasised that games like cricket and hockey were imported into India by the British and were replacing traditional games. Such games as cricket, hockey, football and tennis were for the privileged, he believed. They showed a colonial mindset and were a less active education than the simple exercise of those who worked on the land.

20.13 The modern Transformation

- Modern cricket is dominated by Tests and one day internationals, played between national teams.
- The Indian fans remember from the era of the Pentangular and the Quadrangular are those who were fortunate enough to play Test cricket.
- C.K.Nayudu, an outstanding Indian batsman of his time, lives on in the popular imagination when some of his great contemporaries like Palwankar Vithal and Palwankar Baloo have been forgotten because his career lasted long enough for him to play Test cricket for India while theirs did not.
- Nayudu has past his cricketing prime when he played for India in its first Test matches against England starting in 1932, his place in India's cricket history is assured because he was the country's first Test captain.
- India entered the world of Test cricket in 1932s, a decade and a half before it became an independent nation. This was possible because Test cricket from its origins 1877 was organised as a contest between different parts of the British empire, not sovereign nations.
- The first Test was played between England and Australia when Australia was still a white settler colony, not even a self-governing dominion.

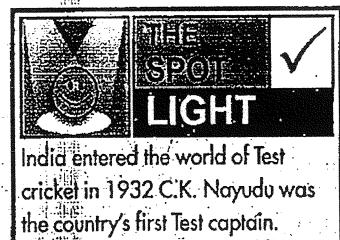
a) The name of ICC was changed from the Imperial Cricket Conference to the International Cricket Conference

The Imperial Cricket Conference was responsible for the regulation of the game of cricket throughout the world. It was dominated by two nations, England and Australia. They had the veto rights.

With the disappearance of the British empire, the organization of world cricket was also undergoing a change. Two major changes suggestive of decolonization and deimperialism were:



Fig.13 C.K.Naidu



India entered the world of Test cricket in 1932. C.K. Nayudu was the country's first Test captain.



Fig.14 Polo Played by colonial officials

- The name of Imperial Cricket Conference was changed into the International Cricket Conference.

- The veto rights were abolished. Equal membership was introduced.

The significance of the shift of the ICC headquarters from London to Dubai.

The shift of the ICC headquarters from London to Dubai signified that the balance of power in cricket was shifting from ex-colonial power and white men to South Asia, who have come to dominate the world cricket.

(b) The impact of decolonization on cricket

Cricket had developed as a game in colonial countries. It spread to those countries where the colonial rulers went. In course of time, colonies began to produce better players of cricket than were available with the colonial powers themselves. But the colonial powers could successfully curb the growth of such talent. With decolonization, all such restrictions on the growth of cricket stood removed. Some significant changes began to take place in the organization of cricket:

- The name of the Imperial Cricket Conference was changed into the International Cricket Conference.

- The headquarters of the ICC were shifted from London to Dubai.

- Veto rights of England and Australia in ICC were removed. All members got equal rights.

- England had to boycott South Africa who did not permit non-white players to represent their country.

- It came to be accepted that the laws of cricket could not continue to be framed for British or Australian conditions of play. The techniques of 'doosra' and 'reverse swing' evolved by the Asian bowlers to suit their conditions, came to be accepted and endorsed.

20.14 Commerce, media and cricket today

The 1970s were the decade in which cricket was transformed: it was a time when a traditional game evolved to fit a changing world. If 1970 was notable for the exclusion of South Africa from international cricket, 1971 was a landmark year because the first one-day international was played between England and Australia in Melbourne. The enormous popularity of this shortened version of the game led to the first World Cup being successfully staged in 1975. Then in 1977, even as cricket celebrated 100 years of Test matches, the game was changed forever, not by a player or cricket administrator, but by a businessman.

(a) Contribution of Kerry Packer in development of cricket

- (i) Kerry Packer was an Australian television tycoon. He saw the money-making potential of cricket as a televised sport. He introduced 'World Series Cricket'. He signed up fifty-one of the world's leading cricketers against the wishes of the national cricket boards and for about two years staged unofficial Tests and One Day internationals.



Polo was a game invented by colonial officials in India and soon gained great popularity. Unlike cricket which came to India from Britain, other games like polo were exported from the colonies to Britain, changing the nature of sport in that country.

- (ii) The innovations he introduced during this time to make cricket more attractive to television audiences endured and changed the nature of the game. Coloured dress, protective helmets, field restrictions, cricket under lights, became a standard part of the post-Packer game.
- (iii) Crucially, Packer drove home the less of that cricket was a marketable game, which could generate huge revenues.

