INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: X	Department: Social Science	Sub: History
Chapter-5 Question Bank:5	Topic: The Making of a Global World	Year: 2026-27

1	**"Human societies have been interlinked since ancient times". Explain** Ans: • People travelled far in ancient times for knowledge, trade, and spiritual reasons, carrying goods, ideas, and even diseases. • The Indus Valley Civilization had trade links with West Asia, showing early international trade. • Cowries (seashells) from the Maldives were used as money and traded to places like China and East Africa, proving long-distance trade and spread of germs.
2	**"The Indian subcontinent was central to the flows of the trading network before the sixteenth century"? Explain** Ans: • Before the 16th century, the Indian subcontinent was an important part of world trade. • For many years, the Indian Ocean was full of trade in goods, people, ideas, and cultures. India was at the center of this trade, connecting East and West. • In the 16th century, European sailors found sea routes to Asia and America, which changed and expanded trade, bringing more of it towards Europe.
3	**How do the Silk routes link the world in the pre-modern era?** **OR** **"Trade and cultural exchange always went hand in hand". Justify (Ans for this question is last two points of Q.No.3 and full answer of Q.No.4)** Ans: • The Silk Routes, named after Chinese silk, connected Asia, Europe and North Africa and remained active until the fifteenth century. • They carried Chinese silk and pottery, Indian textiles and Southeast Asian spices to Europe and North Africa. Gold and silver flowed from Europe to Asia. • The Silk Routes promoted trade and cultural exchange. • Buddhist monks, Christian missionaries and Muslim preachers travelled through these routes to spread Buddhism, Christianity and Islam.
4	**"Food offers many examples of long-distance cultural exchange". How?** Ans: • Traders and travelers introduced new crop to the lands they travelled. • It is believed that noodles travelled West from China to become Spaghetti. • Arabs traders took pasta to Sicily, an island now in Italy.

	• Many common foods like potatoes, soya, groundnuts, maize, tomatoes, chilies, and sweet potatoes were unknown to our ancestors. They reached Europe and Asia only after Christopher Columbus discovered America. In fact, these foods came from the original inhabitants of America—the American Indians.
5	**"Sometimes the new crops could make the difference between life and death". Explain** Ans: • Sometimes the new crops could make the difference between life and death. The introduction of the potato improved the diet and lifespan of Europe's poor. • In Ireland, the poorest peasants relied heavily on potatoes. When disease struck the potato crop in the mid-1840s, it caused mass starvation. • During the Great Irish Potato Famine (1845 to 1849), around 1,000,000 people died of starvation, and twice that number emigrated in search of work.
6	**"The pre-modern world shrank greatly in the sixteenth century". Explain** Ans: • In the sixteenth century, European sailors discovered new sea routes to Asia and reached America, connecting different parts of the world. • India remained a major trade hub for the exchange of goods, people, knowledge and customs. • The discovery of America brought new crops, minerals and precious metals, enriching Europe and boosting trade with Asia. • As China adopted isolation policies, America's importance increased and global trade shifted towards Europe. Thus, increased trade and connections made the world seem smaller.
7	**Explain how the global transfer of disease in the pre-modern world helped in the Colonization of the Americas.** Ans: • In the pre-modern world, diseases helped colonizers take over the Americas because native American Indians lacked immunity to those brought by settlers. • Europeans were largely immune to smallpox, but the natives, isolated for millions of years, could not resist it. • Smallpox spread rapidly, destroying entire communities, making conquest easier since diseases could not be fought like weapons or soldiers.
8	**Why did people flee from Europe to America in the nineteenth century?** Ans: • Until the nineteenth century, poverty and hunger were common in Europe. Cities were crowded and deadly diseases were widespread. • Religious conflicts were common, and religious dissenters were persecuted. • As a result, thousands of people left Europe for America.
9	**What was El Dorado, and why did many expeditions set off in search of it?** Ans: • El Dorado was the legendary city of gold. Many explorers launched expeditions hoping to find its immense wealth, though the city itself never truly existed.