





INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: VIII	Department: Social Science	Sub: History
Worksheet No: 1	Topic: Introduction: How, When and Where	Year: 2025-26

I	Choose the correct option: -
1	Who was the first Governor General of British India? a) Lord Mountbatten b) Warren Hastings c) Wellesley d) Dalhousie
2	What was the primary focus of the histories written by British historians in India? a) Life of Governor Generals b) Ancient Indian civilization c) Revolutions in India d) Independence movement
3	What was the main aim of surveys conducted by the British in India? a) To understand Indian cultures b) To promote trade with India c) To map the country for administrative purposes d) To collect taxes more effectively
4	Who divided Indian history into three periods – Hindu, Muslim, and British? a) Warren Hastings b) James Mill c) Lord Dalhousie d) Robert Clive
5	How did British historians typically view the period before British rule in India? a) As a time of great scientific advancement b) As a period of economic prosperity c) As an era of darkness d) As a culturally vibrant period
II	Fill in the blanks: -
6	James Mill divided Indian history into three periods: _____, _____ and British. Hindu, Muslim
7	The British thought that surveys were important for _____. effective administration
8	'A History of British India' was a massive _____ work, written by James Mill. three-volume
9	Census operations were held every _____ years. ten
10	_____ is certainly about changes that occur over time. History
III	Short Answer Questions: -
11	Who was James Mill? He was a Scottish economist and political philosopher and is known for his book 'A History of British India'.
12	Why do many historians refer to the modern period as 'colonial'? It is because, under British rule people did not have equality, freedom or liberty—the symbols of modernity.
13	Why do we try and divide history into different periods? We do so in order to capture the characteristics of a time, its central features as they appear to us.
14	What is meant by the term 'colonization'? The subjugation of one country by other leads to political, social and cultural changes, this process is known as 'colonization'.
IV	Answer in detail:-

15	<p>What are the drawbacks of periodisation of Indian history into ancient, medieval, and modern eras?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This periodisation has been borrowed from the west where the modern period was associated with the growth of all the forces of modernity such as science, reason, democracy, liberty and equality. • Medieval was a term used to describe a society where these features of modern society did not exist. • Here, it is worth-mentioning that Indians did not have equality, freedom or liberty under the British rule. • The country also lacked economic growth and progress in that period. • It is therefore many historians refer to the modern period as colonial period.
16	<p>What do official records not tell? How do we come to know about them?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Official records do not always help us understand what other people in the country felt, and what lay behind their actions. • For that we have diaries of people, accounts of pilgrims and travellers, autobiographies of important personalities, and popular books, etc. that were sold in the local bazaars. • With the spread of printing press, newspapers came to be published and issues began to be debated in public. • Leaders and reformers wrote to spread their ideas, poets and novelists wrote to express their feelings.
17	<p>Observe the picture given below and answer the following questions: -</p>  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify the above picture. It is the National Archives of India. 2. What does this location reflect? It reflects the importance of this institution in the British eyes. 3. When was it built? It was built in 1920s.
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1. What does the above picture try to suggest?

The picture tries to suggest that Indians willingly gave over their ancient texts scriptures (shashtra) to Britannia, the symbol of British power, as if asking her to become the protector of Indian culture.

2. Explain how this image projects an imperial perception.

This image clearly depicts the imperial superiority. The image of the lion symbolizes superior power.