(b) Impact of media on cricket

Off-field, organization of matches became much more convenient with easy free flow of required information.

With the advent of television, cricket became a marketable game which could generate huge revenues.

- Cricket boards became rich by selling television rights to television companies.
- Television channels made money by selling television spots to companies who were happy to pay large sums of money to air commercials for their products to cricket's captive television audience.
- Continuous television coverage made cricketers celebrities who, besides being paid better by their cricket boards, now made even larger sums of money by making commercials for a wide range of products, from tyres to colas, on television.
- Television coverage expanded the audience for the game by beaming cricket into small towns and villages.
- It also broadened cricket's social base. Children who had never previously had the chance to watch international cricket because they lived outside the big cities, where top-level cricket was played, could now watch and learn by imitating "their heroes".
- The technology of satellite television and the world wide reach of multinational television Companies created a global market for cricket.

(c) The centre of gravity in cricket has shifted away from the old.

- A more important sign that the centre of gravity in cricket has shifted away from the old, AngloAustralian axis is that innovations in cricket technique in recent years have mainly come from the practice of subcontinental teams in countries like India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.
- Pakistan has pioneered to great advances in bowling the doosra and the 'reverse swing'.
- Initially, both innovations were greeted with great suspicion by countries like Britain and Australia which saw them as an underhanded, illegal bending of the laws of cricket.
- In time, it came to be accepted that the laws of cricket could not continue to be framed for British or Australian conditions of play, and they became part of the technique of all bowlers, everywhere in the world.
- Today, the global marketplace has made Indian players the best-paid, most famous cricketers in the game, men for whom the world is a stage.



International Cricket Council

Fig.15 Logo of ICC



Modern hockey evolved from traditional games once current in Britain. Amongst its sporting ancestors, hockey can count the Scottish game called shinty, the English and Welsh game called bandy and Irish hurling. Hockey, like many other modern games, was introduced into India by the British army in colonial times. The first hockey club in India was started in Calcutta in 1885-1886. India was represented in the hockey competition of the Olympic Games for the first time in 1928. India reached the finals defeating Austria, Belgium, Denmark and Switzerland. In the finals, India defeated Holland by three goals to nil.

EXERCISE # 1

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

Multiple choice questions

1. There were revision of laws by MCC between 1770s and 1780s. They were
 - (1) the weight of the ball and the width of the bat were specified
 - (2) the first leg before law was published in 1774
 - (3) The third stump became common, and the first six seam cricket ball was created
 - (4) all of the above
2. There was a quarrel between the Bombay gymkhana and the parsi club because-
 - (1) the parsis complained that the public park was left unfit for cricket because the polo ponies of the gymkhana club dug up the surface
 - (2) the colonial authorities were prejudiced in favour of their own white companions
 - (3) the white cricket elites in india offered no help to the enthusiastic parsis
 - (4) all the above
3. When were the first written "laws of cricket" drawn up?
 - (1) 1703
 - (2) 1744
 - (3) 1750
 - (4) 1760
4. When was the world's first cricket club formed?
 - (1) 1744
 - (2) 1774
 - (3) 1760s
 - (4) 1780s
5. Which Australian player tried to play with an aluminium bat?
 - (1) Kim Hughes
 - (2) Don Bradman
 - (3) Dennis Lillee
 - (4) Jeff Thompson
6. What were the rich who played cricket for pleasure called?
 - (1) amateurs
 - (2) professionals
 - (3) commons
 - (4) both (1) and (2)
7. When and where was the first non white club established?
 - (1) end of 18th century India
 - (2) end of 19th century, West Indies
 - (3) mid 19th century, South Africa
 - (4) beginning of 19th century, Zimbabwe
8. The quadrangular tournament did not include which of the following teams?
 - (1) the Parsis
 - (2) the Europeans
 - (3) the Hindus
 - (4) None of these

9. Who was Kerry Packer?
 - (1) British tycoon
 - (2) Australian television tycoon
 - (3) Sri lankan label
 - (4) none of these
10. The ICC headquarters shifted from London to

(1) Sydney	(2) India
(3) Dubai	(4) Singapore
11. When was the first world cup successfully staged?
 - (1) 1972
 - (2) 1973
 - (3) 1974
 - (4) 1975
12. The first cricket club in India was started in

(1) Bombay	(2) Madras
(3) Bangalore	(4) Calcutta
13. About how many years ago was cricket played in England?
 - (1) 200 years ago
 - (2) 300 years ago
 - (3) 400 years ago
 - (4) 500 years ago
14. Who was the finest Indian test captain of 1932 test team?

