

CLASS 8  
HISTORY

DATE: 11/05/20

ANSWERS

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Answers to the **HOMEWORK** questions of **A PERIOD OF TRANSITION** dated **29/04/20**

HOME WORK QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Define the Primary Sources and the Secondary Sources.
2. What is colonialism?
3. Name the three important European explorers of the modern period. What did each of them discover?
4. What do you mean by Renaissance?
5. What were the causes for the rise of imperialism?
6. What was the basic philosophical thought of the humanists?
7. How did the spirit of inquiry become an important feature of the Renaissance?
8. How the invention of printing press revolutionised the world?
9. Who was 'Martin Luther'?
10. What was the contribution of coal and iron in the growth of industrial revolution?

**Answer 1.**

Primary Sources – These sources provide first hand accounts or reports for an event of a time period in history. Examples are administrative records, archaeological sources, surveys, legal documents, diaries & accounts of travellers and eyewitness accounts.

Secondary Sources – These sources are based on primary sources. They explain, discuss, describe, analyse and interpret the primary sources. Examples are books, newspapers, magazines, letters & pamphlets, reports & reviews, films & photographs.

**Answer 2.**

The practice by which one country directly controls other countries and uses their resources to increase its own power and wealth is known as colonialism.

**Answer 3.**

The important European explorers of the modern period were –

Christopher Columbus – He discovered an island off the coast of North America and named it West Indies.

Ferdinand Magellan – His expedition proved that the earth was rounded and not flat. His voyage became the first successful attempt to circumnavigate the Earth in History.

Bartolomeu Dias – He reached the southernmost tip of Africa and named it the Cape of Good Hope.

Vasco da Gama – He discovered a direct sea route between Europe and India.

[ any three ]

**Answer 4.**

Renaissance is derived from the French term meaning 'rebirth'. It refers to a time period in European history that marked a new interest in the learning of the ancient civilizations of Greece and Rome. This in turn led to new developments in different fields like art, literature, architecture, science etc.

Beginning in Italy, it soon spread to other parts of Europe leading to revolutionary changes and new discoveries in Europe culture which paved the way for the modern period in European History.

#### **Answer 5.**

The causes for the rise of imperialism were –

[a] Economic causes – The industrialised nations began to acquire more and more colonies in order to fulfil the demands of the Industrial Revolution. These colonies served as a source of raw materials and later were converted into markets for the manufactured goods.

[b] Military causes – The colonies provided strong military base for the navies of the industrialised nations. They provided safe harbours for naval vessels and served as coaling stations which helped the imperialist nations in times of wars.

[c] Political causes – Colonies became status symbol for the imperialist nations. Acquisition of colonies boosted nation's pride and maintained balance of power between the imperialist nations of the world.

[d] Social cause – The European nations considered themselves as a superior race. According to them, it was their moral obligation to civilize the uncivilized nations of Africa and Asia. Therefore the west conquered more and more colonies to control their society.

[e] Religious Cause – Many European nations used imperialism as a means to spread Christianity across the globe.

[f] Technological Cause – Better technology and improved medical facilities strengthened imperialism. Other Technological inventions such as steam boat and telegraph increased their mobility and enabled them to respond quickly in situations that threatened their power. Superior weapons also helped the Western nations to control the colonies.

#### **Answer 6**

The basic philosophical thought of the humanist were that the believed in the study of classics and in man, his intellect and his life on earth. This was totally different from the ideas of the medieval period where religion was the centre of human existence. Importance was given to spiritual matters and afterlife than the world affairs. Humanism was the main source of inspiration for all the cultural changes that happened during Renaissance.

#### **Answer 7**

The desire of the Renaissance scholars to find answers based on scientific approach gave rise to a spirit of inquiry. It led them to explore and discover knowledge. This spirit of inquiry led to exploration, experimentation and discoveries.

#### **Answer 8**

The spirit of inquiry led to a demand for books. The invention of the printing press by John Guttenberg brought revolutionary changes in learning. For centuries books were handwritten and available only in limited number. With the invention of the printing press, books became available to a large number of people. Thus, it helped in spreading of the ideas, thoughts and knowledge during the Renaissance period at a greater speed.

#### **Answer 9**

Martin Luther was a German priest and theologian. In 1517, he published his work Ninety-Five Theses and nailed it on the church door at Wittenberg. In his theses, he emphasised on the true principles of Christianity and the role of faith. The invention of the printing press quickly led to the spread of his writings throughout Europe.

**Answer 10.**

Steam engines required iron and coal in large quantities. Iron was used to make different machines while coal was a source of cheap fuel. The easy availability of iron and coal in large quantities made the English to evolve new techniques for the manufacture of iron and utilisation of vast reserves of coal. Thus, the contribution of iron and coal greatly helped in the growth of industries during industrial revolution.

