

UNIQUE STUDY POINT

AMITESH NAGAR, INDORE

PRACTICE PAPER 01 (2026-27)

CHAPTER : EARLY HUMANS AND BEGINNING OF CIVILISATION

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Class : IX

Subject : Social Science

General Instructions :

- This question paper contains 75 questions divided into five sections A, B, C, D and E.
- Section A has 40 objective type questions (MCQ, Match the following, Statement-based, Assertion-Reason) of 1 mark each.
- Section B has 16 short answer questions of 2 marks each.
- Section C has 10 short answer questions of 3 marks each.
- Section D has 4 case based questions of 4 marks each.
- Section E has 5 long answer questions of 5 marks each.
- All questions are compulsory. Use of a calculator is not permitted.

SECTION - A

This section consists of 40 objective type questions of 1 mark each.

1. How long did the Mesolithic Period last, according to the provided information? **1**
(A) From 8000 BCE till 4000 BCE
(B) From 10,000 BCE till 8000 BCE
(C) From 4000 BCE onwards
(D) From 2 million years ago till 10,000 BCE
2. What was the name given to the Egyptian king, who was considered God's representative on earth? **1**
(A) Sultan (B) Raja (C) Pharaoh (D) Emperor
3. In Ancient Egypt, the kings were known as: **1**
(A) Sultans (B) Pharaohs (C) Emperors (D) Lugals
4. Which Harappan site is known for its dockyard? **1**
(A) Kalibangan (B) Alamgirpur (C) Lothal (D) Banawali
5. What is pastoralism, as it emerged during the Neolithic Age? **1**
(A) A method of cultivating crops using advanced irrigation.
(B) The practice of creating pottery for storing grains and water.
(C) A herding animals for fresh pastures and water.
(D) The settled life developed after the adoption of agriculture.

UNIQUE STUDY POINT
CHAPTER : EARLY HUMANS AND BEGINNING OF CIVILISATION

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6. The transition from hunting and gathering to food production is first observed in the: **1**
(A) Bronze Age (B) Mesolithic (C) Palaeolithic Age (D) Iron Age
7. The "Neolithic Revolution" is primarily characterized by: **1**
(A) Invention of the printing press
(B) Development of steam engines
(C) Beginning of agriculture and animal domestication
(D) Use of iron tools
8. Which of the following animals were among the first to be domesticated by Mesolithic people? **1**
(A) Goats, sheep, and cattle
(B) Dogs, cats, and camels
(C) Horses, chickens, and pigs
(D) Elephants, bears, and wolves
9. Small, sharp stone tools used during the Mesolithic period are called: **1**
(A) Microliths (B) Neoliths (C) Megaliths (D) Monoliths
10. What architectural feature was a Ziggurat primarily? **1**
(A) A military fortress
(B) A marketplace
(C) A palace for the king
(D) Temple to a patron God.
11. Which period is known as the "Old Stone Age"? **1**
(A) Palaeolithic (B) Mesolithic (C) Neolithic (D) Chalcolithic
12. Beyond hunting, what was another significant function of tools for early humans? **1**
(A) Facilitating long-distance trade networks.
(B) Providing a sense of security and protection.
(C) Artistic expression and decoration.
(D) Construction of permanent dwellings.

UNIQUE STUDY POINT
CHAPTER : EARLY HUMANS AND BEGINNING OF CIVILISATION

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13. Which Mesolithic site in India is known as the westernmost site? **1**
(A) Bhimbetka (B) Bagor (C) Tilwara (D) Langhnaj

14. What was a primary method for early humans in the Palaeolithic period to keep warm during winters? **1**
(A) Covering themselves with animal skins and leaves.
(B) Wearing woven clothes from plant fibers.
(C) Building fires in permanent shelters.
(D) Living exclusively in underground burrows.

