

Exercises

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1. State whether true or false:

- (a) 'Rajas' who let the 'ashvamedha' horse pass through their lands were invited to the sacrifice.
- **(b)** The charioteer sprinkled sacred water on the king.

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- (c) Archaeologists have found palaces in the settlements of the 'janapadas'.
- (d) Pots to store grain were made out of Painted Grey Ware.
- (e) Many cities in 'mahajanapadas' were fortified.

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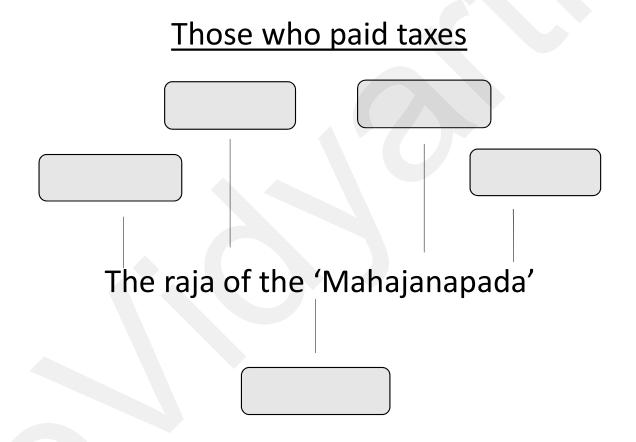
Ans:

- a) True
- b) False
- c) False
- d) False
- e) False

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2. Fill in the chart given below with the terms: hunter—gatherers, farmers, traders, craftspersons, herders.

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Ans: Hunter gatherers, farmers, traders, crafts-persons and herders—all paid taxes.

- (I) <u>Farmers</u>— one-sixth of the produce.
- (II) <u>Crafts-persons</u>— in the form of labour.
- (III) <u>Herders</u>— in the form of animals and animal produce.

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(IV) <u>Traders</u>— taxes on goods brought and sold.

(V) <u>Hunter-gatherers</u>— forest produce.

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3. Who were the groups who could not participate in the assemblies of the 'ganas'?

Ans: These groups of people were not allowed to participate in the assemblies of the 'ganas'.

- (i) 'Women'
- (ii) 'Dasas'
- (iii) 'Kammakaras'.

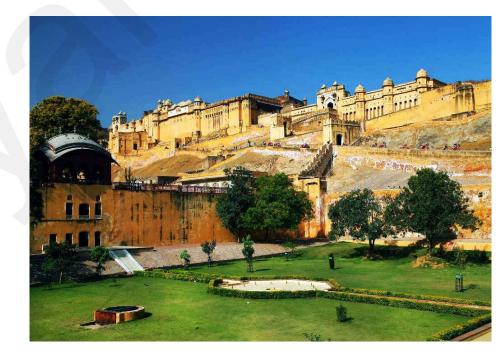


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4. Why did the 'rajas' of 'mahajanapadas' build forts?

Ans:





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Ans:

Building a fort served many purposes. Some of them are as follows:

- It was a way to show off the might of the raja.
- A fort made a city more secure.
- A fortified city was easier to manage.

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5. In what ways are present-day elections different from the ways in which rulers were chosen in 'janapadas'?

Ans:



Present day elections



Janapadas elections

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In modern days; rulers are chosen through popular vote. But in the janapadas, a ruler was not chosen rather a person was supposed to show his supremacy to become the ruler. To do so, the raja had to perform the ashwadeha yajna so that other rajas in the mahanjanapada would accept his supremacy.

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6. Were there any 'janapadas' in your state? If yes, name them. If not, name the janapadas' that would have been the closest to your state, and mention whether they were to the east, west, north or south.

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Ans: The answer depends on the region you live in. Take the help of your teacher and the map given on page 57 in the textbook to prepare your answer. However, a sample answer has been provided (using the state Uttar Pradesh) – The 'janapadas' in the present-day Uttar Pradesh—Panchala, Kosala.

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7. Find out whether any of the groups mentioned in answer 2 pay taxes to day.

Ans: Out of the groups mentioned in answer 2, those that pay taxes even today are traders.

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8. Find out whether the groups mentioned in answer 3 have voting rights at present.

Ans: Today, voting rights are not decided by gender or profession. Women, 'khmmakaras' and 'dasas' — all are entitled to vote today.