(1) Lala Amarnath	(2) Palwankar Baloo
(3) C.K. Naidu	(4) Ranjit Singh
15. Which Indian national leader believed that sport was essential for creating a balance between the body and the mind?

(1) Jawahar Lal Nehru	(2) Mahatma Gandhi
(3) Sarojini Naidu	(4) Maulana Ajad
16. India entered the world of test cricket in 1932, a decade and a half she became independent because-
 - (1) test cricket was organized as a contest between different parts of the British empire, not between different sovereign states
 - (2) the civil disobedience movement had been started by Mahatma Gandhi
 - (3) It was evident that India would become independent soon enough
 - (4) the British were partial towards India and allowed her to play
17. He introduced 'World Series Cricket'.

(1) Sunil Gavaskar	(2) Kapil Dev
(3) C.K. Naidu	(4) None of these

Fill in the blanks

1. Early cricket began to be played in village England some ____ years ago.
 2. The first written laws of cricket were drawn up in ____ AD
 3. The world's first cricket club was formed in ____
 4. ____ club was founded in 1787.
 5. The origins of Indian cricket is found in ____
 6. The ICC headquarters are shifted from London to ____

True or false

1. Mulattoes are the people of mixed European and African descent.
 2. In 1792, the Calcutta cricket club was established.
 3. Bat is an old English word which means stumps.
 4. The stumps in the game of cricket should be 24 inches.
 5. Palwankar baloo was very short that is why he was not made the captain.
 6. The first world cup was held in the year 1975.

Match the column

Column-I		Column-II	
(1)	Dennis Lillee	(a)	1975
(2)	First world cup	(b)	aluminium bat
(3)	Dominion	(c)	people of mixed European and African descent
(4)	Laws of cricket	(d)	1744
(5)	Mulattos	(e)	self governing area under the control of British crown

EXERCISE # 1

ANSWER KEY | **FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT**

Multiple choice questions

Que.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Ans.	4	4	2	3	3	1	2	4	2	3	4	1	4	3	2	1	2	2	1	1

True or false

1. True 2. True 3. True 4. False 5. False 6. True

Fill in the blanks

1. 500 2. 1744 3. Hambledon 4. MCC 5. Bombay 6. Dubai

Match the column

1: (1) \rightarrow b; (2) \rightarrow a; (3) \rightarrow e; (4) \rightarrow d; (5) \rightarrow c

EXERCISE # 2

SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT

Short answer type questions

1. When was the world's first cricket club founded?
2. Why were the rich who played cricket called amateurs?
3. How did cricket become popular in the colonies?
4. When was first international cricket test match played?
5. State two advances introduced in bowling by Pakistan?
6. Who started the world cricket series?
7. On what basis were the first cricket clubs set up?

Long answer type questions

1. Mention the main provisions of the cricket laws drawn up in 1744.
2. What are the differences between amateurs and professionals?
3. What innovations did Kerry Packer introduce which changed the nature of the game?
4. What changes in bowling have been pioneered by Pakistan and with what results?
5. When were the laws of cricket drawn up? What was stated in the first written laws of cricket.
6. How did Mahatama Gandhi view cricket?
7. The battle of Waterloo was won on the playing fields of Eton? What does this mean?

NCERT QUESTIONS WITH ANSWERS

1. The cricket is a unique game in many ways. Discuss some of the ways in which it is different from other team games. How are the peculiarities of Test cricket shaped by its historical beginnings as a village game?

Ans. The two peculiarities of Test cricket are:

(i) That a match can go on for five days and still end in a draw. No other modern day team sport takes even half as much time to complete. Baseball completes nine innings in less than half the time that it takes to play a limited overs match.

(ii) That the length of the pitch is specified –22 yards – but the size or shape of the ground is not. No dimensions of the playing area are mentioned for cricket.

The reason behind these oddities is that cricket was the earliest modern team sport to be codified. Cricket was a game before hockey and soccer and hence gave itself rules and regulations so that it could be played in a uniform and standardised manner.