15. In which district is Mohenjo-Daro located? **1**
(A) Larkana (B) Sahiwal (C) Montgomery (D) Balochistan

16. Match the items in List I with those List II. **1**

List I	List II
(A) Daya Ram Sahni	(I) Mohenjo-Daro discovery year
(B) Rakhal Das Banerji	(II) Harappa discovery
(C) 1921	(III) Mohenjo-Daro discovery
(D) 1922	(IV) Harappa discovery year

(A) A-III, B-II, C-IV, D-I

(B) A-II, B-IV, C-I, D-III

(C) A-II, B-III, C-IV, D-I

(D) A-IV, B-III, C-II, D-I

17. Match the items in List I with those List II. **1**

List I	List II
(A) Purpose of tools	(I) Searching for food
(B) Early man's movement	(II) Earth covered in ice
(C) Climate in Lower Palaeolithic	(III) Security from wild beasts
(D) Middle Palaeolithic tools	(IV) Made of stone flakes

(A) A-II, B-IV, C-I, D-III

(B) A-III, B-I, C-II, D-IV

(C) A-I, B-III, C-IV, D-II

(D) A-IV, B-I, C-III, D-II

UNIQUE STUDY POINT
CHAPTER : EARLY HUMANS AND BEGINNING OF CIVILISATION

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18. Match the items in List I with those List II.

1

List I	List II
(A) Crops grown	(I) Meat, fish, eggs
(B) Food items consumed	(II) Cotton
(C) Earliest cultivated crop	(III) Wheat, barley
(D) Domesticated animals	(IV) Oxen, buffaloes

(A) A-II, B-IV, C-I, D-III

(B) A-III, B-I, C-II, D-IV

(C) A-IV, B-III, C-II, D-I

(D) A-I, B-II, C-III, D-IV

19. Match the items in List I with those in List II.

1

List I	List II
(A) Grind grains	(I) Bellary district
(B) Stone axes region	(II) Mortar and pestles
(C) Kashmir site with lentil	(III) Gufkral
(D) Use of polished tools	(IV) Fine cutting edge

(A) A-IV, B-III, C-II, D-I

(B) A-I, B-II, C-IV, D-III

(C) A-II, B-I, C-III, D-IV

(D) A-III, B-IV, C-I, D-II

20. Match the items in List I with those List II.

1

List I	List II
(A) Palaeolithic Period	(I) Scrapers and borers
(B) Lower Palaeolithic Period	(II) Hunting and gathering food
(C) Middle Palaeolithic Period	(III) Hand axes
(D) Upper Palaeolithic Period	(IV) Flint, blades, projectile points

(A) A-IV, B-II, C-III, D-I

(B) A-III, B-I, C-IV, D-II

(C) A-II, B-III, C-I, D-IV

(D) A-I, B-III, C-II, D-IV

UNIQUE STUDY POINT
CHAPTER : EARLY HUMANS AND BEGINNING OF CIVILISATION

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21. Match the items in List I with those List II.

1

List I	List II
(A) Mesopotamian main occupation	(I) Wheat and linen export
(B) Egyptian main occupation	(II) Agriculture
(C) Chinese main crop	(III) Rice
(D) Egyptian trade export	(IV) Barley

(A) A-I, B-III, C-II, D-IV

(B) A-III, B-I, C-IV, D-II

(C) A-II, B-IV, C-I, D-III

(D) A-IV, B-II, C-III, D-I

22. Match the items in List I with those List II.

1

List I	List II
(A) Beginning of Palaeolithic	(I) 'Ice Age'
(B) Characteristic of early man	(II) Two million years ago
(C) Lower Palaeolithic Period	(III) Warmer climate
(D) Upper Palaeolithic climate	(IV) Wanderer, no home

(A) A-IV, B-II, C-III, D-I

(B) A-I, B-IV, C-II, D-III

(C) A-II, B-IV, C-I, D-III

(D) A-III, B-I, C-II, D-IV

23. Match the items in List I with those List II.

1

List I	List II
(A) Harappan trade partner	(I) Lothal
(B) Port for external trade	(II) Mesopotamia
(C) Internal trade with region	(III) Karnataka
(D) System of exchange	(IV) Barter

(A) A-I, B-II, C-IV, D-III

(B) A-III, B-IV, C-I, D-II

(C) A-IV, B-II, C-III, D-I

(D) A-II, B-I, C-III, D-IV

UNIQUE STUDY POINT
CHAPTER : EARLY HUMANS AND BEGINNING OF CIVILISATION

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24. Match the items in List I with those List II.