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Answers to **HOMEWORK** questions of **THE AGE OF REVOLUTIONS** dated **06/05/20**

**HOME WORK QUESTION ANSWERS**

1. What was the Stamp Act?
2. Name the four philosophers who inspired the French Revolution.
3. Name the Two revolutions that shook the world in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. What was their impact on countries around the world?
4. How and when was the American Constitution framed?
5. What was the reason behind the unpopularity of the English Colonial policy in the American colonies?
6. Briefly discuss the different factors which led to the American War of Independence.
7. What was the significance of the American Revolution?
8. What was the impact of the French Revolution?
9. Write a short note on Tennis Court Pledge.
10. Write a short note on Bastille Day.

**Answer 1.**

The British Parliament passed the Stamp Act 1765. According to this act, it imposed stamp taxes on all business transactions in America. Revenue stamps up to twenty shillings had to be affixed to all legal documents. This added to the grievances of the colonists and they protested violently and boycotted the British goods.

**Answer 2.**

The four philosophers who inspired the French Revolution were Voltaire, Locke, Montesquieu and Rousseau.

**Answer 3.**

The two revolutions that shook the world in the 18<sup>th</sup> century were the American War of Independence known as the American Revolution and the French Revolution.

The American Revolution inspired the colonies all over the world to fight against the colonial oppression. The French Revolution inspired people all over the world to fight for freedom and equality.

**Answer 4.**

The American Constitution was written during Philadelphia convention- now known as the constitutional convention. This new constitution was framed for the 13 colonies which became independent by the signing of the Treaty of Paris in 1783. The constitution came into effect in 1789. With it, a republican form of government was established in America.

**Answer 5**

The French Revolution had a profound impact not only in France but also to the world- In France, it brought an end to absolute monarchy and the system of feudalism. The principles of republicanism took deep roots in France. It popularised the principles of freedom, equality and fraternity. These principles inspired the other governments in various parts of the world. The principle of sovereignty enshrined and became the basis of all modern governments. It also served as an inspiration to oppressed and exploited people all over the world to fight for freedom and equality. The Indian nationalists were also greatly inspired by it.

### **Answer 6**

The significance of the American Revolution was –

The American War of Independence brought the colonial British rule to an end. A Republican form of government was established in America. A Federal and Democratic form of government was introduced for the first time in the world. The constitution they framed served as a landmark for many countries trying to get independence from colonial rule. The political developments in America inspired the right to protest against injustice and the right to fight for freedom and independence for the world in the coming centuries.

### **Answer 7.**

The reason behind the unpopularity of the English Colonial policy in the American colonies was – The colonial policy of England in the economic matters was the primary cause of resentment in the American Colonies. Each colony had local assembly to frame laws regarding their local matters but the British government imposed such laws that went against the economic interest of the colonies. They were looked upon as a market and a source of raw materials. They were forced to export certain commodities only to England and were imposed with heavy duties on imported goods that were imported from other countries. The colonies were also forbidden to start certain industries so that the same industries in Britain did not face any competition.

### **Answer 8**

The different factors that led to the American War of Independence were –

[i] The colonies of America were exploited economically which was the primary cause of resentment for the people of the colonies. They were not allow to trade freely as the British government imposed laws which went against the economic interest of the colonies.

[ii] The political system in colonies was also greatly resented by the people of the colony. Though each colony had an assembly elected by the people of the colony, the assembly was headed by a governor who was appointed by the British Parliament. This governor had no responsibility towards the colony and worked only in the interest of the British.

[iii] Over the years these colonies had developed into a distinct identity of their own, with a distinct social and cultural lifestyle. They believed in simple and liberal thoughts which were different from their motherland.

[iv] The American revolutionaries were also inspired by the ideas of the philosophers. They believed that human beings had certain fundamental rights which no government had the authority to disobey.

### **Answer 9**

Tennis Court Pledge

On 17 June 1789, the representatives of the Third Estate formed a National Assembly. They assembled in the royal indoor tennis court at Versailles. Here they took the oath that they would not disband or return home until a new constitution was drafted. This pledge came to

be known as the Tennis Court Pledge. The new constitution was aimed at limiting the powers of the king.

**Answer 10**

**Bastille Day**

The new constitution framed by the National Assembly aimed at limiting the powers of the king. Knowing this king Louis XVI ordered the movement of troops into Paris. This action led the mob in Paris to openly revolt against the king. On 14<sup>th</sup> July 1789, they stormed into the prison of Bastille. They believed that the fortress was a sign of despotism and house of ammunition. The mob released the prisoners in the fortress and seized the ammunition. This was the beginning of the revolution. Till today, France celebrates this day as the Bastille Day.

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