Originally cricket matches had no time limits. This was because the rhythms of village life was slower and cricket rules were made before the Industrial Revolution. Modern factory labour was paid by hours and hence games had to be codified and time limited to fit the routines of industrial city life. When cricket originated, there were no such limits or restrictions.

Cricket was originally played on public property known as commons. The size of this land varied from one village to another, so there were no designated boundaries or boundary hits.

This brought about the second oddity of cricket. If you look at the game's equipment, you can see how cricket both changed with changing times and yet fundamentally remained true to its origins in rural England. Cricket's most important tools are all made of natural, pre-industrial materials. The bat is made of wood as are the stumps and the bails. The ball is made of leather, twine and cork. Every today both bat and ball are hand-made, not industrially manufactured. The material of the bat changed slightly over time. Once it was cut of a simple piece of wood. Now it consists of two pieces, the blade which is made out of the wood of the willow tree and the handle which is made out of can that became available as European colonialists and trading companies established themselves in Asia. Unlike golf and tennis, cricket has refused to remake its tools with industrial or man-made materials; Plastic, fibre glass and metal have been firmly rejected.

2. Describe one way in which in the nineteenth century, technology brought about a change in equipment and give one example where no change in equipment took place.

Ans. As far as protective equipment in cricket is concerned, it has been influenced by technological change. The invention of the vulcanised rubber led to the introduction of pads in 1884 and protective gloves soon afterwards. Today's cricket cannot be imagined without helmets made of metal and synthetic lightweight materials.

However, cricket's most important tools are all made of natural, pre-industrial material. The ball, for example, is still hand-made. It is made of leather, twine and cork. These balls are not industrially manufactured.

3. Explain why cricket became popular in India and the West Indies.

Ans. Cricket was a colonial game limited to countries that had once been part of the British empire. It took root only in countries that the British conquered and ruled. The British imperial officers brought the game to the colonies where it was played either by them or by the local elites who wanted to copy the habits of their colonial masters as in India.

Despite the exclusiveness of the game it became popular in India and West Indies. Success in cricket became a measure of racial equality and political progress.

4. Give brief explanations for the following:

- (i) The Parsis were the first Indian community to set up a cricket club in India.
- (ii) Mahatma Gandhi condemned the Pentangular tournament.
- (iii) The name of the ICC was changed from the Imperial Cricket Conference to the International Cricket Conference.
- (iv) The significance of the shift of the ICC headquarters from London to Dubai.

Ans. (i) The Parsis were the first Indian community to set up a cricket club in India, the Oriental Cricket Club in Bombay. This was as a consequence of the Parsi contact with the British. The Parsis were brought into close contact with the British because of their interest in trade and were the first Indian community to westernise.

(ii) Mahatma Gandhi condemned the Pentangular tournament as he felt that it was a divisive competition that went against the beed of the hour. At a time when the nationalists were trying to unite India's diverse population, the Pentangular tournament divided them on communal lines and the colonial government encouraged these divisions.

(iii) The name was changed because of decolonisation. This was a process by which the British influence in many areas, one of them sports, declined. Cricket was no longer the monopoly of the imperial powers. Cricket was becoming international. In time, it came to be accepted that the laws of cricket could not continue to be framed for British or Australian conditions of play and they became part of the technique of all bowlers, everywhere in the world.

(iv) The break-up of the British empire brought about a shift in the balance of power in cricket. This shift was taken to its logical conclusion by globalisation. Since India had the largest viewership for cricket as compared to other cricket playing nations the shift was towards South Asia. The transfer of ICC headquarters from London to tax-free Dubai is a clear symbol of this shift.

5. How have advances in technology, affected the development of contemporary cricket?

Ans. Advances in television technology have certainly affected the development of contemporary cricket.

(i) Cricket has become more attractive to television audiences, endured and changed the nature of the game. Cricket now became a marketable game.

(ii) Cricket boards sold television rights to television companies and reaped profits.

(iii) Television channels sold television spots to companies. They aired their commercials and advertised their commodities to a large number of audience. They made huge profits.

(iv) Continuous television coverage made cricketers celebrities.

(v) Cricketers became rich. They were paid by cricket boards and also by companies whose commercials they endorsed.

(vi) Cricket audience expanded. Cricket was taken to the smaller towns. Children also became cricket fans.

(vii) People could watch and learn by imitating their heroes.

(viii) Cricket entered the global market. A match at Melbourne could be watched at Mumbai.

(ix) Balance of power shifted to South Asia as most viewership was from here. ICC headquarters shifted from London to tax-free Dubai.