1

List I	List II
(A) Mesolithic Period	(I) Wheel-made pottery, iron pieces
(B) Tilwara characteristics	(II) Bhilwara district, Kothari river
(C) Bagor characteristics	(III) Between Palaeolithic and Neolithic
(D) Langhnaj discoveries	(IV) 14 human skeletons, potsherds

(A) A-III, B-I, C-II, D-IV

(B) A-I, B-III, C-II, D-IV

(C) A-IV, B-II, C-II, D-I

(D) A-II, B-I, C-IV, D-III

25. Match the items in List I with those in List II.

1

List I	List II
(A) Ruling class residence	(I) Courtyard
(B) Common people's houses	(II) Lower town
(C) House architectural feature	(III) Citadel
(D) Labourers' dwellings	(IV) Outer limits

(A) A-IV, B-II, C-III, D-I

(B) A-II, B-III, C-IV, D-I

(C) A-III, B-II, C-I, D-IV

(D) A-III, B-I, C-IV, D-II

26. Statement I : The cities of Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro were divided into two main parts: the Citadel and the Lower town.

1

Statement II : The Lower town was built on raised ground and primarily contained public buildings like granaries.

(A) Statement I is false but Statement II is true

(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are true

(C) Both Statement I and Statement II are false

(D) Statement I is true but Statement II is false

UNIQUE STUDY POINT
CHAPTER : EARLY HUMANS AND BEGINNING OF CIVILISATION

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27. Statement I : The Harappan Civilization is also known as the Indus Valley Civilization because both Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro sites were discovered in the Indus Valley region. **1**
Statement II : Harappa was the first city of this civilization to be discovered, leading to it also being called the 'Harappan Civilization'.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are true
(B) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
(C) Both Statement I and Statement II are false
(D) Statement I is false but Statement II is true
28. Statement I : The Harappan people worshipped deities and placed their idols in temples for communal worship. **1**
Statement II : The Pipal tree and the humped bull were significant religious symbols worshipped by the Harappan people.
(A) Statement I is false but Statement II is true
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
(D) Both Statement I and Statement II are true
29. Statement I : The decline of the Harappan Civilization is solely attributed to invasion by the Aryans. **1**
Statement II : Natural calamities such as floods, earthquakes, or changes in the course of the Indus River are also considered potential causes for the civilization's decline.
(A) Statement I is false but Statement II is true
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are true
(C) Both Statement I and Statement II are false
(D) Statement I is true but Statement II is false

UNIQUE STUDY POINT
CHAPTER : EARLY HUMANS AND BEGINNING OF CIVILISATION

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30. Statement I : The Great Bath at Mohenjo-Daro was a public building primarily used for storing grains. **1**
Statement II : Granaries discovered in Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro were often located near river banks to facilitate easy transportation of grains.
(A) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false
(C) Statement I is false but Statement II is true
(D) Both Statement I and Statement II are true
31. Statement I : The Harappan people were the first in the world to cultivate cotton. **1**
Statement II : Along with farming, weaving and metal work were significant occupations of the Harappan people.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are false
(B) Statement I is false but Statement II is true
(C) Both Statement I and Statement II are true
(D) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
32. Statement I : The Harappan Civilization engaged in trade with Mesopotamia and Afghanistan, utilizing the port of Lothal. **1**
Statement II : The primary mode of internal trade for the Harappan people was the use of currency and coins.
(A) Statement I is false but Statement II is true
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are true
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
(D) Both Statement I and Statement II are false

UNIQUE STUDY POINT
CHAPTER : EARLY HUMANS AND BEGINNING OF CIVILISATION

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33. Statement I : The roads in Indus Valley Civilization cities were wide, straight, and intersected each other at right angles, forming a grid pattern. **1**
Statement II : Houses in the Harappan cities usually had flat roofs and were often double-storeyed.
(A) Both Statement I and Statement II are false
(B) Statement I is false but Statement II is true
(C) Both Statement I and Statement II are true
(D) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
34. Statement I : The Harappan cities were administered by a single powerful king with absolute authority. **1**
Statement II : There is no evidence suggesting the existence of a king or a single ruler; instead, a committee of rich merchants and priests likely governed the cities.
(A) Statement I is false but Statement II is true
(B) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
(C) Both Statement I and Statement II are false
(D) Both Statement I and Statement II are true
35. Statement I : Harappan seals often depict human figures without any animal representation. **1**
Statement II : The script on the Harappan seals has been completely deciphered by historians.
(A) Statement I is false but Statement II is true
(B) Both Statement I and Statement II are false
(C) Statement I is true but Statement II is false
(D) Both Statement I and Statement II are true

Directions (Q. 36 to Q. 40) : In each of the following questions, a statement of Assertion

(A) is followed by a statement of Reason (R). Choose the correct option :

- (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(C) A is true but R is false. (D) A is false but R is true.

UNIQUE STUDY POINT
CHAPTER : EARLY HUMANS AND BEGINNING OF CIVILISATION

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36. Assertion (A) : The Lower Palaeolithic period is also known as the 'Ice Age' due to thick ice sheets covering much of Earth. **1**
Reason (R) : Tools during this period were primarily hand axes, which were developed to cope with the extremely cold environment.
37. Assertion (A) : Permanent settlements became a characteristic of the Neolithic period. **1**
Reason (R) : The practice of agriculture necessitated staying in one place.
38. Assertion (A) : The Egyptians developed a highly accurate solar calendar for agricultural planning. **1**
Reason (R) : They observed the star Sirius's appearance correlated with the Nile's annual floods.
39. Assertion (A) : The Harappan Civilization had a robust and organized economy. **1**
Reason (R) : Evidence indicates extensive internal and external trade networks.
40. Assertion (A) : Early humans transitioned from food gatherers to food producers during the Neolithic Age. **1**
Reason (R) : This shift was primarily due to the development of agriculture.

SECTION - B

This section consists of 16 questions of 2 marks each.

41. Evaluate the evidence presented concerning Harappan trade networks and interpret the level of economic sophistication achieved by the civilization in comparison to its contemporaries. **2**
42. Explain the significance of river systems in the development and sustenance of ancient civilizations, providing examples of how such civilizations leveraged these natural resources for their growth and societal organization. **2**
43. Define Prehistory. **2**
44. Explain the role of religious beliefs and practices, including the construction of monumental architecture, in shaping the cultural identity and societal organization of ancient civilizations. **2**

UNIQUE STUDY POINT
CHAPTER : EARLY HUMANS AND BEGINNING OF CIVILISATION

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- | | |
|---|----------|
| 45. Explain the progression of tool technology from the Middle to the Upper Palaeolithic period, detailing the types of tools developed and their principal uses in each specific phase. | 2 |
| 46. Describe the archaeological evidence from Langhnaj that indicates both human activity and potential interactions with other cultures. | 2 |
| 47. Discuss the prevailing theories regarding the decline of the Harappan Civilization, identifying both human-induced and natural causes. | 2 |
| 48. What was the main purpose of the Pyramids in Egypt? | 2 |
| 49. What is the approximate duration of the Old Stone Age and what characterized human subsistence during this era? | 2 |
| 50. Illustrate how the domestication of animals contributed to the improved quality of life and sustainability of early human communities. | 2 |
| 51. Explain the distinguishing characteristics of the Mesolithic Period as a transitional phase between earlier and later stone ages. | 2 |
| 52. Name one important Neolithic site in India. | 2 |
| 53. Locate and label any two places of the Harappan civilisation on a world map. | 2 |
| 54. On the outline map of the Indian Subcontinent
(a) Mark and label Kalibangan, a Harappan site situated on the banks of the Ghaggar River.
(b) Mark and label Rakhigarhi, one of the largest known settlements of the Harappan Civilization. | 2 |
| 55. On the outline map of the Indian Subcontinent
(a) Mark and label Harappa, one of the earliest discovered sites of the Harappan Civilization.
(b) Mark and label Mohenjo-daro, an important urban centre known for its advanced town planning. | 2 |

UNIQUE STUDY POINT
CHAPTER : EARLY HUMANS AND BEGINNING OF CIVILISATION

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56. On the outline map of the Indian Subcontinent **2**
(a) Mark and label Dholavira, a major Harappan site located in present-day Gujarat.
(b) Mark and label Lothal, known for its dockyard and maritime trade.

SECTION - C

This section consists of 10 questions of 3 marks each.

57. Explain how the geographical features of Mesopotamia contributed to the development of its advanced civilization, focusing on the role of its rivers. **3**
58. Explain how the shift from nomadic existence to settled life during the Neolithic era impacted human societal structure and resource management. **3**
59. Explain the significance of the discoveries of Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro on the historical understanding of ancient India. **3**
60. Mention three key features of the Harappan drainage system. **3**
61. Explain the transformation in human societal organization and subsistence strategies that characterized the shift from older to newer stone age periods, particularly focusing on how food acquisition methods evolved. **3**
62. Describe the religious beliefs and practices evident among the people of the Indus Valley Civilization. **3**
63. What was the significance of the Nile River for the Egyptian Civilization? **3**
64. Explain the three-fold division of the Stone Age. **3**
65. Explain how the city governance of the Indus Valley Civilization differed from what might be expected in a highly structured ancient society. **3**
66. Explain the distinguishing characteristic of the global climate during the Lower Palaeolithic Period. **3**

SECTION - D

UNIQUE STUDY POINT
CHAPTER : EARLY HUMANS AND BEGINNING OF CIVILISATION

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This section consists of 4 case based questions of 4 marks each.

67. Read the given source carefully and answer the questions that follow **4**
:

Ancient Egyptian urban centers were planned around two main factors: close proximity to a reliable water source and sufficient elevation above the Nile to protect buildings from annual floods. Towns were typically enclosed by protective boundary walls featuring only one or two controlled gate entrances. Houses were constructed tightly along street edges, sharing walls with neighboring homes to maximize space and security. Cities were divided into northern and southern regions, laid out using broad parallel streets that ran from north to south, intersected at right angles by narrower streets to create a clean grid pattern. Religion played a major role in civic life. Egyptians worshipped nature deities represented by animal symbols, such as falcons and crocodiles. They dedicated grand monuments, temples, and stone pyramids to their gods and deceased rulers, reflecting their values. This architectural skill, combined with their distinct social classes, established Egypt as a highly organized and long-lasting river valley civilization.

- a. What were the two main environmental considerations when choosing a location for an Egyptian town? **(1)**
- b. Which prominent natural deity was considered the most important god in the ancient Egyptian religion? **(1)**
- c. Analyze how the grid-based design of streets and shared-wall housing protected ancient Egyptian cities from external threats and natural elements. **(2)**

UNIQUE STUDY POINT
CHAPTER : EARLY HUMANS AND BEGINNING OF CIVILISATION

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68. Read the given source carefully and answer the questions that follow **4**
:

Discovered in the 1920s by archaeologists Daya Ram Sahni and R.D. Banerji, the Harappan Civilisation flourished between 2600 BCE and 1900 BCE along the Indus and Ravi rivers. This urban culture featured systematically planned cities laid out in a grid pattern. Streets were wide and straight, intersecting at precise right angles with rounded corners for carts. Cities were divided into a raised Citadel, housing public granaries and the Great Bath for administrative and religious use, and a Lower Town for common residents. Houses were built using durable burnt bricks, featuring open central courtyards, bathrooms, and toilets. An incredible drainage network connected sloping household floors to covered street drains equipped with regular manholes. The economy relied on farming wheat and barley, domesticating animals, and trading with Mesopotamia through the port city of Lothal. Harappan artisans produced glazed pottery, bronze figures, and square clay seals engraved with animal motifs, creating a highly organized society.

- a. In which year was the city of Harappa discovered, and which **(1)** archaeologist led the excavation?
- b. What phrase is used to describe the elevated public section of **(1)** a Harappan city?
- c. Analyze how the structural design of Harappan houses and **(2)** streets demonstrates an advanced understanding of civic planning.

UNIQUE STUDY POINT
CHAPTER : EARLY HUMANS AND BEGINNING OF CIVILISATION

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69. Read the given source carefully and answer the questions that follow **4**
:

The Neolithic Period, running from 8000 BCE to 4000 BCE, triggered a foundational shift known as the Neolithic Revolution. This era was marked by the birth of systematic agriculture, permanent village settlements, polished stone tools, and complex societies. Turning from food gatherers into food producers, humans cultivated wheat and barley, and raised dogs, sheep, goats, and cattle for labor, meat, and wool. This agricultural lifestyle anchored people to the land, leading them to build mud-brick huts. The first farming communities emerged in the Near East and the Levant around 7000 BCE. In India, key sites like Mehrgarh, Koldihwa, and Burzahom have preserved ancient grains and animal bones. To store their harvest, Neolithic humans invented handmade clay pottery, which evolved rapidly with the invention of the potter's wheel. The wheel also led to bullock carts for heavy transport and spindle whorls for weaving textiles, accelerating human civilization.

- a. Which two cereal crops were the very first to be cultivated by Neolithic farmers? **(1)**
- b. Name two prominent Indian subcontinent Neolithic sites where ancient rice and grain traces were discovered. **(1)**
- c. Analyze how the invention of the wheel acted as a major catalyst for technological growth in the Neolithic Age. **(2)**

UNIQUE STUDY POINT
CHAPTER : EARLY HUMANS AND BEGINNING OF CIVILISATION

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70. Read the given source carefully and answer the questions that follow **4**
:

The Palaeolithic Period, or Old Stone Age, began roughly two million years ago and is divided into the Lower, Middle, and Upper sub-periods. During the Lower Palaeolithic, heavy sheets of ice covered the Earth, creating a freezing climate known as the Ice Age or Pleistocene Period, where humans used basic stone hand axes. In the Middle Palaeolithic, humans developed sharper stone flakes, scrapers, and borers, and crafted needle-like tools to sew animal furs for warmth. By the Upper Palaeolithic, the climate grew slightly warmer, and human technology advanced to produce specialized flint blades and projectile points for hunting. Throughout these eras, humans remained wanderers without permanent homes, sleeping in trees or sheltering in caves at night. Their tools served multiple essential purposes: they were used as weapons to hunt wild game, implements to cut and shape materials, devices to dig up edible roots, and vital shields providing security against dangerous predators and enemies.

- a. Which specific sub-period of the Palaeolithic era is associated with the Pleistocene Ice Age? **(1)**
- b. Identify two distinct types of stone tools developed during the Middle Palaeolithic period. **(1)**
- c. Analyze how the multi-functional design of Palaeolithic tools helped early humans adapt to their changing environments. **(2)**

SECTION - E

This section consists of 5 long answer questions of 5 marks each.

71. How did early human communities in the Mesolithic Period transition their dietary practices from reliance on wild resources to more controlled food production? **5**
72. Discuss the various theories proposed for the decline of the Harappan Civilization, highlighting the absence of a definitive cause. **5**
73. Explain the significance of animal domestication in the Mesolithic Period, detailing its immediate benefits to human communities. **5**

UNIQUE STUDY POINT
CHAPTER : EARLY HUMANS AND BEGINNING OF CIVILISATION

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74. Describe the key characteristics of Harappan urban planning, detailing how city layouts addressed both residential and public needs. **5**
75. Explain the factors that contributed to the rise of early civilizations near river valleys. **5**

----- All the Best -----